**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**

 **FY 22 Mathematics Achievement Fund (MAF)**

**General Questions:**

**1. Q: If you apply and are awarded the grant are you allowed to decline?**

A: Yes. If circumstances have changed from the time of application and the time of award, the applicant may decline the award.

**2. Q: What is the reasoning for changing this application from an interventionist position to a coaching position?**

A: The shift in focus on a mathematics coach is based in KRS [158.844](https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=3615) and [KRS 158.842](https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=49099). A "mathematics coach" is defined as a mathematics leader whose primary responsibility is to provide ongoing support for mathematics teachers. The role of the coach is to improve mathematics teaching practices by working with teachers in their classrooms. The Mathematics Coach--working with all mathematics teachers in an elementary school over the project period--will create capacity in the school for overall mathematics learning. Certainly, the work of the Mathematics Intervention Teacher from the soon-to-expire MAF funding cycle targets the neediest of our individual students. Local schools and districts should consider keeping these positions if they have proven to be effective. The new MAF funding for 2022+ aims to target classroom instructional practices to more fully support students in all tiers of mathematics instruction.

**3. Q: I am currently the Math Interventionist at our school, will the grant for my current job be eligible for renewal for next year?**

A:The current FY 21-22 Mathematics Achievement Fund grant program is currently in an extension year and will end on/about June 30, 2022.The FY 2022-24 is a new grant cycle. The funding will support the professional learning of a mathematics coach with up to 25% of the funds used for salary of the mathematics coach to improve mathematics teaching as defined on page two of the FY22 MAF RFA.

**4. Q: Is the MAF RFA 2021-2022 replacing the current MAF grant or is it in addition to?**

A:The current FY 21-22 Mathematics Achievement Fund grant program is currently in an extension year and will end on/about June 30, 2022.The FY 2022-24 is a new grant cycle. The funding will support the professional learning of a mathematics coach with up to 25% of the funds used for salary of the mathematics coach to improve mathematics teaching as defined on page two of the FY22 MAF RFA.

**5. Q: At XXXXX, we’ve received some inquiries about the shift in focus on the new Math Achievement Fund RFA.  In the past, the focus has been on interventionists and now it is on coaching.  Could you provide us a few talking points on why that shift in focus has occurred, so that we may use them with our districts if they ask us?**

A: The shift in focus on a mathematics coach is based in KRS [158.844](https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=3615) and [KRS 158.842](https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=49099). A "mathematics coach" is defined as a mathematics leader whose primary responsibility is to provide ongoing support for mathematics teachers. The role of the coach is to improve mathematics teaching practices by working with teachers in their classrooms. The Mathematics Coach--working with all mathematics teachers in an elementary school over the project period--will create capacity in the school for overall mathematics learning. Certainly, the work of the Mathematics Intervention Teacher from the soon-to-expire MAF funding cycle targets the neediest of our individual students. Local schools and districts should consider keeping these positions if they have proven to be effective. The new MAF funding for 2022+ aims to target classroom instructional practices to more fully support students in all tiers of mathematics instruction.

**6. Q: Is this a renewal for the current MAF grant that we have or is it totally different? Is this taking place of the current MAF or is this in addition to the current MAF grant?**

A:The current FY 21-22 Mathematics Achievement Fund grant program is currently in an extension year and will end on/about June 30, 2022.The FY 2022-24 is a new grant cycle.

**7. Q: Is the FY 22 Math Achievement Fund Grant, focused on mathematics coaching replacing the previous grant for Math Intervention Services or will this be an additional grant offered?**

A:The current FY 21-22 Mathematics Achievement Fund grant program is currently in an extension year and will end on/about June 30, 2022.The FY 2022-24 is a new grant cycle. The funding will support the professional learning of a mathematics coach with up to 25% of the funds used for salary of the mathematics coach to improve mathematics teaching as defined on page two of the FY22 MAF RFA.

**8. Q: Will the grant for the math coach replace the current MIT positions or is the coach in addition to the K-3 school level math interventionist?**

A:The current FY 21-22 Mathematics Achievement Fund grant program is currently in an extension year and will end on/about June 30, 2022.The FY 2022-24 is a new grant cycle. The funding will support the professional learning of a mathematics coach with up to 25% of the funds used for salary of the mathematics coach to improve mathematics teaching as defined on page two of the FY22 MAF RFA.

