



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 23, 2020

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 Supports

SUBJECT: Learn to Integrate the National Geographic Geo-Inquiry Process
Into Classroom Learning

The National Geographic Society and the Michigan Department of Education invite Michigan teachers to participate in the National Geographic Geo-Inquiry Process professional learning series.

Students need to understand how the complex and dynamic human and natural systems interact. The National Geographic Geo-Inquiry Process relies on a geographic perspective, a unique lens to analyze space, place, and the interconnections between both the human and natural worlds. The Geo-Inquiry Process is grounded in geographic concepts, including how to think and see like a geographer exploring the world. It's the same process that National Geographic explorers, scientists, and storytellers use in their work every day.

The program is comprised of four stages. Stages one through three will occur between late January and June 2020, during which teachers will receive an introduction to the program, complete the National Geographic Society's online course "Connecting the Geo-Inquiry Process to Your Teaching Practice," and implement their plans in the classroom. All these opportunities will be discussed at the one required face-to-face session:

Wednesday, January 29, 2020
9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Michigan Virtual
920 Municipal Way
Lansing, MI 48917

Registration is free: <http://bit.ly/NG-Inquiry>.

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The final stage of the program is to complete at least one competency-based State Continuing Education Clock Hour (SCECH) from the Geographic Thinking stack. Completion will occur from June to August 2020. Thirty SCECHs will be awarded upon completion of the program.

For additional details regarding each stage of the program, including completion information, and a tentative program timeline, please visit <http://bit.ly/35PusCX>. Further questions can be directed to Ashley Arras at arrasa@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance