

Georgia Parent Mentor Partnership (GaPMP) **An initiative of the Georgia Department of Education (GaDOE),** **Division for Special Education Services and Supports**

FY22 Application for Participation

Purpose:

The purpose of the Georgia Parent Mentor Partnership (GaPMP) is to enhance communication and collaboration among families, educators, and communities to ultimately lead to greater success for students with disabilities and increase family engagement.

Qualifications of a GaPMP Parent Mentor:

- The parent mentor must have a child with a disability who is currently receiving, or has previously received, special education and related services through an Individualized Education Program (IEP).
- Parent mentors must work a *minimum* of 20 hours per week at a suggested starting salary of \$20.00 per hour for the total number of school days. Salary adjustments, such as cost of living increases, should be considered for the parent mentor position consistent with other professional staff.

Expectations for local educational agencies (LEAs) participating in the GaPMP:

- The parent mentor, with the support of the special education director, will assist the LEA in its work around building partnerships between families and schools and with the State Performance Plan/Annual Performance Report (SPP/APR) parent involvement indicator (Indicator 8).
- The parent mentor must submit a quarterly report on family and educator contacts to the GaDOE Family Engagement Specialist.
- The parent mentor must submit a quarterly report on his/her work with a target group of families utilizing the GaPMP Evidence to Practice (E2P) Guides.

Division for Special Education Services and Supports Responsibilities:

- GaDOE will provide a grant in the amount of \$14,400.00. Districts with more than 4,000 students with disabilities may receive funding for an additional part-time position. LEAs will receive this grant through the Consolidated Application. In order to receive budget approval of these funds, it should be stated in the line-item description of the budget that the parent mentor has been employed. All parent mentors should be employed by the date of the annual GaPMP statewide conference being held in Fall 2021. Please notify the GaDOE of any situations in which the parent mentor has not been hired by the date of the GaPMP Fall 2021 statewide conference.
- GaDOE will provide professional development for the parent mentor and special education director or designee on statewide initiatives and family engagement strategies.
- GaDOE will provide ongoing supports using the following:
 - ❖ GaDOE Family Engagement Specialists;
 - ❖ GaPMP Regions; and
 - ❖ GaPMP professional learning webinars &
 - ❖ GaPMP website (www.parentmentors.com) and parent mentor portal (Learning Curve).

LEA Responsibilities:

- The LEA will provide the necessary supplement for the parent mentor salary and fill the position by the annual GaPMP Fall 2021 statewide conference.



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- ❖ The minimum annual salary for a part-time parent mentor is \$14,400 (based on a minimum of 20 hours a week for approximately 36 weeks). GaDOE will offer a grant amount of \$14,400, which must be matched locally with a minimum of \$12,500.
 - ❖ The combined allocation of \$26,900.00 (\$14,400.00 from the GaDOE and \$12,500.00 from the school district) may address salary, travel/conference costs, professional learning opportunities, and in-kind contributions.
 - ❖ The LEA will be required to provide documentation to support these local responsibilities during Cross Functional Monitoring.
- Provide travel expenses for: **(Attendance at these trainings is required. Please initial.)**
 - ❖ ___ The parent mentor and the special education director/or designee must attend the annual GaPMP Fall 2021 statewide conference.
 - ❖ ___ The parent mentor must attend four regional meetings/trainings.
 - ❖ ___ A new parent mentor and his/her special education director or designee must attend orientation to learn critical awareness information about the project.

This Application for Participation must be signed by LEAs electing to continue with the GaPMP and those that are newly applying. **Please Note:** LEAs that elect to continue with the GaPMP are required to submit the FY21 Accountability Report form based on GaPMP Evidence to Practice Guides and Annual Contact Summary Report no later than May 31, 2021.

** Smaller LEAs (those with fewer than 200 students with disabilities under IDEA) may collaborate together and share a position. In this instance, only one LEA will submit the GaPMP application and take fiscal responsibility for oversight of the grant activities. If you are sharing the position, please indicate both LEAs below for awareness purposes.

Yes, my LEA agrees to the above criteria for the GaPMP grant for FY22.

LEA Name: _____

Number of positions you are requesting for FY22 1 or 2 (Please choose ONE)

My LEA is: new to the GaPMP or returning to the GaPMP (Please choose ONE)

Required signature(s):

Superintendent's Signature

Date

Special Education Director's Signature

Date



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**The GaDOE must receive this form with the proper signatures no later than
March 1, 2021:**

1. Download this document.
2. Obtain signatures from LEA Superintendent and Special Education Director.
3. Upload signed application document using the link posted on the GaDOE Special Education Services and Supports webpage by March 1, 2021.
4. As stated above, please notify GaDOE of any situations in which the parent mentor has not been hired by the date of the Fall 2021 statewide conference.

Questions: Contact Anne Ladd, Family Engagement Specialist, GaDOE Division for Special Education Services and Supports at aladd@doe.k12.ga.us.