



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

April 3, 2014

**MEMORANDUM**

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

FROM: Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D.   
Deputy Superintendent, Education Services

SUBJECT: Waivers of Minimum Number of Hours and Days of Pupil Instruction for  
Alternative Education Programs or other Innovative Programs Approved by  
the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) for fiscal Year 2014-2015

The State Aid Act, Section 101 (9), permits the State Superintendent to waive the minimum number of hours and days of pupil instruction for Alternative Education programs or other innovative programs approved by the MDE. This waiver can only be granted for Alternative Education or innovative programs and not for individual students.

The State Superintendent will consider applications for waivers of hours for programs that will operate for less than the required 1,098 hours and/or less than the required 175 days during the school year. Before submitting the waiver to operate less than the required 1,098 hours of instruction or less than the required 175 days of instruction, consider very carefully the amount of instruction time needed to deliver the Michigan Merit Curriculum.

To apply for a waiver under Section 101 (9), please complete the Waiver Application Review form and the Program Assurances form, available on the Department's web page at [http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-6530\\_30334\\_40027---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-6530_30334_40027---,00.html). Waiver applications should be submitted to the MDE **no later than October 1, 2014**. Please be advised that by completing this application and participating in the Waiver of Minimum Number of Hours and Days of Pupil Instruction for Alternative Education or other innovative programs, you agree to comply with the reporting requirements established by the MDE. **Please e-mail the completed packet to [STWapp@michigan.gov](mailto:STWapp@michigan.gov).**

If you have any questions regarding the information being requested, please contact Brian Barber or Eric Lipinski at (517) 241-6895, or email at [barberb2@michigan.gov](mailto:barberb2@michigan.gov) or [lipinskie@michigan.gov](mailto:lipinskie@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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