

Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education (MARSE) Rule Revisions

2026-14

Michigan Department of Education
Office of Special Education



MARSE Revisions

Proposed changes are to the following rules:

- **R 340.1701a** Definitions; A to E
- **R 340.1721** Request for initial evaluation
- **R 340.1721b** Public agency responsibilities and timelines
- **R 340.1721e** Individualized education program

MARSE Revisions Continued

- **R 340.1781** Teachers of students with disabilities; endorsement requirements
- **R 340.1784** Teachers of special education; special requirements
- **R 340.1851** Filing a state complaint
- **R 340.1852** General responsibilities of public agencies, intermediate school districts, and the department
- **R 340.1853** Investigation, report, and final decision of a state complaint

R 340.1701a Purpose of Revisions

To align with Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) definition of a public agency at [34 CFR §300.33](#).

R 340.1721, R 340.1721b and R 340.1851

- Align timelines within [R 340.1721](#), [R 340.1721b](#), and [R 340.1851](#) with [MCL 8.6](#) for calculating of the first day for timelines, the first day is excluded and the last day is included.
- Address a district's responsibility to provide notice under [34 CFR §300.503](#) when it will not conduct a requested evaluation.
- Clarify timelines apply to any evaluation.

R 340.1721e

- To reinforce the requirement to provide notice of an offer of a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) or determination of ineligibility within 7 school days after any Individualized Education Program (IEP) Team meeting.

R 340.1781 and R 340.1784

- To add a new stand-alone special education teacher endorsement that allows a special education teacher to be placed in programs for students across multiple disability identification areas, addressing the demand for special education teachers in Michigan.

Existing Endorsements

- No special education endorsements will be removed because of this new endorsement addition.
- All currently certified special education teachers will continue to hold their special education endorsements on their certificates.
- This is an additional option for prospective or current teachers. There are no subtractions.

Key Shift in Endorsement

Special Education Categorical Endorsements	Special Education Teacher Endorsement
Paired with a general education content endorsement	Can be stand-alone
Core content preparation reliant on choice of general education content endorsement	Prepared to provide specially designed instruction in reading and math development, core content in general education, and positive student educational outcomes
Teacher placement must match endorsement	Flexibility of teacher placement in select programs

Summary of New Endorsement

A teacher with the new endorsement can be placed in the following special education programs:

- Mild cognitive impairment
- Emotional impairment
- Specific learning disabilities
- Physical or other health impaired
- Elementary and secondary resource

A teacher with the new endorsement can not be placed in the following special education programs:

- Autism spectrum disorder
- Early childhood special education
- Deaf and hard of hearing
- Visual impairment
- Severe, moderate, and severe multiple cognitive impairment
- Adaptive physical education services
- Speech language impairment services

R 340.1852 Revisions

- To align R 340.1852 with [34 CFR §300.152\(b\)](#) which does not allow a complaint to be delayed due to informal resolution.

R 340.1853 Revision

- Removes language allowing for the “stay put” process in a state complaint process which is only allowed for due process complaint process under IDEA.

Virtual Public Hearings

The virtual public hearings will take place on the following dates and times:

- Monday, October 12, 2026: 2:00-5:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 13, 2026: 9:00-11:00 a.m.

In-Person Public Hearing

The in-person public hearing will take place on
Tuesday, October 13th, from 3:30-5:00 p.m.

at

Library of Michigan
702 W. Kalamazoo St.
Lansing, MI 48915

Written Public Comment Information

- [Online Comment](#)
- By email at MDE-OSE-Public-Comment@michigan.gov
- By mail:

Public Comment

Michigan Department of Education, Office of Special Education

608 W. Allegan, P.O. Box 30008

Lansing, MI 48909

By 5:00 p.m. on October 16, 2026

Contact Information

Office of Special Education Information Line

Interpreter Services Available

1-888-320-8384

MDE-OSE@Michigan.gov

www.Michigan.gov/mde/services/special-education