ATTENDANCE

The Michigan law governing compulsory attendance requires a parent, legal guardian, or other person having control or charge of a child ages 6 to 16 to send the child to school during the entire school year [MCL 380.1561]. In 2010, the law was amended to increase the compulsory school attendance age from 16 to 18 for a child who turned 11 after December 1, 2009, or who entered grade 6 after 2009. However, the compulsory school attendance age would remain at 16 for children whose parents provided school officials with a written notice that their children had their permission to stop attending school. A child is not required to attend a public school in the following cases:

(3) (a) The child is attending regularly and is being taught in a state-approved nonpublic school, which teaches subjects comparable to those taught in the public schools to children of corresponding age and grade, as determined by the course of study for the public schools of the district within which the nonpublic school is located.

(3) (f) The child is being educated at the child’s home by his or her parent or legal guardian in an organized educational program in the subject areas of reading, spelling, mathematics, science, history, civics, literature, writing, and English grammar.

(4) For a child being educated at the child’s home by his or her parent or legal guardian, exemption from the requirement to attend public school may exist under either subsection (3)(a) or (3)(f), or both.

NONPUBLIC SCHOOL DEFINITION

A nonpublic school is defined under Section 2 of the Private, Denominational and Parochial Schools Act, PA 302 of 1921 [MCL 388.552].

A home school operating under Section 1561(3)(a) of the Revised School Code (MCL 380.1561) as described above is considered a nonpublic school if in compliance with the Private, Denominational and Parochial Schools Act, PA 302 of 1921. If a home school family chooses to operate under exemption (a), it reports to the Michigan Department of Education (MDE).

REPORTING

Nonpublic School Membership Report
The Nonpublic School Membership Report is an annual report used by MDE. Information requested on the form includes the number of students in each grade, teacher qualifications, and the course of study offered. Use of the form is authorized by section 5 of the Nonpublic School Act, and was approved by the Michigan Supreme Court in Sheridan Road Baptist Church v Department of Education, 426 Mich 462, 472, n 5; 396 NW2d 373 (1986) and Clonlara, Inc v State Board of Education, 442 Mich 230, 242, 501 NW2d 88 (1993).

The Nonpublic School Membership Report is available on www.michigan.gov/nonpublicschool in August with a September 30, 2015, due date. Nonpublic schools that are already registered must complete this form online through the Michigan Electronic Grants System Plus (MEGS+).

MDE posts the list of nonpublic schools that have completed the reporting process on www.michigan.gov/nonpublicschool under the Resources and Related Information Section. This list is used by intermediate and local public school districts to determine the nonpublic schools to be invited to participate in federal programs.

If a home school operates under exemption (f), it does not report to MDE. Additional information on exemption (f) can be found www.michigan.gov/nonpublicschool.
Nonpublic School Personnel Report
All nonpublic schools are required to submit specific information about all school employees in compliance with the School Safety Legislation effective January 1, 2006. The personnel data are entered into a secure web-based program, the Nonpublic School Personnel Report. The submission dates for the current school year are from September 1, 2015, through the deadline December 1, 2015. You may access additional information at http://www.michigan.gov/cepi/0,4546,7-113-72325---,00.html.

FUNDING

The Michigan Constitution under Article VIII, Section 2, prohibits public monies from being paid directly or indirectly to aid or maintain any private, denominational, or nonpublic school.

Federally funded programs may be available to nonpublic school students. Information may be obtained from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Non-Public Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Room 4W339, Washington, D.C. 20202-5940; phone (202) 401-1365; fax (202) 401-1368. In addition, information may be accessed through the Internet at http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oii/nonpublic/index.html. Additional information for some federal programs is available through the Office of Field Services at MDE.

STATE REQUIREMENTS

Child Care, Day Care or Before/After School Program Regulations
Programs involving the operation of child care, day care or before/after school programs are licensed by Michigan’s Bureau of Children and Adult Licensing. For further information, please contact Child Day Care Licensing, Department of Human Services, at (517) 335-6124, or toll free 1-866-685-0006.

Course of Study
Nonpublic schools shall provide curricula comparable to those provided in local school districts. This curricula includes mathematics, reading, English, science, social studies in all grades, and the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of Michigan, and the history and present form of civil government of the United States, the State of Michigan, and the political subdivisions and municipalities of the State of Michigan in high school.

