



Personal Curriculum (PC)

The personal curriculum (PC) is a tool for modifying the rigor of the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) by individualizing the state graduation requirements. Students with an individualized education program (IEP) in grades 9-12 are eligible for a personal curriculum. Educational development plans (EDPs) are created in 7th grade. This “living document” is to be updated as the student moves through high school. Goals set in the PC should align with the student’s EDP. The PC and EDP should align with, but not be included in, the student’s IEP.

When is a Personal Curriculum Appropriate?

Personal curriculums may be used to:

- Go beyond academic requirements in core areas.
- Modify the Algebra II mathematics requirement.
- Modify state graduation requirements for students with an IEP.
- Modify credit requirements for a transfer student.

Earning credit in the following non-traditional settings does not require a PC so long as proficiency is still met within the state content standards:

- Career and technical education courses, humanities courses, industrial education, or applied arts.
- Accelerated courses through dual enrollment, Advanced Placement, or International Baccalaureate programs.
- Online courses.
- Alternative education or credit recovery programs.

Personal Curriculum Requests

Districts must provide information about a PC and develop a PC when requested, but are not required to approve them. The PC, IEP, and EDP should include as much of the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) as possible, with clearly written information on measurable goals and an evaluation process. For students with an IEP, the PC must align with the disability related needs in the IEP and EDP. Parents (or students who are 18 years or older) should work with their school district’s counseling department to find out more information or to request a PC.

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Personal Curriculum Process

Learn more at the [Michigan Department of Education website](#).

1

The parent, student, or school requests a PC following school procedures. (No state forms exist.)

2

After receiving the PC request, the counselor or school representative reviews the EDP and other important student information to determine eligibility.

3

The PC team must include the student, parent, content teacher, and counselor or designee. A school psychologist should be included if the student has an IEP.

4

The PC, written by the PC team, must be approved and agreed to by the parent/guardian and superintendent or designee.

5

The PC is implemented with the student's courses and course work reflecting changes.

6

The board of the local district or public school academy awards a diploma to the student upon completion of all requirements of the PC.

Resources

The [Parent's Guide to Personal Curriculum-Focus on Students with an IEP](#) is a Frequently Asked Questions document available from the Michigan Department of Education. It is a good resource for more information on the personal curriculum.



[Michigan Alliance for Families](#)

Michigan Department of Education

- [Personal Curriculum: Parent and Educator Guide](#)
- [Personal Curriculum Webpage](#)
- [Overview of Michigan Merit Curriculum \(MMC\)](#)

Michigan Merit Curriculum

- [\(Revised School Code\) Personal Curriculum](#)