

School Counselor Credential Renewals

The role of a Michigan school counselor can be fulfilled by individuals who hold either of the following renewable credentials:

- [School Counselor License](#) (SCL)
- Michigan Teaching Certificate with the School Counselor (NT) endorsement

Both credentials are valid for five-years with unlimited renewals. A renewal can be requested any time after January 1 in the year the credential expires. Review the detailed information [School Counselor Assignments](#) to determine which credential is appropriate for a specific assignment or role.

Beginning **February 6, 2020**, school counselors holding either of these credentials are required to complete 50 professional development hours specific to college and career preparation in order to renew a school counselor credential as required by [Michigan Compiled Law \(MCL\) 380.1233 \(6-8\)](#). Hours must be accrued as follows:

- 25 hours - college preparation and selection; and
- 25 hours - career consultation; 5 of which MUST include the exploration of military career options.

These 50 hours of specific professional learning can be included as a part of the 150 hours of Education-Related Professional Learning required for renewal.

Note: Educators who hold the School Counselor (NT) endorsement on a teaching certificate, *regardless of current assignment*, must meet the requirements of law to renew that teaching certificate. Endorsements are not renewed; rather, certificates are renewed, and a renewal of that certificate will maintain the existing endorsements. An endorsement can *only* be removed from a Michigan teaching certificate if the [nullification process](#) is utilized.

Renewal Requirements:

School counselor credentials require a total of 150 hours of the Education-Related Professional Learning (ERPL) to be renewed. One of the following [ERLP options](#) must be earned since the issue date of the most recent credential held, and they must be entered into the [Michigan Online Educator Certification System](#) (MOECS) prior to applying for the renewal for the system to recognize eligibility:

- 6 semester credit hours appropriate to the field of school counseling, and/or content and grade level of endorsement, from a regionally accredited college or university; or
- 6 semester hours in a planned course of study* from a regionally accredited college or university; or
- 150 Michigan State Continuing Education Clock Hours (SCECHs) appropriate to the field of school counseling, and/or content and grade level of endorsement; or

- 150 hours of Michigan District Provided Professional Development (DPPD) appropriate to the field of school counseling, and/or content and grade level of endorsement; or
- Any combination of the above.

Education-Related Professional Learning Hour Conversion:

- College credit: 1 semester credit = 25 professional learning hours
- SCECH Hours: 1 SCECH hour = 1 professional learning hour
- DPPD Hours: 1 DPPD hour = 1 professional learning hour

NOTE: The Michigan Online Educator Certification System (MOECS) will only allow credentialed school counselors to apply for a renewal if the hours required by MCL 380.1233 are logged in the educator’s MOECS account prior to application submission.

Again, the specific 50 hours required by MCL 380.1233 can be included as a part of the 150 hours of Education-Related Professional Learning required to renew and may be earned through DPPD, SCECHs or college credit. University and college credit and DPPD meeting the requirements of MCL 380.1233 **must** be submitted and approved using the [State Continuing Education Clock Hours](#) (SCECHs) process. Additional information on how to obtain SCECH approval for school counselor specific professional development can be found below.

**Credits in a planned course of study may include credits taken as part of an education-related master’s or higher degree or credits in a program that leads to an endorsement.*

Obtaining School Counselor Professional Development Hours

Current Programs

Current and approved SCECH programs that meet the law and standards can be viewed on the Michigan Department of Education [SCECH catalog](#) by searching the *School Counseling* category. If searching for College, Career and Military options leave all boxes checked to receive the most robust search results that meet the criteria of MCL 380.1233 (6-8). Please check the SCECH Catalog regularly for updated program offerings.

New Programs

University and college credits and District Provided Professional Development (DPPD) can be offered to meet requirements of MCL 380.1233 **if** they are *approved as [SCECHs](#)*.

Colleges, universities, educators, local and national organizations, business and industry must become, or partner with, [SCECH Sponsors](#) to offer professional development opportunities that meet the requirements of MCL 380.1233 and the State Board of Education approved [School Counselor Professional Development Standards](#). Questions pertaining to SCECH programs and the School Counselor Professional Development Standards can be directed to SCECH@michigan.gov.

Viewing Completed Programs

After logging into [MOECS](#) educators can view earned SCECHs by clicking the *Professional Learning* tab. Upon clicking the SCECH tab, MOECS will display columns for *College, Career and Military*. Additionally, the total SCECHs awarded and remaining clock hours needed to meet the total of 150 are also displayed. Questions regarding an individual MOECS account can be directed to the *Office of Educator Excellence* support team at MDE-EducatorHelp@michigan.gov.