The state does not require specific content in the basic courses. Nonpublic or home schools, however, may wish to use the Michigan content standards that have been developed for public schools in Michigan. These standards are available on the MDE webpage at http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-28753_64839_65510---,00.html. Contact the Curriculum and Instruction Unit at (517) 241-4285.

Immunizations
Since 1978, Michigan law requires that each student, upon entry into kindergarten or into a new school district involving grades 1-12, possess a certificate of immunization at the time of registration or no later than the first day of school. Public Act 120, 121, and 122 of 2013 mandates that an immunization assessment be completed for each 7th grade student. Please note that beginning, January 1, 2014, the reporting requirement changed from 6th to 7th grade. The above laws (which amend the Revised School Code, the Public Health Code, and the State School Aid Act) were implemented to ensure that children are adequately immunized against vaccine preventable disease prior to achieving adolescence. Immunization prior to adolescence is critical, as some of these diseases become an even greater threat to health upon reaching adolescence.

Prior to a child entering or attending school, parents or guardians are required to produce documentation confirming that the child has received all required immunizations or, as an alternative, has received at least one dose of each of the required immunizations and is awaiting
receipt of subsequent doses to be administered at appropriate intervals. A school must report to
the local health department on the status of immunizations for all new entrants and all 7th grade
children by November 1 and February 1 of each school year. In most cases, the school will report
immunizations to the local health department using the MCIR/SIRS (Michigan Care Improvement
Registry/School Immunization Recordkeeping System) program.

Beginning January 1, 2015, Michigan modified the administrative rules that changed how
nonmedical waivers for immunization are obtained. The change was due to Michigan having one
of the highest waiver rates in the county.

There are also three circumstances in which a required vaccine may be waived or delayed:

1. The child has received at least one dose of required vaccine(s) and the next doses(s) are
not yet due. These children are considered to be in a “provisional” status. Schools are
required to follow-up with these students to be sure subsequent doses of vaccine are
received until they are complete for all required vaccines.

2. A child has a medical contraindication to a vaccine, in which case a Medical
Contraindication Form is required to be completed and signed by the child’s medical
physician. The form shall state the medical contraindication(s), the vaccine(s) involved,
and the time period during which the child is precluded from receiving the vaccine(s).

3. A parent or guardian holds a religious or philosophical (“other”) belief which precludes
receipt of a vaccination(s). These are the nonmedical exemptions and require certification
at the local health department. All nonmedical waivers can be obtained from the local
health department. Parent should contact the local health department to set up an
appointment to receive the needed education on the risks of not receiving a vaccine and to
obtain a signed waiver. Schools should no longer accept a waiver that has not been
certified by staff at a local health department.

A child who fails to meet immunization requirements or does not have a signed waiver on file
shall not be admitted to school.

Section 380.1177 of the Michigan Public Health Code requires the Michigan Department of
Education (MDE) in cooperation with Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
(MDHHS) to develop information for Michigan schools to address notification to families with
children enrolled in grades 6, 9, and 12 about the risk and prevention of the diseases
meningococcal meningitis and Human Papillomavirus (HPV). Local school notification includes
information regarding symptoms of the diseases, how they are spread, where to obtain additional
information about risk factors, risks associated with vaccination against these diseases, and where
to obtain the vaccines. On-line access to these notification materials is available at

The school requirements for the 2015-16 school year can be found at
http://www.michigan.gov/mdch/0,1607,7-132-2942_4911_4914-150235--,00.html.

Questions regarding immunization requirements or requests for additional copies of informational
materials should be directed to your local health department. For more information, contact the
local health department, the School Health Unit in the Department of Education at (517) 373-
1122, or the Department of Health and Human Services at (517) 335-8159.

Kindergarten Enrollment
The law (MCL 380.1147) states that for the 2015-2016 school year, a child must be at least five
years old as of September 1 in order to enroll in kindergarten. An exception to this requirement
allows a child who will be at least 5 years of age by December 1 of the current school year to be
enrolled if the child’s parent or legal guardian has provided written notification of the enrollment
to the school.

The kindergarten entry age requirement does not apply to nonpublic schools. Nonpublic schools may set their own enrollment policies and may choose different age cut off dates than public or charter schools. Please contact your local nonpublic school for a copy of their enrollment policies.

