**New York State Grants for** **Mathematics, Science, and Technology**

**Teachers in Religious and Independent Schools**

**Program Guidance**

**2017-2018 School Year**

 Education in Mathematics, Science, and Technology is a focus in schools nationwide. Such education provides students with opportunities for hands-on instruction and real-world problem solving, and it can lead to preparedness for careers in competitive fields. Funds to reimburse religious and independent schools for Mathematics, Science, and Technology teachers were appropriated in the 2017-2018 enacted State budget, and the program is governed by Section 3037 of Education Law, added by Chapter 59 of 2017 (<http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/lawssrch.cgi?NVLWO>). Religious and independent schools that employ eligible teachers of Mathematics, Science, or Technology may seek reimbursement.

**Funding Eligibility:** An eligible teacher is:

1. categorized as one of the following:
	1. certified to teach in New York State pursuant to Section 3004 of Education Law (<http://public.leginfo.state.ny.us/lawssrch.cgi?NVLWO>); or
	2. holds a Master’s degree or Ph.D. in Mathematics, Science, Technology, or Education; or
	3. holds a Bachelor’s degree in Mathematics, Science, Technology, or Education and is currently enrolled in a Master’s or Ph.D. program in Mathematics, Science, Technology, or Education within five (5) years from the later of April 10, 2017 or the employment start date with the nonpublic school;
2. teaches Mathematics, Science, or Technology in any grades from three (3) through twelve (12) using curricula that support the New York State learning standards; and
3. is employed by a nonpublic school.

However, reimbursements may not be provided for eligible teachers who provide instruction in Mathematics, Science, or Technology if such teachers also provide non-secular instruction in any capacity.

**Deadline for Submitting Request Forms for the 2017-2018 School Year:** Wed., August 1, 2018

Nonpublic schools seeking reimbursement for teacher salaries as described above must submit the Reimbursement Request Form for Mathematics, Science, and Technology Teachers in Religious and Independent Schools along with documentary evidence, as described on page 2, by **Wednesday**, **August 1, 2018** to be reimbursed for the salaries, or portion of the salaries, of eligible teachers in the 2017-2018 school year.

**Reimbursement Methodology:** In accordance with Education Law § 3037(2)(b), reimbursements will be calculated based on NYSED’s data regarding average comparable teacher salaries and personal services, per subject area, of public school teachers in the school district in which the nonpublic schools are located, multiplied by the percentage of full-time equivalent secular instructional hours completed in the nonpublic school day per subject area (Mathematics, Science, and Technology).

Per Education Law § 3037(2)(b), in the event that the total reimbursements requested exceed the $5 million appropriation, then each applicant will only be reimbursed in an amount equal to the percentage each such applicant represents to the total of all applications submitted. Schools whose eligible teacher salaries exceed their reimbursement amount must support those expenses on their own and will not receive additional reimbursement.

**Reimbursement of Funds:** Each school receiving funds will have a year 1 reimbursement amount that will be paid after a thorough review of documentation.

NYSED staff will review the reimbursement request forms submitted by Wednesday, August 1, 2018. Approved requests will be compared against NYSED data regarding teacher salaries, as described in the Reimbursement Methodology section. After calculating the total approved requests and proportionate shares, a spreadsheet will be posted on the State Office of Religious and Independent Schools website at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/nonpub/fundingopportunities/>.

Payments will be made to schools in late Fall 2018.

**Documentary Evidence:** Religious and independent schools must submit documentary evidence with the Reimbursement Request Form for Mathematics, Science, and Technology Teachers in Religious and Independent Schools.

Documents include:

1. **Certified to teach in NYS pursuant to Section 3004 of Education Law**
* Teacher’s NYS Teacher Certificate(s)
* Copy of the school’s master schedule
* Copy of the teacher’s schedule for the school year
* Religious and independent school course descriptions, with evidence that curricula support the New York State learning standards
* Signed employment agreements or other evidence of employment by the religious or independent school
1. **Holds a Master’s degree or Ph.D. in Mathematics, Science, Technology, or Education**
* Official documentation from college or university stating Master’s degree or Ph.D. has been earned in an eligible program
* Copy of the school’s master schedule
* Copy of the teacher’s schedule for the school year
* Religious and independent school course descriptions, with evidence that curricula support the New York State learning standards
* Signed employment agreements or other evidence of employment by the religious or independent school
1. **Holds a Bachelor’s degree in Mathematics, Science, Technology, or Education and is currently enrolled in a Master’s or Ph.D. program in Mathematics, Science, Technology, or Education within five (5) years from the later of April 10, 2017 or the employment start date with the nonpublic school**
* Official documentation from college or university stating Bachelor’s degree has been earned in an eligible program
* Official documentation from college or university stating teacher is a current student enrolled in an eligible program
* Copy of the school’s master schedule
* Copy of the teacher’s schedule for the school year
* Religious and independent school course descriptions, with evidence that curricula support the New York State learning standards
* Signed employment agreements or other evidence of employment by the religious or independent school

If you have questions, contact the State Office of Religious and Independent Schools (SORIS), formerly the Office of Nonpublic Schools, SORIS@nysed.gov.