



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 15, 2015

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

FROM: Venessa Keesler, Deputy Superintendent 
Division of Accountability Services

SUBJECT: Notification of Change to State Aid Penalties for Noncertified Educators

The State School Aid Act of 1979, Act 94, [Section 388.1763](#) was amended with an effective date of October 1, 2015 (<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?mcl-388-1763-amended>).

The amendment changes titles such as "teacher" and "counselor" and "administrator" to the more generic term of "educator".

It also expands the penalties for noncertification to all educators, including individuals who administer instructional programs.

As a reminder, "a district or intermediate district employing educators not legally certificated or licensed shall have deducted the sum equal to the amount paid to the educators for the period of noncertificated, unlicensed, or illegal employment...[and]... if a school official is notified by the department that he or she is employing a nonapproved, noncertificated, or unlicensed educator in violation of this section and knowingly continues to employ that educator, the school official is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of \$1,500.00 for each incidence."

It is critical that every district review the changes to legislation, as well as the certification and continuing education status of every educator in the district, to prevent costly State Aid penalties.

For additional information, please contact Phil Chase at Chasep2@michigan.gov or 517-241-3960.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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