

## THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

## OFFICE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

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**To:** My Brother's Keeper Grant-Funded Districts Superintendents and Community Leaders

**Teacher Opportunity Corps II Directors** 

From: Anael Alston, Assistant Commissioner

**Re:** 2019-2020 My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Grant Extension

**Date:** February 24, 2021

I hope that each of you are doing well and staying safe during these challenging times. The purpose of this memo is to inform you of the final extension of the 2019/2020 My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Grant funds that are currently scheduled to end as of April 2021.

If you recall, in April of 2020, NYSED issued memorandums extending the funding cycles for the MBK Grant Funded programs scheduled to end in the summer of 2020 because of the immediate impact of COVID-19. The memorandums extending the MBK grant periods issued in April 2020 are HERE and HERE.

As referenced in the memos, these grant funds are currently set to expire on April 30, 2021. However, due to the unpredictable nature of the 2021 school year and the impact of COVID-19 on school communities, we are extending MBK Grant Funded programs for the 19/20 fiscal year until July 31, 2021.

In these fiscal times it would serve your communities best if you maximize this opportunity and effectively use your grant funds to improve the lives of students by the end of this extended grant period, July 31, 2021. Please be aware that this is the final extension NYSED will be granting for the 2019/2020 school year. Additionally, there should be no expectation for grant extensions beyond July 31, 2021. Finally, if you have an MBK grant for the 2020/2021 school year, the expectation is that those grant funds are to be spent by the end of the funding cycle; however, to avoid the potential for funding shortfalls in the future, please ensure that the annual cost of your MBK grant funded programs does not exceed your annual award level.

Thank you for your support in this historic initiative.

Cc: Dr. Betty Rosa, Commissioner

Dr. John D'Agati, Senior Deputy Commissioner

Dr. Lester Young, Chancellor