BRANCHING MINDS

How to Fund Branching Minds for Your District

Federal • State • Local funds — and when to pursue competitive grants

There are multiple ways to fund your investment in Branching Minds. Start with the funding source that best aligns with your district's priorities and purchasing timeline.

The Three Funding Streams

Federal Funds

Formula grants through ESEA & IDEA — best source for sustained support.

Title I-A (low income), Title II-A (PD), Title IV-A (SSAE), Title III (ELL), Title V-B (rural), IDEA / CEIS, SAMHSA (Mental Health) Grants

State Funds

Formula & competitive grants renewed annually. Align to state priority areas.

School improvement, Literacy, Behavior, Math, Student safety & wellness, Absenteeism & attendance, Technology, At-Risk

Local Funds

General operating budget and district-level reallocation.

General operating budget, Title funds district set-asides, Regional service center grants

Braiding Funds Example — How Districts Combine Streams

Braid within Federal funds or across funding streams

Federal base
Title I-A or Title IV-A covers student support tools & interventions for high-need learners

+

State layer
State literacy or school improvement grant covers professional learning & implementation

+

Local top-up
General fund bridges any remaining platform cost

=

FULLY FUNDED

Sustained funding for Branching Minds

Braiding keeps each fund's purpose intact while weaving streams together to cover the full cost. Blending moves funds into a single pool (typically Title I).

Alternatives to Federal Funds

Competitive grants — two types, different purposes

State competitive grants

Best for sustainability

- Administered by your state education agency — often renewed annually
- Align to MTSS, SEL, school climate, literacy, math, or behavior focus areas
- Examples: CLSD grants, School Improvement grants (Title I, Section 1003a), School Violence Prevention grants, Technology grants
- Larger, multi-year awards possible

Private / foundation grants

Small districts · Gap funding

- Best when need is $10,000 or less or for a small district
- One-time or short-term — not a path to sustainability
- Start local: businesses & community-based foundations have a vested interest
- Look to Regional or National givers that consistently support public school districts
- Plan ahead — grants are not difficult but require months of review time'

Your Funding Decision Path

1. Audit your federal Title & IDEA allocations
2. Check state grants for MTSS-aligned priorties
3. Identify local budget line items to fill in
4. Talk to your BRM rep — we'll help you build your funding plan