

Georgia Parent Mentor Partnership (GaPMP)

**An initiative of the Georgia Department of Education,
Division for Special Education Services and Supports**

FY16 Application for Participation

Purpose:

The purpose of the Georgia Parent Mentor Partnership is to enhance communication and collaboration between families, educators and the community, ultimately leading to greater success for students with disabilities and increased family engagement. In the 2015 – 2016 school year, parent mentors will assist the local school district in implementing the work around the State Systemic Implementation Plan (SSIP) to increase graduation rates for Students with Disabilities. Some activities may include convening community stakeholder groups, building relationships and solving adaptive challenges.

Qualifications of a GaPMP Parent Mentor:

- A parent of a child with a disability who is currently receiving or has previously received special education and related services through an IEP.
- Parent Mentors must work a *minimum* of 20 hours per week at a suggested starting salary of \$20.00 per hour for the number of days the school district is in session. Salary increases such as cost of living raises should be provided for the parent mentor when a district provides one for other professional staff.

Expectations for a GaPMP Parent Mentor:

- The parent mentor, with the support of the special education director, will assist the district in its work around the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) and with the parent satisfaction indicator.
- The parent mentor must submit a quarterly report on family and educator contacts to the GaDOE Family Engagement Specialist.

Division for Special Education Services and Supports will provide:

- An additional \$12,500 to the district's FY15 federal funds allocation. (Districts with more than 4,000 students may receive funding for up to two half-time parent mentors.)
- Professional development for the parent mentor and special education director/administrator through the Division for Special Education Services and Supports on statewide initiatives and family engagement strategies.
- Ongoing supports
 - ❖ GaDOE Family Engagement Specialist
 - ❖ GaPMP Regions
 - ❖ GaPMP listserv and website Learning Curve www.parentmentors.com.

Districts will commit to:

- Provide the salary for the parent mentor.

The estimated yearly cost for a school district with one half-time, 20 hours a week parent mentor is *typically* about \$25,000.00 which includes \$14,400 in salary for the school year, approximately \$2,000 in travel/conference costs and other incidentals, and \$8,500.00 of in-kind contributions which may include: office space, a computer; adequate office supplies, a phone line with voice mail, email and clerical support.
- Provide travel expenses for: (**Attendance at these trainings is required. Please initial.**)
 - ❖ ___ The parent mentor and the special education director or an administrator to attend the annual GaPMP statewide conference being held in Macon, September 22-23, 2015.

