

Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) Continuum

Michigan Department of Education Office of Special Education November 2025

Most

Homebased / Interim Alternative Education Setting (IAES)

Student receives instruction in the home setting in an IAES determined by the IEP team because of disciplinary action.

Homebound or Hospital

Student receives specialized instruction at home or in a hospital delivered by a general education or special education teacher due to a medical condition certified by the attending physician.

Residential School

Student lives in a 24-hour care facility and special education services are delivered by a general education or special education teacher.

Separate School

Student attends a separate school for students with disabilities only and receives specially designed instruction by a special education teacher and has limited to no access to general education or non-disabled peers.

Separate Classroom

Number of Students

Student receives all instruction, including specially designed instruction, delivered by a special education teacher, in a separate location with students with disabilities and has limited to no access to general education or non-disabled peers.

Resource Program

Student participates in general education instruction and receives supplemental specially designed instruction delivered by a special education teacher either in the general education classroom or in another location with students with disabilities.

General Education with Supplementary Instruction and Services

Student participates in general education instruction, alongside students with and without disabilities, delivered by a general education teacher and supplemental specially designed instruction by a special educator.

General Education with Consultation

Student fully participates in general education instruction, alongside students with and without disabilities, delivered by a general education teacher, whom a special educator advises.

General Education

Student fully participates in general education instruction alongside students with and without disabilities.



