



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

SHEILA A. ALLES  
INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** July 12, 2018

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

**FROM:** Venessa Keesler, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent *V. Keesler*  
Division of Educator, Student and School Supports

**SUBJECT:** School Counselor Professional Development Standards

The State Board of Education (SBE) recently approved [School Counselor Professional Development Standards](#) in accordance with amended MCL 380.1233(7-9). The approved standards align to Michigan's Top 10 in 10, Strategic Goals 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 and are intended to provide school counselors opportunity to enhance skills and knowledge of career and college readiness, including military career options.

Beginning February 6, 2020, MCL 380.1233(7-9) requires school counselors to complete 50 career and college professional learning clock hours for renewal of a teaching certificate with a school counselor endorsement and a School Counselor License. The 50 professional learning hours required by law are to be completed as part of the total 150 clock hours needed to apply for [renewal of a school counselor credential](#).

Prior to February 6, 2020, school counselors may renew based on the [current requirements](#).

**Professional Development Criteria**

The law specifies school counselors fulfill career and college professional development as follows:

- 25 clock hours in College Readiness: college preparation and selection; and
- 25 clock hours in Career Readiness: career consultation, 5 of which must include the exploration of military career options.

Required school counselor professional development hours must be registered and approved as [State Continuing Education Clock Hours](#) (SCECHs) to qualify.

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909  
[www.michigan.gov/mde](http://www.michigan.gov/mde) • 833-633-5788

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Additional information on becoming a school counselor SCECH sponsor or meeting the requirements of the law is available in the [School Counselor Professional Development Law](#) guidance document.

General questions pertaining to school counselor renewals may be directed to [MOECSSUPPORT@michigan.gov](mailto:MOECSSUPPORT@michigan.gov) or by phone at 517-373-3310.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance