

Basic Skills Examination

Michigan Compiled Law (MCL) [380.1531](#) currently requires the passage of a basic skills examination (BSE) for initial teacher certification. **Recent changes to law will remove this BSE requirement beginning September 25, 2018.**

Basic Skills Examination Options

As of October 1, 2017, the Michigan Teacher Examination Advisory Committee (TEAC) has determined that the College Board's SAT assessment will be Michigan's BSE. BEFORE registering for the SAT, please verify if you have already taken any of the following tests during the indicated administration periods:

- The ACT, between 1/1/89 and 10/1/17;
- The Michigan Merit Examination (MME), between 1/1/2007 and 01/31/15;
- The Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC) Basic Skills Test (BST) or the MTTC Professional Readiness Examination (PRE) with a test date before October 1, 2017; or
- The SAT, taken on or after 3/5/16.

If you have already taken one or more of these tests during the indicated administration dates, they may still be honored as the Michigan BSE. Please work with the appropriate testing vendor to review your test scores to determine eligibility for the Michigan BSE requirement.

Important Note: Other state certification tests cannot be used to meet the Michigan BSE requirement.

ACT, MME and SAT: Minimum Score Requirements

The subtest minimum scores to meet the Michigan BSE requirement for the ACT, MME and SAT are provided in the table below.

Basic Skills Exam Subtest	Required ACT Score	Required MME Score	Required SAT Score
Reading	22	1108	480**
Writing	22*	1129	
Mathematics	22	1116	530

*ACT Combined English/Writing (Note: not all ACT scores include Combined English/Writing) **SAT Evidence-based Reading + Writing

Sending ACT MME and SAT Score Reports to the MDE

- Contact [ACT Inc.](#) and request your score report be sent to institution code "8819". This code will direct ACT Inc. to send your score report directly to the Michigan Department of Education (MDE).
- Contact [SAT](#) and request your score report be sent to the MDE. Enter "Teacher Certification" in the "Find Colleges and Scholarship" section to have your score report sent to the MDE.
- If you received your **ACT or SAT score reports** and intend to send them to the MDE, **do not** open the envelope.
 - Turn the envelope over and on the sealed flap on the back print and sign your name. Also write the last four digits of your social security number.
 - Enclose the signed/sealed envelope in another envelope and send to:

Michigan Department of Education
ATTN: Dana Utterback
608 W. Allegan St.
Lansing, MI 48933
 - Please use regular US Postal first-class mail. **Do not use** expedited US Postal service, e.g., Overnight or Priority Delivery.
 - If you are using MME scores you may have your high school or school district email your scores to you and then forward them to MOECSSupport@michigan.gov with "MME Scores" in the subject line.

Passing Score Alternatives for the PRE

If you have scores for the PRE and you have scores that meet minimum score requirements for any of the tests listed in the **Basic Skills Examination Options** section, you may be eligible for a passing score alternative on a PRE subtest. To check on this, please go to the [Michigan Test for Teacher Certification website](#) and click on the "Professional Readiness Examination (PRE) Passing Score Alternatives table" link at the bottom of the page.

Registering for the SAT

Register for the SAT using the information and resources available at collegeboard.org. Click on the "Register for the SAT" icon on the left side of the site to begin registration. Do not register for any "SAT Subject Area Tests." The SAT Essay is optional and not required.

When registering for the SAT, enter "Teacher Certification" in the "Find Colleges and Scholarship Programs" section to have your score report sent to the MDE. If you forget to do this, you can still order a copy of your official score report and send it to us yourself (see the previous section).

The SAT is an examination offered by the College Board, a separate independent company, and not the MDE. If you have questions about their website, accessing registration information, making payments, test centers, how the SAT is scored, and how to receive score

reports, you must contact the College Board directly. Their site is set up with [help resources](#) specific to the administration of the SAT. The MDE cannot resolve test administration problems, resolve complaints, or access scores.

Out-of-State Evaluations

The BSE requirement will be eliminated beginning **September 25, 2018**. If you have been evaluated as an out-of-state candidate for the Standard Teaching Certificate, please review the following scenarios for how this will affect you. Scenarios vary and are highly dependent on whether the candidate was issued the Temporary Teacher Employment Authorization (T2EA).

T2EA Issued; Subject/Discipline Area Test(s) Passed

- The Standard Teaching Certificate can be issued after September 25, 2018 without any additional testing.
- A [permit](#) can be obtained by the employing school if educator is needed beyond the validity of the T2EA. The T2EA cannot be renewed or extended.
- An employing school can contact our office directly for verification of requirements.

T2EA Issued; Subject/Discipline Area Test(s) NOT Passed

- The Standard Teaching Certificate cannot be issued.
- Applicant can continue to work within the validity of the T2EA.
- Subject/discipline area test(s) must be passed in accordance with the evaluation.
- A [permit](#) can be obtained by the employing school if educator is needed beyond the validity of the T2EA. The T2EA cannot be renewed or extended.

No T2EA Issued; Subject/Discipline Area Test(s) Passed

- The Standard Teaching Certificate can be issued after September 25, 2018 without any additional testing.
- A [permit](#) can be obtained by the employing school for placement prior to September 25, 2018.

No T2EA Issued; Subject/Discipline Area Test(s) NOT Passed

- The Standard Teaching Certificate cannot be issued.
- Subject/discipline area test(s) must be passed in accordance with the evaluation.
- A [permit](#) can be obtained by the employing school for placement prior to September 25, 2018.

Additional Guidance

Utilize the [Michigan Online Educator Certification System](#) (MOECS) to monitor the [status of your application](#).

For additional support and guidance, contact the Michigan Department of Education - Office of Educator Excellence at MOECSSupport@michigan.gov or 517-373-3310.