



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING


RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** March 30, 2017

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

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

**SUBJECT:** Academic Year 2017-18 Critical Shortage Disciplines For Employment of Retirees

On December 16, 2015, the governor signed HB-4059 (2015), amending Michigan Compiled Legislature 38.1361. Pursuant to that amendment the Michigan Department of Education has compiled a listing of the [Academic Year 2017-18 Critical Shortage Disciplines for Employment of Retirees](#).

If a discipline is not listed as a statewide critical shortage discipline, the law stipulates that two or more contiguous reporting units may submit a written request to the Superintendent of Public Instruction to add a discipline to the listing. The request must include evidence of a shortage of the discipline in those contiguous reporting units. If the Superintendent of Public Instruction determines that there is a shortage of the discipline in those contiguous reporting units, the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall add the discipline to the listing. A discipline added as a request under this subsection of law is applicable only to those contiguous reporting units.

For purposes of this law, a reporting unit that is a public school academy is considered contiguous to any other reporting unit in which the public school academy is located. Two contiguous intermediate school districts (ISDs) that have multiple non-contiguous districts within their borders that have shortages can be the reporting unit for those districts. An ISD can act as one of the contiguous reporting units for instances when multiple individual districts within that single ISD have like shortages.

Interested districts must use the [Critical Shortage Request Form](#) and include required evidence to submit a request. Questions about implementation of the retiree benefit provisions of the legislation should be directed to the [Office of Retirement Services](#) ([www.michigan.gov/ors](http://www.michigan.gov/ors)).

Questions about completing the [Critical Shortage Request Form](#) may be directed to the Office of Professional Preparation Services at 517-373-3310 or [moecssupport@michigan.gov](mailto:moecssupport@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909  
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