



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. The PC Team consists of the student, parent, school psychologist, counselor and/or teacher (who currently teaches the student or has expertise in the content being modified). [Educational development plans \(EDPs\)](#) are created in 7th grade and this “living document” is updated each year 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 modify:

- MMC requirements by exchanging non-core standards and credits for additional core standards and credits.
- The MMC math requirement by removing a half credit worth of math standards.
- MMC standards and credit requirements for students with an IEP to align to post-school goals.
- Standards and credit requirements for a transfer student who has completed 2 years of high school outside of Michigan.

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 district superintendents or chief executives 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, school personnel, student age 18 or older, or emancipated student requests a PC.
- 2 The PC Team meets (student, parent, school psychologist, counselor and/or teacher, who currently teaches the student or has expertise in the content being modified). The PC Team reviews student information, performance data, and supports—including the EDP—and develops a PC. The PC must incorporate as much of the subject area content expectations of the MMC as practicable for the student.
- 3 The PC Team writes agreement and gets sign-off from the superintendent or chief executive and the parent or legal guardian (or emancipated student).
- 4 The PC modifications are implemented. The student's schedule and course of study should reflect the PC modifications.
- 5 The district monitors the student's progress towards meeting the MMC and earning a diploma. If revisions to the PC are needed, the PC Team reconvenes and makes revisions using the same process.
- 6 The student is awarded a diploma upon completing the MMC with PC credit modifications. Once a student receives a high school diploma, eligibility ends for special education programs and services.

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](#)