



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 9, 2020

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

FROM: Michael F. Rice, Ph.D., State Superintendent 

SUBJECT: Waiver of School Counselor Professional Learning in Response to Executive Order 2020-35

[Executive Order 2020-35](#) (EO 2020-35), Section VIII(H) waives strict compliance with rules and procedures under MCL 380.1233(6). Individuals who hold a School Counselor License (SCL) or teaching certificate with a School Counselor (NT) endorsement expiring June 30, 2020 may renew their credential regardless of whether they have completed at least 25 hours of professional development covering counseling about the college preparation and selection process and at least 25 hours of professional development covering career counseling. This reduces the total number of hours required to renew or progress toward school counselor credentials expiring June 30, 2020 renewal to 100 instead of 150.

EO 2020-35 does not waive future requirements for professional learning required to renew a school counselor certification or endorsement.

The Michigan Department of Education is working diligently to determine how best to change procedures to implement these directives. The mechanisms to allow individuals with a School Counselor credentials expiring June 30, 2020 to renew their credential without the required professional learning hours in MCL 380.1233 will take time to enact. More information about the process will be provided to affected counselors when it becomes available.

Please share this information with individuals holding school counselor credentials that expire June 30, 2020, and encourage all educators to ensure that their email address is up-to-date in the [Michigan Online Educator Certification System](#). Information directly related to an educator's certification will be distributed using that email address.

If you have questions, please contact MDE-EducatorHelp@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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