School Psychologist Certification

A person employed as a school psychologist in a Michigan school is required to hold a valid Michigan School Psychologist Certificate or a Preliminary School Psychologist Certificate.

An application for a School Psychologist Certificate or Preliminary School Psychologist Certificate is created through the Michigan Online Educator Certification System (MOECS).

Preliminary School Psychologist Certificate (R 380.204 & 380.205) Valid for 3 years and available to individuals who meet the following requirements:

1. Complete a graduate degree in an approved school psychology certification program (no less than 45 semester credit hours); and
2. Complete a 600 clock-hour, supervised practicum in school psychology; and
3. Possess a valid out-of-state school psychologist certificate or license if the school psychologist program was completed in another state.

Preliminary School Psychologist Renewal (R 380.204 & 380.205) A one-time, 3-year renewal may be granted upon application and verification of one of the following:

- Six (6) semester credit hours in an approved school psychologist program from an Educator Preparation Institution. The credit must be completed since the issue date of the preliminary psychology certificate; or
- A valid, out-of-state school psychologist certificate.

School Psychologist Certificate (R 380.206) Valid for 5 years and available to individuals who meet the following requirements:

1. Possess a current or expired Preliminary School Psychologist Certificate; and
2. Complete a state-approved specialist-level degree or the equivalent (no less than 60 semester credit hours) in school psychology with a 1200 clock-hour internship from an Educator Preparation Institution (EPI).

An out-of-state applicant may qualify for a School Psychologist Certificate (R 380.206), valid for 5 years, as an initial certificate if the individual meets the following requirements:
1. Complete a specialist-level degree or the equivalent (no less than 60 semester credit hours) in school psychology with a 1200 clock-hour internship from an out-of-state Educator Preparation Institution; and

2. Possess a valid Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) credential issued by the National Association of School Psychologists, (NASP) or a valid, standard school psychologist certificate from the state where the program was completed.

School Psychologist Renewal (R 380.206) Valid for 5 years and renewable using one of the following options:

Option A: One of the following Education-related professional learning options completed since the issue date of the most recent school psychology certificate or renewal and logged into MOECS:

- 6 semester credit hours appropriate for performing the roles of a school psychologist from a regionally accredited college or university; or
- 150 Michigan State Continuing Education Clock Hours (SCECHs) appropriate for performing the roles of a school psychologist; or
- 150 hours of Michigan District Provided Professional Development (DPPD) appropriate for performing the roles of a school psychologist.
- Any combination of the above equaling 150 hours.

Option B: A valid Michigan Professional Teaching Certificate.

Option C: A valid Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP) credential.

Option D: A valid out-of-state school psychologist certificate. Option D is for a one-time renewal only.

Education-Related Professional Learning Hour Conversion:

- College credit: 1 semester credit = 25 professional learning hours
- SCECH Hours: 1 SCECH hour = 1 professional learning hour
- DPPD Hours: 1 DPPD hour = 1 professional learning hour

All applications for initial certification and renewal are submitted through MOECS. Here are instructions for creating an initial MOECS account and checking your application status in MOECS after an application has been created. If you use District Provided Professional Development to renew your school psychologist certificate, you will need to have the DPPD form completed by your employing district.