

THE CHALLENGE

Michigan's children are being asked to do more and to know more. Our job is to support our children in this endeavor.

THE ANSWER

The State Board of Education, the Governor and the Michigan Legislature have approved high school graduation requirements to improve the rigor, relevance and outcomes of Michigan high schools in order to prepare students to succeed in their post-secondary education and subsequent careers in the competitive global economy of the 21st Century.

OUR JOB

Our task is to assist our children to understand the new graduation requirements and to help them to achieve this task that has been placed before them in order to positively impact the future of our county. At times, a Personal Curriculum may be needed to assist our children in achieving goals to be successful.

Read on to learn more details about the Personal Curriculum . . .



One important key to success is self-confidence. An important key to self-confidence is preparation.

Arthur Ashe

For more information on Personal Curriculum please contact your school's guidance counselor or building principal.

 Arenac Eastern School District	867-4234
 AuGres-Sims School District	876-7150
 Bangor Township Schools	684-8121
 Bay-Arenac Community High School	893-8811
 Bay City Public Schools	686-9700
 Bay County Public School Academy	684-6484
 Essexville-Hampton Public Schools	894-9700
 Pinconning Area Schools	879-4556
 Standish-Sterling Community Schools	846-3670

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Is a Personal Curriculum Right for Me?



*A guide to the
Personal Curriculum Process*

Michigan Merit Curriculum, Personal Curriculum ~ what does it all mean? (A Question-and-Answer Section)

Q1: What is a Personal Curriculum?

A: A personal curriculum (PC) is a documented process that modifies certain requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC). This option is helpful for students seeking to accelerate their learning or needing extra assistance.

Q2: When can a Personal Curriculum be used?

A: State statute allows personal curriculum modification in order to :

1. Go beyond the academic credit requirements by adding more math, science English language arts, or world language credits.
2. Modify the mathematic requirement.
3. Modify, if necessary, the credit requirements of a student with an Individual Education Plan (IEP).
4. Modify credit requirements for a student who transfers from out of state or from a nonpublic school and is unable to meet the MMC requirements.

Q3: Who can request a Personal Curriculum?

A: A parent, legal guardian, student over 18 (if no appointed guardian), or emancipated youth may request a PC. School personnel may initiate a request. However, there must be parent approval for implementation.

Q4: When can a Personal Curriculum be requested?

A: Contact your school counselor for information.

Q5: Who is included on a Personal Curriculum Team?

A: The PC Team **must** include at least:

- Student and Parent/Guardian
- Counselor/Designee
- Content Area Teacher

Other possible team members:

- School Psychologist (If available/appropriate)
- Building Principal
- Superintendent/Designee

Q6: What are the steps for requesting a PC?

- A:**
1. PC is requested by a parent/legal guardian, emancipated student, or school personnel.
 2. A counselor will document receipt of the request and discuss the next steps with the parent.
 3. PC Eligibility Team meets to determine eligibility for a personal curriculum.
 4. If eligible, the PC Team writes the PC with student and parent/legal guardian using the student's Educational Development Plan (EDP) and IEP (if applicable).
 5. PC is agreed to in writing by student, parent/legal guardian and Superintendent/Designee.
 6. PC is implemented by appropriate staff. The PC must meet as much of the MMC as practicable and must include measurable goals and a method of appropriate evaluation.
 7. Student progress is monitored quarterly by parents with each teacher of the modified area(s).
 8. Revision to a PC may be made using the same process as the original PC.

Q7: Is a student eligible for a high school diploma if they have a PC?

A: The board of a local school district or public school academy may award a diploma to a student successfully completing a PC. However, each variance from the MMC will need to be considered individually. The MMC requires the student to earn credits in certain subject areas in order to earn a Michigan diploma. The student must demonstrate competencies in core subject areas. Modifications via the PC may limit the student's ability to:

- be admitted to college
- be eligible for college scholarships
- enter trade school
- secure a job in a career choice
- be eligible for NCAA athletic programs

Major modifications may not result in a Michigan diploma.

Q8: What happens if a student does not fulfill the PC?

A: If the student does not fulfill the approved Personal Curriculum, the PC is null and void, the student is obligated to make up the class(es) that were waived by the Personal Curriculum in order to be eligible to graduate.

Michigan Merit Curriculum High School Graduation Requirements

The State has mandated that each child in the class of 2011 and beyond, must earn these credits:

4 credits	English Language Arts
4 credits	Mathematics
3 credits	Science
3 credits	Social Studies
1 credit	Health / Physical Education
1 credit	Visual, Performing, Applied Arts
2 credits	World Languages (Class of 2016 and beyond)
<i>and</i>	
1	Online Learning Experience

Plus, your school district's requirements for graduation must also be met.

More information on Michigan's High School Graduation Requirements can be found at www.mi.gov/highschool

Q1: How will these credits be granted?

A: A student is considered to have completed a credit if the student demonstrates competency in the subject area content expectations or guidelines developed by the Michigan Department of Education.

Q2: What is the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC)?

A: The Michigan Merit Curriculum is the compilation of the various content area high school content expectations that make up the core curriculum at the high school level. The merit curriculum aligns with the Michigan High School Graduation Requirements.

Q3: What are High School Content Area Expectations (HSCEs)?

A: The high school content expectations delineate the content that must be contained within the curriculum for the specific content area, such as Algebra, Chemistry, etc., at the high school level.