



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


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INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 25, 2018

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

FROM: Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent 
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports

SUBJECT: School Counselor Professional Development Programs

Recently amended [MCL 380.1233 \(7-9\)](#) mandates 50 of the required 150 education-related [professional learning](#) hours required to renew a school counselor credential to have a specific focus:

- **25** clock hours focused on college preparation and selection; and
- **25** clock hours focused on career consultation, including **5** hours in the exploration of military career options.

These 50 hours may only be obtained using State Continuing Education Clock Hours (SCECH) programs approved for this purpose. Entities that typically offer this content as college credit, or District Provided Professional Development (DPPD), including [externships](#), will need to submit an application to become an approved SCECH provider. SCECH programs do not need to address all the noted standards. Instead, a sponsor may elect to focus SCECH programs on as many or few standards as desired. School Counselors may utilize any combination of DPPD, college credit, or SCECHs to fulfill the remaining 100 hours of the 150-hour education-related professional learning requirement.

Michigan schools can support this process by disseminating information, encouraging SCECH program development, and supporting school counselors in obtaining the necessary professional development using the SCECH process. Additional information on SCECHs can be found in the [SCECH Overview](#) guidance document.

SCECHs approved for the purpose of meeting the 50 specific hours will be included under the category of *School Counseling* under the subsection of Professional Learning Programs within the MDE [SCECH catalog](#). Please check the catalog regularly for offerings.

SCECH program standards can be found in the [School Counselor Professional Development Standards](#). The standards were crafted in sync with the Michigan Department of Education's (MDE) [Top 10 in 10 Goals & Strategies](#).

Questions pertaining to School Counselor Professional Development Programs or professional learning requirements can be directed to SCECH@michigan.gov or MOECSSUPPORT@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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