**School Building, Construction and Fire Safety**

Prior to the construction, reconstruction, remodeling, or alteration of a school building, construction plans, prepared by a design professional licensed per 1980 Public Act 299, along with a Plan Review Application are required to be submitted to the following agencies for review:

- **Construction Code Requirements**
  - Dept. of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
  - Todd Cordill, Chief
  - P.O. Box 30254
  - Lansing, MI 48909
  - (517) 241-9328

- **1999 School Fire Safety Rules**
  - Dept. of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
  - Plan Review Division
  - P.O. Box 30700
  - Lansing, MI 48909
  - (517) 241-1044

**Health and Safety Inspections**

Contact your local county health department.

**Background**

On December 23, 2002, PA 628 was signed into law. This law amends the *School Building Act*, PA 306 of 1937 by requiring the inspection of all school building construction, as well as the review of any required construction documents under the *Stille-DeRossett-Hale Single State Construction Code Act* and the *Fire Prevention Code*, 1941 PA 207.

With the enactment of this revision, school construction projects involving the construction, addition, or alteration of any school building must be submitted to the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs for required plan reviews, permits, and on-site inspections.

The Bureau of Construction Codes and Bureau of Fire Services located within the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs has developed a single application and invoice system for the submission of required construction documents. A coordinated system for the inspection and granting of approvals, including the issuance of Certificates of Occupancy for completed construction, has also been developed. Ultimately, all school construction projects must meet both the construction standards under the *Stille-DeRossett-Hale Single State Construction Code Act*, which includes securing permits, inspections, and final approvals; as well as the 1999 School Fire Safety Rules under the *Fire Prevention Code*, which includes securing inspections and final approvals through the department’s Bureau of Fire Services.

The Bureau of Construction Codes also provides for inspection by local code enforcement agencies where both the local school board and the local unit of government certify that the local enforcing agency has full-time plan review and inspection staff and are otherwise qualified to perform these duties in the review and inspection of school buildings.

**Approval of Local Code Enforcement for Construction Code Requirements**

If nonpublic schools elect to have school construction projects inspected by local building departments, both the nonpublic school and the unit of government(s) must complete, sign, and submit a Request for Delegation form to the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs. In order for that delegation to be approved by the state, both the nonpublic school and the governing body of the governmental subdivision must certify to the Department of Licensing and
Regulatory Affairs that full-time code officials, inspectors, and plan reviewers registered under PA 54 of 1986 will conduct plan reviews and inspections of buildings. This certification must be submitted and approved annually. Only those governmental jurisdictions documenting full-time inspectors and plan reviewers to enforce the complete range of construction codes, including the building, electrical, mechanical, and plumbing codes, may qualify for delegation of school construction authority.

Absent approval of a completed Request for Delegation form from the nonpublic school and local building department, the State of Michigan, Bureau of Construction Codes has responsibility for construction code enforcement of school buildings within that unit of government. The Request for Delegation form may be obtained on the Bureau of Construction Codes website at www.michigan.gov/bcc. The Bureau of Fire Services, with regard to the 1999 School Fire Safety Rules, does not permit local code enforcement.

**Licensing Laws and School Construction Projects**

**Plan Review Fees and Permit Fees**
A plan review fee will be required with the submission of construction documents. Additionally, licensed contractors must obtain construction permits for school construction projects in accordance with the fee schedule established by the governmental authority having jurisdiction.

Local county health departments should be contacted for health and safety inspections.

Additional information may be obtained by visiting the Bureau of Construction Codes web site at www.michigan.gov/bcc and the Bureau of Fire Services website at www.michigan.gov/bfs.

**School Calendar**
In 1993, the Michigan Supreme Court in *Clonlara, Inc v State Board of Education* (442 Mich 252) ruled that the *Nonpublic School Act* did not require a nonpublic school to be in session for 180 days required for public schools. MDE recommends, however, that a nonpublic school develop a school year calendar comparable to the public school district where the nonpublic school is located. Public schools are required to provide a minimum of 175 days and 1,098 hours of pupil instruction [MCL 388.1701(3)] for the 2015-16 school year. Beginning in 2016-2017, the required minimum number of days of pupil instruction for public schools will be 180.

**Teacher Certification Requirement**
Information regarding Michigan teaching certificates and permits can be found at http://www.michigan.gov/teachercert or by contacting the Office of Professional Preparation Services at 517-373-33310.

