



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



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MEMORANDUM

TO: All Local and Intermediate School Districts, Public School Academies  
and Nonpublic Schools

FROM: Flora L. Jenkins, Ph.D., Director, Office of Professional Preparation Services

DATE: October 1, 2008

SUBJECT: 2008-2009 Teacher Shortage Areas for Federal Loan Deferment  
and Employment of Retirants (Revised)

Attached for your information and reference is the most recent list of teacher shortage areas identified by the Michigan Department of Education, which has been submitted for approval to the United States Department of Education (USDOE) for 2008-2009 effective October 15, 2008 and until a new list is distributed next fall. These shortage areas are identified to qualify for deferment of loan repayment under the Federal Stafford and Federal Supplemental Loans for Students (SLS) programs, for the reduction of teaching obligation under the Paul Douglas Teacher Scholarship and Federal Perkins Loan Programs, and for the employment of retired teachers as authorized by PA 30 (2001).

Please share this information with staff who may qualify for loan deferment or the reduction of a teaching obligation.

Federal Stafford/SLS borrowers, who have questions concerning their loans, including teacher shortage area deferment, may contact the Federal Student Aid Hotline at 1-800-4FED-AID. Douglas Scholars may contact the Office of Scholarships and Grants at the Michigan Department of Treasury at 1-888-447-2687.

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MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Critical Teacher Shortage Areas  
2008-2009

In response to PA 30 (2001), Section 61, the Michigan Department of Education has identified the following areas as critical shortage disciplines for the 2008-2009 school year. It is noted that this list includes the addition of Director of Special Education, Supervisor of Special Education, and School Social Worker as "critical shortage disciplines," as addressed in Section 61(5). These types of educational personnel do not relate to educational loan or scholarship programs, and only apply to the employment of retirants.

Michigan shortage areas include:

- Autism
- Automobile Technician
- Cognitive Impairment
- Construction Trades
- Cosmetology
- Early Childhood Special Education
- Emotional Impairment
- English as a Second Language
- Foreign Languages (all world languages)
- Health Sciences
- Information Technology
- Learning Disabilities
- Mathematics
- Personal and Culinary Services
- Physical Education for Students with Disabilities
- Physical and Other Health Impairment
- Resource Room
- Severe Multiple Impairment
- Speech and Language Impairment
- Visual Impairment
- Director of Special Education
- School Social Worker
- Supervisor of Special Education

Public school employees who have been retired for at least 12 months may be exempt from the earnings limitation if they are working in an approved critical shortage position or for a school that has an approved emergency situation.

Information regarding the earning limitations for retirants is available at the Office of Retirement Services website:

[http://www.michigan.gov/orsschools/0,1607,7-206-36502\\_36516--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/orsschools/0,1607,7-206-36502_36516--,00.html)

Attached, for your convenience, is a copy of the information from the website.