**9. Q: Will the MIT position be changing to a coach position for the 22-23 school year?  Or is this a separate position, in addition to the interventionist position?**

A:The current FY 21-22 Mathematics Achievement Fund grant program is currently in an extension year and will end on/about June 30, 2022.The FY 2022-24 is a new grant cycle. The funding will support the professional learning of a mathematics coach with up to 25% of the funds used for salary of the mathematics coach to improve mathematics teaching as defined on page two of the FY22 MAF RFA.

**10. Q: Is the grant opportunity you emailed out replacing the current MAF grant that funds the MIT position? Also, only $15,000 can be used to pay our salary?**

A:The current FY 21-22 Mathematics Achievement Fund grant program is currently in an extension year and will end on/about June 30, 2022.The FY 2022-24 is a new grant cycle. The funding will support the professional learning of a mathematics coach with up to 25% of the funds used for salary of the mathematics coach to improve mathematics teaching as defined on page two of the FY22 MAF RFA.

**11. Q: Does this RFP replace the past RFP for math intervention teachers that receive training through KCM?**

A:The current FY 21-22 Mathematics Achievement Fund grant program is currently in an extension year and will end on/about June 30, 2022.The FY 2022-24 is a new grant cycle. The funding will support the professional learning of a mathematics coach with up to 25% of the funds used for salary of the mathematics coach to improve mathematics teaching as defined on page two of the FY22 MAF RFA.

**Eligibility/Type of Application and Dates**

**12. Q: Is the math achievement grant open for primary through grade 12 or only primary?**

A:The FY22 MAF RFA is designed to meet the needs of primary students and other students within the school who are at risk of failure; therefore, the mathematics coaching will focus on grades K-5/elementary schools.

**13. Q: Clarifying if this grant is open only to Elementary Schools, or will you consider Middle Schools as well?**

A: The FY22 MAF RFA is designed to meet the needs of primary students and other students within the school who are at risk of failure; therefore, the mathematics coaching will focus on grades K-5/elementary schools.

**14. Q: On page 2, the background section states, "is hereby created to provide....primary through grade 12."  Is this grant for a K-12 coach or can the coach be central to an elementary school?  Will the expectation be that the coach will work with k-12 teachers?**

A: The FY22 MAF RFA is designed to meet the needs of primary students and other students within the school who are at risk of failure; therefore, the mathematics coaching will focus on grades K-5/elementary schools.

**Background/Funding**

**15. Q: Page 2 of the RFP references, primary through grade 12, but page 4 references a requirement for the Math Coach to obtain an elementary math endorsement from UofL so is the grant only for elementary schools?**

A:The FY22 MAF RFA mathematics coach will improve mathematics teaching practices by working with teachers in their elementary school. For this reason, the mathematics coach will be required to enroll and complete the elementary mathematics endorsement program.

**16. Q: The grant award can ONLY be spent on salary & fringes for a math coach ($15,500) and PD activities ($46,500). There are no other allowable expenses?**

A:The Kentucky Department of Education (KDE) anticipates funding approximately 75 schools at an estimated $62,000 per year to support the professional learning of a mathematics coach and up to 25% of the funds used for salary of the mathematics coach to improve mathematics teaching.

**17. Q:** **I am needing some clarification on the grant funds of $62,000. I see that 25% of that will fund the teacher salary, so does that mean the school district is responsible for the remaining portion of the teacher's salary?**

A:Yes. Up to 25% of the estimated $62,000 can be used for the salary of the mathematics coach. The remaining funds will support the professional learning of a mathematics coach to improve mathematics teaching.

**18. Q: If schools choose to use up to 25% of the estimated $62,000 on the mathematics coach’s salary, will the rest be used for the Elementary Mathematics Endorsement program**?

A: The remainder of the funding will be used to support the professional learning of a mathematics coach; please review the professional learning requirements for the mathematics coach on page five of the FY22 MAF RFA.

**19. Q: Are the matching funds what the school can use to pay for the teacher’s salary?**

A: The matching funds will need to align with the MUNIS codes that are available in the budget form summary provided on page 13-14 of the RFA. Again, up to 25% of the estimated $62,000 can be used for the salary of the mathematics coach; the remaining of the matching funds will support the professional learning of a mathematics coach to improve mathematics teaching.

**20. Q: Does this mean that the matching funds must be provided by the district and not the school?**

A: Matching funds from the district are required. Matching funds may also be from the school, a partner, volunteers, etc.

