

Michigan Department of Education
Office of Career and Technical Education
Early Middle College (EMC)
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)
COVID-19
2020-2021

1. Are students permitted to participate in EMC, concurrent enrollment, direct credit, or dual enrollment courses?

Yes, a student can participate in dual enrollment and EMC following the district's guidelines according to the student's enrollment status. The district's guidelines should be aligned to the six-phase approach to reopening in the [MI Safe Start Plan](#) and the [MI Safe Schools: Michigan's 2020-21 Return to School Roadmap](#).

Districts may be required to move between phases, depending on the public health metrics in the region, and must be prepared to continue to provide high quality instruction in each phase. Each district must make decisions based on local policies, facilities, teachers, programs offered, and student needs. If the student is enrolled online, he or she would be expected to continue attending online. High schools and postsecondary partners should have a plan in place to provide continuity of learning in the event their region moves in and out of the [MI Safe Start Plan](#) phases.

2. Are districts permitted to carryover 2019-2020 Section 61b formula funds?

Yes. An intermediate school district (ISD) may carryover 2019-2020 Section 61b formula funds to 2020-2021 but must make a request by November 30, 2020. To carry over the funds, please contact Joan Church at Churchj@michigan.gov.

3. May an ISD carry over the 2019-2020 61b(8) planning grant funds to 2020-2021?

Yes. An ISD may carry over 2019-2020 61b(8) planning grant funds through November 30, 2020. To carry over the funds, please contact Lisa Seigel at Seigell@michigan.gov by September 15, 2020.

4. Are EMC students permitted to participate in work-based learning?

Reference the most current [MDE COVID-19 OCTE CTE FAQs 2020-2021](#) document on the MDE webpage.

5. Are districts required to provide equal access to alternative modes of instruction for students with disabilities?

Yes. Please direct clarifying and additional questions to Rebecca McIntyre in the Michigan Department of Education, Office of Special Education at mcintyre1@michigan.gov.

6. Is there flexibility in the way a student attains the required criteria to earn the Michigan Early Middle College Association (MEMCA) certificate?

Yes. The requirements to earn the MEMCA certificate include earning 15 transferable, non-remedial college credit hours and meeting one of the following criteria:

- A minimum of 100 hours of district-verified community service; or
- A minimum of 40 hours of district-verified career exploration, career preparation, internship, job shadowing, or clinical experiences; or
- A minimum of 70 hours in district-verified college preparation skills, community service, career exploration, career preparation, internship, job shadowing, or clinical experiences.

Students must earn the 15 transferable, non-remedial college credit hours. However, students may count in-person, hybrid or 100% learning at a distance criteria. Students may count experiences from grade 9 through grade 13. Please note the hours can begin in grade 9, whether they were an EMC student at that time or not.

It is recommended that the EMC and local district maintain a spreadsheet, in the student's file, showing the name of the activity, the date, and the number of hours that count toward the MEMCA certificate.