

School Counselor License

In-State Applicants:

Applicants who are enrolled in a school counselor program at an [approved Educator Preparation Institution](#) will be evaluated for eligibility of a School Counselor License (SCL) by the in-state university certification officer. An evaluation for a school counselor credential may lead to an applicant initially being recommended for a [Preliminary Employment Authorization to Work as a School Counselor](#) and subsequently a SCL. The SCL is valid for 5 years and is issued to candidates who have fulfilled all Michigan institutional and academic requirements, including the following:

- Completion of at least 30 graduate level semester hours in an approved school counselor education program; and
- All program requirements including an internship of not less than 600 clock hours based on an approved school counselor program in a school district under the supervision of a credentialed school counselor or a school counselor educator. At least 300 of the 600 clock hours shall be in a school setting; and
- Passage of the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) School Counselor examination.

Out-of-State Applicants:

Applicants who complete all requirements of an approved, out-of-state school counselor education program and/or fulfilled other requirements are evaluated for a School Counselor License (SCL) by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), Office of Professional Preparation Services.

This license is valid for 5 years and is issued to candidates who have fulfilled all out-of-state institutional and academic requirements applicable to being evaluated by MDE for a Michigan SCL, including:

- Applicant completed a Master's degree or higher in a school counselor educator program including internship in a school setting at an out-of-state university or its equivalency OR
- Applicant has earned a Bachelor's degree AND has successfully worked out-of-state as a school counselor 5 out of the immediately preceding 7 years, plus holds a valid school counselor certificate/license issued by another state.
- Passage of the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) School Counselor examination is required.

Additional information on [SCL renewals](#) is also available.