

Michigan Alliance for Families
Webinar
April 26, 2021

LET'S TALK ABOUT THE MMC GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND THE PC FLEXIBILITY

MICHIGAN MERIT CURRICULUM

2010-2020

MICHIGAN MERIT CURRICULUM

REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADUATION (MINIMUM CREDITS)

- ENGLISH-LANGUAGE ARTS (ELA) - 4 Credits**
 - 1 English I credit
 - 1 English II credit
 - 1 English III credit
 - 1 English IV credit
- SCIENCE - 3 Credits**
 - 1 Science credit
 - 1 Science credit
 - 1 Science credit
- MATH - 3 Credits**
 - 1 Math credit
 - 1 Math credit
 - 1 Math credit
- SOCIAL STUDIES - 3 Credits**
 - 1 Social Studies credit
 - 1 Social Studies credit
 - 1 Social Studies credit
- PHYSICAL EDUCATION - 1 Credit**
 - 1 Physical Education credit
- ARTS - 1 Credit**
 - 1 Art credit
- HEALTH AND SAFETY - 1 Credit**
 - 1 Health and Safety credit
- TECHNOLOGY - 1 Credit**
 - 1 Technology credit
- WORLD LANGUAGES - 2 Credits**
 - 1 World Language credit
 - 1 World Language credit
- FINANCIAL LITERACY - 1 Credit**
 - 1 Financial Literacy credit
- COMMUNITY SERVICE - 1 Credit**
 - 1 Community Service credit

CHOOSE 6 CREDITS

- 1 credit in a foreign language
- 1 credit in a career and technical education (CTE) program
- 1 credit in a dual enrollment program
- 1 credit in a postsecondary program
- 1 credit in a program approved by the Michigan Department of Education
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CHOOSE 6 CREDITS

The Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) is a set of minimum requirements for graduation from Michigan's public high schools. The MMC is designed to ensure that all Michigan students are prepared for college and career. The MMC is based on the Michigan Department of Education's (MDE) research and best practices. The MMC is a set of minimum requirements for graduation from Michigan's public high schools. The MMC is designed to ensure that all Michigan students are prepared for college and career. The MMC is based on the Michigan Department of Education's (MDE) research and best practices.


For specific information regarding the MMC, see [www.mde.state.mi.us/mmc](#) or contact the Michigan Department of Education at info@mde.state.mi.us.


THE MMC ONLY WORKS IF.....

Student credit is based on proficiency with the content

A PC CAN....

- Change the 18 credits required in the MMC
- Remove an MMC credit/course allowing something that better meets the students needs to be built into their course of study
- Modify the required content standards, but credit given must reflect level of proficiency.








Diploma or Certificate of Completion




PERSONAL CURRICULUM TYPES

To go beyond the academic credit requirements (Enrichment)

To modify the mathematics requirement (General Modified)

To modify the requirements based on the disability of a student with an IEP

To modify credit requirements for a transfer student



PC TYPE #1: ENRICHMENT

- To go beyond the academic requirements by substituting 1 credit of the following for additional course work in the core content areas:
 - Visual, Performing and Applied Arts credit
 - PE/Health
 - Social studies credit (excluding Civics)



TYPE #1: ENRICHMENT USING CTE

- Students may substitute, upon completion (be a COMPLETER), a state approved formal Career and Technical Education (CTE) program for:
 - 1 credit of social studies and/or,
 - 1 credit of health and physical education and/or
 - 1 credit of VPAA



PC TYPE #2: GENERAL MODIFIED (MATH)

- Remember the MMC math requirement =4 credits
- This type of PC will modify the following component of the math requirement by .5 credits
 - *"Students must earn at least 3 credits in mathematics that are aligned with subject area standards approved by the State Board"*
- With a PC in place, students must earn 3.5 math credits overall and take a math or math-related experience in one of their final two years
- Most typically done by reducing Algebra II by .5 credits



