

# Progressing to the Professional Teaching Certificate

The Professional Teaching Certificate is valid for up to 5 years and may be applied for any time requirements are met.

## Requirements

1. 3 years of [successful teaching](#) since the issue date of the **initial** Standard Teaching Certificate within the content areas and grade level of the Standard Teaching Certificate; and
2. 6 semester credit hours of [reading methods course work](#) for elementary teachers and 3 semester credit hours for secondary certified teachers. If you completed your teacher preparation program in Michigan since 1985, you have met this requirement; and
3. 3 semester credit hours of [reading diagnostics and remediation](#), which includes a field experience. This credit can be applied toward the professional learning requirement listed below, assuming the credit was earned after the issue date of the most recent certificate or renewal; and
4. [Education-Related Professional Learning](#) totaling 150 hours; or  
An education-related master's or higher degree earned at any time (even if previously utilized to renew the Standard Teaching Certificate) from a [regionally accredited college or university](#); and
5. Effectiveness ratings\* in accordance with [MCL 380.1531j](#):
  - a. **Consecutive:** effective or highly effective ratings on your annual year-end performance evaluations for the 3 *consecutive* school years immediately preceding your application for a Professional Teaching Certificate; or
  - b. **Nonconsecutive:** effective or highly effective ratings on your annual year-end performance evaluation for at least 3 *nonconsecutive* school years prior to applying for the Professional Teaching Certificate, including an [Effective Educator Recommendation](#) form completed by the chief school administrator of the school where you are currently employed.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Educators who hold the School Counselor (NT) endorsement on a teaching certificate, *regardless of current assignment*, must meet the requirements of law ([MCL 380.1233](#)) to renew that teaching certificate. Information pertaining to renewing a school counselor credential can be accessed via the [School Counselor Credential Renewals](#) document. 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.

### **Education-Related Professional Learning Options**

One of the following [education-related professional learning](#) options must be earned since the issue date of the most recent Standard Teaching Certificate or renewal. These hours must be entered into [Michigan Online Educator Certification System](#) (MOECS) prior to applying for the renewal for the system to recognize your eligibility:

- 6 semester credit hours appropriate to the content and grade level of the certificate and 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 content and grade level of the certificate and endorsement; or
- 150 hours of Michigan [District Provided Professional Development](#) (DPPD) appropriate to the content and grade level of the certificate and endorsement.
- 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

*\*The approximate release date for effectiveness ratings is the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of July. Educators in their 3<sup>rd</sup> year of teaching cannot progress to the Professional Teaching Certificate until the ratings have been released and are viewable in their MOECS ratings tab.*

*\*\*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.*