Education-Related Professional Learning

In order to meet the requirement defined by the Teacher Certification Code and Administrative Rule 390.1101, necessary for all certificate renewals or progressions, an educator must accumulate a total of 150 hours of education-related professional learning.

Education-related professional learning is any opportunity intended to improve an educator’s practice and capacity to perform the work within the profession of education, with a focus on improving student achievement. These opportunities must be aligned to the educator’s grade level of certification and area(s) of endorsement. There are three recognized categories:

a) Satisfactory* college semester credit hours at a regionally accredited college or university, with one semester credit hour being equivalent to 25 education-related professional learning hours.

b) State Continuing Education Clock Hours (SCECHs).

c) Annual District Provided Professional Development (DPPD) hours.

The key factors for ensuring professional learning opportunities will count towards certificate renewal or progression are:

- must be appropriate to grade level and content areas of certification and endorsement; and
- must be completed since the issue date of the most recent certificate.

The following certificates require education-related professional learning:

- Standard Teaching Certificate Renewal
- Professional Teaching Certificate
- Professional Teaching Certificate Renewal
- Advanced Professional Teaching Certificate Renewal
- Standard CTE Certificate Renewal
- Professional CTE Certificate
- Professional CTE Certificate Renewal
- School Guidance Counselor License Renewal
- School Psychologist Certificate Renewal
- School Administrator Certificate Renewal
Goal 3 of the Michigan Department of Education’s Top 10 in 10 Goals and Strategies, the Effective Education Workforce section of the Strategic Plan, and sections 5.1.C and 6.1.D of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) all include high-quality professional development as strategies which advance Michigan’s goals for its learners. For this reason, professional learning should be relevant and meaningful, completed with ethical professionalism, and show alignment to these goals.

Additionally, in light of recent school events around the nation, school safety training has been approved for professional development credit for the current and upcoming academic years (2017-2018, 2018-2019) for use when renewing or progressing an educator certificate. Refer to the Superintendent’s May 2018 memo for additional information.

*Satisfactory means an average a grade of C or better or the equivalent.*