



Michigan Online School

Personal Curriculum Policy

The Personal Curriculum (PC) is an option any student or family can explore as a way to modify certain graduation requirements and earn a diploma. The purpose of secondary education is to prepare students for life after high school. The MOS Board of Directors requires that any modification to a student's graduation requirements needs to be consistent with this purpose.

A PC may be appropriate for a student who has demonstrated one or more of the following:

- The ability or desire to access advanced or specialized content that cannot be met through electives (e.g., district lacks the resources to provide the course/content, or schedule does not allow student to access district offering).
- The ability to succeed in accelerated or advanced math, science, English language arts, world languages, or career and technical education.
- The academic need to modify the State Content Standards for Mathematics.

For a student with an IEP:

- A documented need to make modifications because the student's disability affects access to and/or demonstration of proficiency in the curriculum.
- Lack of progress on the Michigan Merit Curriculum despite documented interventions, supports, and accommodations.

For a transfer student:

- Transferring from out of state or from a nonpublic school after successful completion of the equivalent of two years of high school credit.

The developed PC still needs to be agreed upon by the parent or legal guardian and the Superintendent or school designee before taking effect. The group of individuals that develops the PC must include an MOS teacher OR Guidance Counselor. (This teacher should be directly educating the student and have expertise in the subject area being modified.)

While every request to modify a student's graduation requirements will be considered, MOS may deny a PC request if:

- The request does not comply with state statute.
- Other options for meeting the student's educational needs have not been documented.
- It is not in the best interest of the student.
- The members of the PC development team cannot reach agreement.

MOS will not limit or discourage the number of students with a PC on any basis other than the best interest of each individual student.

MOS will provide an annual notice to parents or guardians explaining the PC and that all students are entitled to a PC. This notice shall also be posted on the MOS website.

The PC must be developed and coordinated with other plans, including the Educational Development Plan (EDP) and the IEP.

Modifications Allowed

There are no modifications to credit requirements allowed in the following areas (exceptions may apply for students with an IEP or transfer students):

- English language arts
- Civics/Government
- Online learning experience
- World Language

Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC)

Subject Area Credit Requirements	Personal Curriculum (PC) Modifications (Sequence and delivery up to district; support courses can count for credit regardless of year)
4 English Language Arts (ELA) Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficiency in State Content Standards for ELA (4 credits) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ No modification except for students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) and for transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school
4 Mathematics Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficiency in State Content Standards for Mathematics (3 credits) • Proficiency in district-approved 4th mathematics credit options (1 credit) <p>* Students must have a math experience in their final year of high school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1 credit of the state content standards for Mathematics may be modified to ½ credit so long as the modification continues to provide the state content standards ✓ Additional modifications allowed for students with an IEP and transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school. <p>* Students must have a math experience in one of their two final years of high school.</p>
3 Science Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficiency in State Content Standards for Science (3 credits); Or • Proficiency in some State Content Standards for Science (2 credits) and completion of a department-approved formal career and technical education program (1 credit) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ No modification except for students with an IEP and transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school
3 Social Studies Credits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficiency in State Content Standards for Social Studies (3 credits) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 1 social studies credit (other than Civics) can be exchanged for an additional English language arts, math, science, or world languages credit, or department-approved formal career and technical education program. ✓ Additional modifications allowed for students with an IEP and transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school.
1 Physical Education and Health Credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficiency in State Content Standards for Physical Education and Health (1 credit); Or • Proficiency with State Content Standards for Health (1/2 credit) and district-approved extra-curricular activities involving physical activities (1/2 credit) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Credit can be exchanged for an additional English language arts, math, science, or world languages credit, or department-approved formal career and technical education program. ✓ Additional modifications allowed for students with an IEP and transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school.
1 Visual, Performing, and Applied Arts Credit <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proficiency in State Content Standards for Visual, Performing and Applied Arts (1 credit) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Credit can be exchanged for an additional English language arts, math, science, or world languages credit, or department-approved formal career and technical education program. ✓ Additional modifications allowed for students with an IEP and transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school.

