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STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

May 10, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Sally Vaughn, Ph.D. *Sally*
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Office

SUBJECT: Title IV Student Aid Programs and Ability to Benefit

In response to recent information from the United States Department of Education (USED) regarding changes to the Title IV Student Aid Programs, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has updated the Personal Curriculum Guidance Documents regarding postsecondary options for students who complete high school without earning a diploma. The updated guidance can be found on the MDE website at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/PC_Extras_Final_5-10-12_384724_7.pdf

The USED has released communications regarding changes made to the Title IV Student Aid Programs, including Ability to Benefit. **Students who do not complete high school, or who complete high school without a diploma**, and who first enroll in a program of study on or after July 1, 2012 will no longer be eligible to apply for or receive Title IV student aid. Details regarding the changes to the Ability to Benefit provision can be found in the January 18, 2012 memorandum from USED available online at <http://ifap.ed.gov/dpcletters/attachments/GEN1201.pdf>.

If you have questions regarding the personal curriculum, please contact Gregg Dionne at (517) 241-6895 or dionneg@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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