**Teacher Criminal History and Unprofessional Applicant Checks**
Effective January 1, 2006, Michigan law requires that criminal history checks be conducted by the Michigan State Police (MSP) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for all regular and contract employees hired or assigned by public and nonpublic schools [MCL 380.1230 through MCL 380.1230h and MCL 380.1535a and MCL 380.1539b]. School personnel employed by the public or nonpublic school prior to January 1, 2006, were required to be fingerprinted and have a criminal history check not later than July 1, 2008. You may access additional information regarding the school safety legislation at http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-5683_14796---,00.html.
**Unprofessional Conduct**

Michigan law requires a former or current employer to disclose to a prospective school employer any unprofessional conduct by the applicant [MCL 380.1230b]. A public or nonpublic school is prohibited from hiring an applicant who refuses to sign a document requesting this information.

**EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES**

**Athletics and Extracurricular Activities**

The supervision and control of interscholastic athletics are the responsibility of each local board of education. Most local boards have adopted policies as proposed by the Michigan High School Athletic Association. Please contact the appropriate local school district or the Michigan High School Athletic Association at (517) 332-5046 or access information at [http://www.mhsaa.com/](http://www.mhsaa.com/).

In order to participate in public school extracurricular activities, a student should be enrolled part-time in the public school.

**Auxiliary Services**

A nonpublic school may qualify for auxiliary services; federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965, Title I, Part A, and Title II, Part A; Regional Educational Media Center (REMC) services; and bus transportation services from public school districts. A nonpublic or home school must complete the Nonpublic School Membership Report on an annual basis to be eligible for auxiliary services.

Auxiliary services include health and nursing services and examinations, street crossing guard services, National Defense Education Act testing, speech and language services, social work services, school psychological services, teacher consultant services for students with disabilities, remedial reading, and other services determined by the Legislature. Section 1296 of the Revised School Code (MCL 380.1296) provides that if particular services are provided to public school students in a school district, those services must also be made available to students attending nonpublic schools located within that district. A public school that provides auxiliary services to its resident students shall provide the same auxiliary services on an equal basis to students at nonpublic schools. In 1997, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in Agostini v Felton (117 S Ct 1997) that intermediate and local school districts are permitted to provide auxiliary services on site for all nonpublic schools.

A public school is required to notify a nonpublic school within its district about the types of auxiliary services available to its students. Rule 340.293 of the Michigan Administrative Rules for Auxiliary Services for Nonpublic Schoolchildren states: “A school district providing any of these auxiliary services shall notify in writing, no later than April 1 of each school year, each of the nonpublic schools within its district as to the nature and extent of such services as contained in its proposed budget. Within 30 days after receipt of such notice, nonpublic schools shall in writing notify the district as to the services that will be needed for nonpublic school children. A school district shall confirm in writing no later than August 1 of each school year to each of the nonpublic schools within its district the nature and extent of such services as contained in its final budget as adopted by the school district board of education. . .”

**Child Nutrition Programs**

**National School Lunch Program (NSLP)**

Nonpublic schools may be eligible for National School Lunch/School Breakfast Program reimbursement for breakfast and lunch. For information on how to initiate or expand a program, please contact the School Nutrition Programs office, Department of Education, at (517) 373-3347 or email [MDE-SchoolNutrition@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-SchoolNutrition@michigan.gov).
Cyber School, Home Schooled, and Virtual Students Eligibility for School Nutrition Programs

With different methods of educating students in today’s world, it is important to know when these students may be eligible to take part in their local district’s school nutrition programs. There are basic guidelines to follow when determining whether or not a student is eligible and what eligibility status they may have. Here are some key points:

- The student must be ENROLLED in the district that he/she wants to access the school meal programs. They do not need to attend the district full time but they must be enrolled.
- The School Food Authority will need to make a determination on the student’s respective eligibility status – free, reduced or paid.
- At a Community Eligibility Provision school, the student is automatically eligible for free meals if enrolled at the school.
- A student must be in attendance for educational purposes at the school prior to the meal period and/or the student must be in attendance for educational purposes immediately following the meal period.
- The student’s reimbursable meal must be counted and claimed in the school where the meal(s) were served.

It is important that we feed all eligible students. The process above should help clarify how to handle these alternative methods of education in relation to feeding our students. Any questions contact mde-schoolnutrition@michigan.gov or 517-373-3347.