**21. Q: May the match be in kind or does it require new dollars?**

A: As long as the funding is allowable with the fund/grant that the district is matching from, then yes.

**22. Q: May the match come from federal funds?**

A: As long as the funding is allowable within the federal grant, then yes.

**23. Q: May schools use part of the $62,000 per year towards the remainder of the coach’s salary?**

A: Up to 25% of the estimated $62,000 per year, can be used for the salary of the mathematics coach; the remaining funds will support the professional learning of a mathematics coach to improve mathematics teaching.

**24. Q: When writing the budget, should we assume that the 25% of the coach’s salary will be awarded?**

A: At the conclusion of the RFA process, Memorandums of Agreements (MOAs) will be developed with all awarded applicants. The first MOA effective date is anticipated to be July 1, 2022, and funds will be eligible for use from the MOA effective date through June 30, 2024. Up to 25% of the estimated $62,000 can be used for the salary of the mathematics coach, the remaining of the funds will support the professional learning of a mathematics coach to improve mathematics teaching.

**25. Q:  Has the funding for this grant already been allocated in the state budget?**

A: Grants are renewable for up to four years, with a two-year grant renewal process, contingent on successful implementation of coach components, grant requirement compliance, demonstrated student progress and the availability of funds.

**26. Q: For the MAF budget, should we only focus on outlining the funds as they will be used in years 1-2 or, will the budget need to cover all 4 years?**

A: The budget form is for one year, schools will be awarded $62,000 per year, contingent on successful implementation of coach components, grant requirement compliance, demonstrated student progress and the availability of funds.

**Mathematics Coach Role and Responsibilities**

**27. Q: The Math Coach is not allowed to provide direct intervention to struggling students but can only spend their time as outlined on page 4 of the RFP?**

A:Correct, the mathematics coach's primary responsibility is to provide ongoing support for mathematics teachers. The mathematics coach’s role and responsibility are outlined in the RFA on pages 3 and 4.

**28. Q: The RFA states that 50% of the instructional day will be in classrooms to improve mathematics teaching practices by working with teachers. Can some of the other 50% of the time be spent teaching intervention groups?**

A: No, the mathematics coach’s role and responsibility are outlined in the RFA on pages 3 and 4.

**29. Q: Is it possible to have a grant for both positions? The Math Interventionist and a Math Coach?**

A:No, the mathematics coach’s role and responsibility are outlined in the RFA on pages 3 and 4.

**30. Q: There is little to no mention of an MIT (mathematics intervention teacher).   Will there no longer be funding for an MIT?**

A: Local schools and districts may choose to fund the MIT. The FY 2022-24 will not fund the mathematics intervention teacher’s position. The FY 2022-24 is a new grant cycle. Per [158.844](https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=3615)(2), the funding will support the professional learning of a mathematics coach with up to 25% of the funds used for salary of the mathematics coach to improve mathematics teaching as defined on page two of the FY22 MAF RFA.

**31. Q: I met with the math team at my school today to review the grant information. We noticed that the grant is geared more toward a math coaching position, rather than a math intervention teacher position. Will there be a grant for MIT specifically or is the math coach grant the only one?**

A: Local schools and districts may choose to fund the MIT. The FY 2022-24 will not fund the mathematics intervention teacher’s position. The FY 2022-24 is a new grant cycle. Per [158.844](https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/law/statutes/statute.aspx?id=3615)(2), the funding will support the professional learning of a mathematics coach with up to 25% of the funds used for salary of the mathematics coach to improve mathematics teaching as defined on page two of the FY22 MAF RFA.

**Professional Learning Requirements for Mathematics Coach**

**32. Q: On page 5, the professional learning requirements for the mathematics coach is to enroll at UofL for the 15-hour elementary math endorsement.  Will the grant fund that?  Who will pay for the enrollment and tuition fees?  The school or the grant?**

A: The MAF grant funds may be used to pay for the elementary mathematics endorsement program. The allowable MUNIS codes for the enrollment and tuition fees are included on the budget form, pages 13-14.

**Annual Evaluation**

**33. Q: The MAF RFA says the coach, “Be evaluated by and report to a district-level supervisor.” In our district, principals are considered district-level administrators. Can the coach report to the principal?**

A:No, the mathematics coach will be evaluated by and report to a district-level supervisor, not the school’s principal. The mathematics coach and principal will meet regularly (at least once per month) to address the school’s mathematics vision and the coach’s work (mathematics coach will not evaluate classroom teachers).