



Clinton County Regional Educational Service Agency

Office of Innovative Projects

## **Announcement of 2024 *Early On*<sup>®</sup> Faculty Grants**

The *Early On*<sup>®</sup> Center for Higher Education, an Innovative Project of Clinton County RESA, invites applications for mini-grants to support research in the field of early intervention and its practical application in the State of Michigan. The *Early On* Center for Higher Education is Michigan's pre-service initiative to support the development of highly qualified early intervention personnel to work with infants and toddlers, birth to three with disabilities and/or special needs, and their families. The Center is funded by Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), through a grant from the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential to Clinton County RESA.

### **Scope and Purpose of Faculty Grants:**

All grant requests must address research questions related to early intervention and/or activities that **support the preparation of personnel who are likely to work in the field of early intervention**. Funded activities might include (but are not limited to):

- development and/or implementation of an internship/practicum program for Michigan students in placements focusing on services to infants and toddlers, birth to three, that can be utilized in *Early On* programs (see, for example, [Iowa's Early Intervention Field Experiences](#));
- research and develop early intervention coursework that focuses on personnel skill development to support infants and toddlers, birth to three, with disabilities and/or special needs and their family;
- development of videos demonstrating evidence-based, effective home visiting in birth to three early intervention with a focus on coaching and family-centered practices;
- research of models and delivery methods for providing interdisciplinary pre-service preparation for future early interventionists, including fields of social work, early childhood education, occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, physical therapy;
- research or professional learning activities that address the social work nature of early intervention across disciplines;
- research of implementation and effectiveness of strategies that support teleintervention of evidence-based practices;

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- a study of the efficacy of an evidence-based early intervention strategy or model with families of infants and toddlers who have been exposed to lead.
- a study of early intervention practices in Michigan correlated to the child outcomes data available for each service area;
- a study of former enrollees of the *Early On* system and their success in elementary school;
- other innovative work that would lead to support the preparation of early intervention personnel in Michigan.

## Who is eligible?

Eligible applicants include Michigan **faculty** at two-year colleges and Michigan **faculty** and **graduate students** at four-year colleges and universities. Applicants must be currently teaching courses that prepare early intervention personnel or engaged in research related to early intervention practices.

## Deadline:

All applications must be received by **12:00 p.m.** on **April 5, 2024** via email. No fax applications will be accepted. Send **email/electronic application** to [holmberg\\_k@ccresa.org](mailto:holmberg_k@ccresa.org).

## Award:

The *Early On* Center for Higher Education will award one or two grants whose sum is not more than \$7,000. Announcements of grant awards will be made May 7, 2024. Grantees will receive 75% of funds upon announcement of the award and the remainder of balance upon submission of the final report. *Early On* Center for Higher Education does not permit indirect costs to be charged against the *Early On* Faculty grants. All related work must be completed within the grant period. Materials developed as a result of the Faculty grant will be the product of the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential and the *Early On* Center for Higher Education. Research and materials produced must acknowledge the funding source with this statement: *This project is supported by Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act through funds awarded by the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential and Clinton County RESA Office of Innovative Projects/Early On Center for Higher Education.*

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## Criteria:

Applications for faculty grants will be judged on how closely they fit with the mission of the *Early On* Center for Higher Education. Grants will be limited to projects that clarify aspects of the *Early On* Michigan system and research that will enhance personnel preparation. Preference will be given to proposals that provide:

- Clearly stated goals and objectives;
- A specific, feasible plan of action to accomplish well-defined objectives;
- A plan that will result in new information that is relevant to the understanding or improvement of early intervention as it is implemented in Michigan;
- A plan that will result in practical information/models for use by colleges/universities/early intervention personnel preparation systems;
- A clear link to *Early On* Michigan;
- A reasonable, appropriate, and specific budget;
- A demonstration of experience in conducting such research.

## Requirements:

Applications/proposals may be **no longer than eight pages plus résumé/curriculum vitae**. For funded projects, a final report of outcomes and budget expenditures must be submitted to Clinton County RESA Office of Innovative Projects at the conclusion of the grant period/project, June 30, 2025.

## Questions:

For questions regarding the *Early On* Faculty Grants, please contact Kari Holmberg at [holmberg\\_k@ccresa.org](mailto:holmberg_k@ccresa.org), (866) 334-5437 or Christy Callahan at [Callahan\\_c@ccresa.org](mailto:Callahan_c@ccresa.org), (866) 334-5437.

*It is the policy of the Clinton County Regional Educational Service Agency (RESA) that no discriminatory practices based on gender, race, religion, color, age, national origin, disability, height, weight, marital status, sexual orientation, political affiliations and beliefs, or any other status covered by federal, state or local law be allowed in providing instructional opportunities, programs, services, job placement assistance, employment or in policies governing student conduct and attendance. Any person suspecting a discriminatory practice should contact the Associate Superintendent for Special Education, 1013 South US-27, St. Johns, MI 48879, or call 989-224-6831.*

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