Subject Area Credit Requirements	Personal Curriculum (PC) Modifications (Sequence and delivery up to district; support courses can count for credit regardless of year)
<p>2 World Languages Credits (Effective beginning with students graduating in 2016)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal coursework OR an equivalent learning experience in grades K-12 (2 credits); Or • Formal coursework or an equivalent learning experience in grades K-12 (1 credit) and completion of a department- approved formal career and technical education program or an additional visual, performing and applied arts credit (1 credit) 	<p>✓ No modification except for students with an IEP and transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school</p>
<p>Online Learning Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Course, Learning or Integrated Learning Experience 	<p>✓ No modification except for students with an IEP and transfer students who have completed 2 years of high school</p>

Algebra II Modifications

An MOS student earns Algebra II credit when he or she has demonstrated proficiency in the required content expectations for Algebra II. Students may take Algebra II over 2 years for 2 credits, or over 1.5 years for 1.5 credits, without requesting a PC.

A modification of Algebra II with a PC requires students to complete a minimum of two-and-a-half (2.5) math credits including Algebra I, Geometry, and one-half (0.5) credit of Algebra II, statistics, or functions and data analysis, or the equivalent of these credit requirements in an integrated math or other program, such as Career and Technical Education (CTE). Once this requirement has been met, a student must earn, at minimum one (1) additional math or math-related credit.

	1 Credit	1 Credit	1 Credit	1 Credit	Total Credits
Traditional Model (High School Content Expectations = 3 Credits)					
Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) without PC	Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry (no required sequence)			Final year math or math-related credit	4
MMC without PC allowing Algebra II to be taken over 2 years for 2 credits	Algebra I and Geometry (no required sequence)	Algebra II			4
MMC without PC after successful completion of 2 math credits	Algebra I and Geometry (no required sequence)	Algebra II content in other program		Math or math-related credit	4
PC modification after successful completion of minimum of 2.5 math credits	Students required to take Geometry and Algebra I	½ credit Algebra II modification		Math or math-related credit	3.5
Integrated Model (High School Content Expectations = 3 credits)					
MMC without PC	Integrated Mathematics Sequence Integrated Mathematics I, II, and III			Final year math or math-related credit	4
MMC without PC allowing remaining credit to be taken over 2 years for 2 credits	Integrated Mathematics Sequence Integrated Mathematics I and II	Integrated III			4
MMC without PC after successful completion of 2 math credits	Integrated Mathematics Sequence Integrated Mathematics I and II	Integrated III content in other program		Math or math related credit	4
PC modification after successful completion of minimum of 2.5 math credits	Students required to complete 2 math credits Integrated I and II				3.5

Transfer Students Allowable Modifications for Transfer Students

The parent or legal guardian of a transfer student from out of state or from a nonpublic school to MOS may request a PC to modify the requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum not otherwise allowed, providing the following conditions are met:

- The PC is aligned with the EDP and postsecondary goals.
- The student has completed the equivalent of two years of high school credit. MOS may use assessments or examinations to determine credits earned.
- The PC includes as much of Michigan standards as practicable for the student.

- The student completes one mathematics course in the final year of high school enrollment. If the student is enrolled in the district for one full year, the final year of math must be the equivalent of Algebra I or higher in the normal sequence of mathematics.

- The student's PC must include one-half (0.5) credit in Civics.

Students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP)

The parent or legal guardian of a student with an IEP may request a PC to modify the requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum not otherwise allowed, providing the PC:

- Incorporates as much of the subject area content expectations as practicable for the student within the context of the MMC requirements.

- Aligns with the EDP and is consistent with the IEP.

- Modifications directly address the effect the student's disability has on his or her ability to access and/or demonstrate progress in the content.

The MOS Board encourages parents and guardians to reflect on the potential adverse effects of using a Personal Curriculum. Parents and students should understand the possible consequences for modifications of the Michigan Merit Curriculum credit requirements or high school content expectations. PC modifications that reduce the number of content expectations mastered by the student may affect the student's:

- Performance on the Michigan Merit Exam (MME)
- Admission to, and/or preparedness for success in college
- Eligibility for college scholarships
- Admission to a trade school
- Ability to secure a job in the career of choice
- Eligibility for NCAA athletic programs

Reporting

The Superintendent will provide annual information on the number of PC modifications and reasons for modifications granted to the Board.