



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 18, 2017

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

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

SUBJECT: Alternative Education and Innovative Programs (Hours and Days)
Waivers 2017-18 Application Process and 2016-17 Required Report

The State School Aid Act, Section 101(9) [MCL 388.1701], 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 Michigan Department of Education (MDE). This waiver can only be granted for alternative education or innovative programs and is not intended 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 180 days during the 2017-18 school year. Before submitting the waiver to operate less than the required 1,098 hours of instruction or less than the required 180 days of instruction, consider very carefully the amount of instruction time needed to deliver the Michigan Merit Curriculum. The waiver application also allows a district to apply for a 50 percent attendance waiver, as indicated in Section 101(3)(h).

2017-18 Application Information

The application can be found at www.michigan.gov/alted. Submission instructions are included in the application.

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.

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2016-17 Reporting Requirements

Any entity that received an Alternative Education/Innovative Programs (Hours and Days) Waiver in 2016-17 must complete the end of the year report. The report is in the format of a google form and can be found at [this site](#). The report is due by July 21, 2017. **The report only applies to entities that were approved for the waiver in 2016-17.**

If you have any questions regarding the application or reporting processes for this waiver, please contact Eric Lipinski at (517) 241-6895, or email at lipinskie@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance