



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

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STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** December 7, 2017

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

**FROM:** Susan Broman, Deputy Superintendent  
P-20 System and Student Transitions *SB*

**SUBJECT:** Meeting the Michigan Merit Curriculum Graduation Requirements  
Though Career and Technical Education

The Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) gives local school districts or public-school academies the flexibility to specify which courses or programs will earn the required credits towards graduation. The MMC specifies that student credit is based on proficiency with the content. Legislation specifically allows for alternative delivery methods of the academic content.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) is defined as high school instructional programs that prepare students for specific high-wage, high-skill, high-demand careers. Career Technical Education coursework is designed as a sequence of courses to help students attain a postsecondary degree or industry-recognized certificate or credential. The goal of CTE is to ensure that students have strong academic foundations, as well as specific technical skills so that they may enter and succeed in their chosen career and/or postsecondary program.

Therefore, districts can leverage the academic content naturally embedded in CTE instructional programs and allow students to earn partial to full credit for the content they learn in their CTE courses and experiences. Districts have the flexibility to provide students with the opportunity to complete the credit requirements through testing out, supplemental offerings, or other options offered by the district. You may learn more about Earning Credit on page 3 of the [Michigan Merit Curriculum FAQ](#).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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