PC TYPE #3: STUDENTS WITH IEP'S

- To modify based on the needs of a student with an IEP
- Allows modifications to any MMC requirement due to the impact their disability has on accessing or demonstrating proficiency in meeting expectations
- Must align IEP, transition plan, and EDP while keeping the MMC relevant and rigorous



PC TYPE #4: TRANSFER

- First, let's define Transfer students
- Completion of the equivalent of 2 years high school content out of state/country or nonpublic school
- Once YOU designate them as a transfer student, modifications are allowed in any MMC content area (similar to students with IEP's)
- PC must be aligned with EDP (postsecondary and post-school goals)
- Can't modify Civics




PROCESS




DO WE HAVE A PROCESS?

- School Board
- District
- Building/High School
- PC Committee
- Academic teacher
- Parent/guardian
- Student




MUST DO'S

- Create local policy/procedure and communicate system wide because:
 - When a PC is requested, one MUST be developed
 - Written annual notice and website visibility is mandated
 - A team is required which must include a parent, student, counselor or teacher, and special education representative (If IEP)
- PC must be approved by Supt or Designee after being developed, before implementation
- Parents must approve PC



SHOULD DO'S

- PC Request Form
 - In office, online, easily accessible
- PC Forms
 - Should include student info, post-school pathway, modifications, and sign-off by parents (more on this to come)
- PC Record keeping protocol
- Annual Update of PC
 - If student has IEP, this would align with transition plan update
 - PC should be easily amendable



COMMUNICATE TO PARENTS/FAMILIES

- PC's DO NOT transfer...anywhere
- A PC requires district approval and there is no "grievance process" therefore they should be written to include as much of the MMC as possible, not requesting excessive modifications
- State testing scores "could" be lower if a student has PC modifications
- If students change their mind during HS on post-school goals it could void the PC and could mean extra time in HS to complete MMC
- They must agree to any modifications



SCENARIO: JENNIFER

- Jennifer is a 10th grader who receives special education services due to her certification as a student with a disability in math.
- Parents requested a PC to modify both Geometry and Algebra II, reducing the math requirement from 4 credits to 2 credits.
- She has taken Algebra I with accommodations and support per her IEP, but she has failed once and is currently failing in her 2nd attempt.
- According to Jennifer's EDP and transition plan she wants to become a Child Care Provider after high school.
- Jennifer is barely passing most of her other courses.



SCENARIO: RYAN

- Ryan in starting his 11th grade year in the fall, he has an IEP and qualifies in both reading and math.
- He wants to be a chef and own a restaurant one day.
- Ryan hopes to enroll in the culinary arts sequence through CTE his last two years of HS.
- Ryan hasn't earned any world language credits due to the extra support needed in ELA and math.
- Ryan's special education case manager has requested a PC to modify the world language requirement to make room in his day for CTE. This request is to modify the 2-credit requirement, changing it to 0 credits.



SCENARIO: JOSH

- Josh has a cognitive impairment and is in 12th grade.
- He spends half of the day in a CI room for core academics and the other half of the day he attends a CTE employability program, he will not be a "completer".
 - Math functioning- 9th percentile, currently working on single digit multiplication and division.
 - ELA functioning- <10th percentile, currently reading level 3 books with average comprehension.
- He has been on a certificate of completion pathway since 6th grade. Focusing on functional learning.
- Josh's parents learned about the PC and want his IEP to be changed to "Diploma". They have requested all MMC math, ELA,WL, and science removed (13 credits).
- He has earned 3 Social studies, 1 PE/Health, and 1 arts credit.
- Based on his IP, Josh wants to mow lawns and work at his parent's business.



SCENARIO: BETH

- Beth is a general education student about halfway through her 11th grade year.
- She is failing algebra II and received a D in both algebra and geometry. She also passed her non-math courses with A's and B's.
- The math teacher has concerns and suggests a PC for the second half of algebra II, modifying her MMC math requirement from 4 to 3.5.
- Beth is undecided on her post-school plans but does want to go to college.
- Beth scored well below proficient on the math portion of the PSAT last year.



Additional questions and comments can be directed to:

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