

ALLENDALE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) Personal Curriculum Information Sheet

Definition:

A personal curriculum (PC) is a documented process that modified certain requirements of the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) which must be met for the awarding of a high school diploma in Michigan. A PC must be requested on an individual basis, and must meet certain conditions to be approved.

Who is Eligible for a Personal Curriculum?

All students in grades 9 – 12 are eligible. Students with a documented disability and Individualized Education Plan (IEP) are eligible to modify the MMC to a greater extent than their nondisabled peers.

Under what circumstances is a PC allowable?

A PC is intended for high school students seeking a diploma who:

- Wish to modify the mathematics requirement
- Wish to go beyond the academic credit requirements by adding more math, science, English language arts, or foreign languages credits
- Need modified content expectations because certain MMC content expectations are not practicable for them in light of their Educational Development Plan (EDP)
- Need other modifications of MMC requirements due to the impact of their special education disabilities

Can a Personal Curriculum be Used to Modify the Entire MMC?

There are no modifications allowed to credit requirements in the following areas except for students with disabilities: English/language arts, science, languages other than English, civics/government, and the online learning experience.

Who Can Request a Personal Curriculum?

A parent, legal guardian, or a student who has adult status is the only person who can request a PC.

When Can a Personal Curriculum Be Requested?

A PC can be requested at any time for students with a disability. For all students, there are no timelines for requesting a PC except in the areas of mathematics and social studies. Please see a guidance counselor for more information.

What is the Process for Requesting a Personal Curriculum?

Fill out a PC Request Form found in both the middle school and high school guidance office. The completed form should be submitted to the high school guidance counselor.

What Happens After a Request is Submitted?

1. PC is requested by a parent/legal guardian or emancipated student.
2. A counselor will document receipt of the request and discuss next steps with the parent.
3. PC Committee, including the parent, student, guidance counselor, along with a school psychologist or other appropriate staff members will meet, look at the PC request along with existing performance records, the EDP, and for students with disabilities, the IEP, and decide if the request appears appropriate, given individual student need.
4. If the situation appears to require specific modification to the MMC requirements, and the modification is allowable, a PC will be created by the committee, including measurable goals and methods to evaluate those goals that are aligned with student's EDP and/or IEP.
5. In order for the PC to be implemented, both the parent/guardian/adult student and the district superintendent must agree in writing.
6. The PC is then implemented by appropriate staff.
7. Student progress is monitored quarterly by parents with each teacher of the modified area(s).
8. Revision to a PC may be made using the same process as the original PC.

Is a Student Eligible for a High School Diploma if They Have a Personal Curriculum?

A student who completes a PC and fulfills any additional local board or education graduation requirements is to be awarded a high school diploma.