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

Nonpublic schools may be eligible for Child and Adult Care Food Program reimbursement for after school snacks and suppers. If your nonpublic school is non-profit, it must have tax-exempt status under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. For additional information regarding CACFP, contact the Department of Education, at (517) 373-7391 or email MDE-CNAP-CACFP@michigan.gov.

Curriculum Materials

Nonpublic schools and home school families may purchase the textbooks and the instructional materials they deem necessary.

Driver Education and Pupil Transportation

A nonpublic or home school student is eligible to enroll in a driver education program provided at the public school district where the student is a resident [MCL 257.811]. If a charge or enrollment fee is imposed, it shall be the same for all students who reside within the territory of the public school system [MCL 256.610]. The oversight of driver education programs in Michigan is the responsibility of the Department of State [2004 PA 70 and 71]. Information may be found on the Michigan Department of State, Driver Education website http://www.michigan.gov/teendriver.

For information on school pupil transportation for nonpublic school students, please contact Ken Micklash in the Office of School Support Services at (517) 373-1806 or email micklashk@michigan.gov. Additional information may be found on MDE’s website http://michigan.gov/schoolbus.

Enrollment in Public School Courses

Nonpublic and home school students may enroll in nonessential elective courses in a district, public school academy, or intermediate district site (MCL 288.1766b). Nonpublic students may enroll in nonessential elective courses that are offered by a district at the nonpublic school site. Home-schooled students may enroll in nonessential elective courses that are offered by their resident district at the nonpublic school site.

Eligible courses include nonessential electives in the subject areas of physical education, art, foreign language, music, driver’s education, and computer science unless a district has developed
graduation requirements that deem a course in one of the named subject areas otherwise. In
addition to courses in these subject areas, courses that are part of a career and technical
education program, and those that are advanced placement are considered nonessential electives.

Ineligible courses are those in subject areas that are considered essential curriculum pursuant to
the Snyder v. Charlotte court case. These subject areas include mathematics, reading, English,
social studies, science, writing, the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the State
of Michigan, and the history and present form of civil government of the United States, the State
of Michigan, and the political subdivisions and municipalities of the State of Michigan. Remedial
courses are also ineligible under this section, such as those provided as part of an English as a second
language program (ESL).

Please refer to Section 5-E of the Pupil Accounting Manual for additional requirements that apply
for state aid funding purposes.

GenNET Online Learning
GenNET Online Learning is a service offered by Genesee Intermediate School District for students
throughout the State of Michigan to provide a wide range of teacher-led courses and self-directed
classroom tools delivered over the Internet. This program provides enhanced learning opportunities for Michigan high school and middle school students. Barriers such as time, space, equality of opportunity, and lack of resources diminish when learning is moved online. Students, parents, educators -- explore the website to take advantage of this exciting and dynamic learning experience at http://gennetonline.geneseeisd.org/default.htm.

Nonpublic schools have an opportunity to have students take middle and high school courses online.
There is a charge for all of the courses offered through GenNET. Questions that are not answered on the GISD website, email GenNETOnlineLearningSupport@geneseeisd.org

Homebound/Hospitalized Services
If a student is enrolled part-time as a public school student and part-time as a nonpublic school
student, then the public schools may have some responsibility to provide homebound/hospitalized
instruction. The responsibility rests with the parent and the nonpublic school to maintain
continuity with the student’s nonpublic school instruction while that student is confined to the
home or hospital. Parents should contact the local school district if a student is hospitalized or
confined to the home during regular school hours for more than five school days [MCL 388.1709].

Michigan Virtual School (MVS)/Michigan LearnPort
The Michigan Virtual School® (MVS®) operates as one of the core divisions of the Michigan
Virtual University® (MVU®), a private nonprofit corporation. MVS gives nonpublic schools and
home school families the opportunity to have students take middle and high school courses online
and access a robust online career development tool. Dozens of courses are available in a wide
range of subjects and learning levels from general study to rigorous Advanced Placement. MVS
also offers a wide range of summer school courses. As a result of Section 21f of the State School
Aid Act, nonpublic school students can access non-core online courses at no cost if the nonpublic
school has a shared time services agreement with a public school district. Find more information
online at www.mivhs.org or email mvhs@mivu.org.

Michigan LearnPort® operates as one of the core divisions of MVU. Michigan LearnPort offers high-
quality online professional development courses, tools and resources to Michigan’s K-12
community. Courses are relevant to all core content areas, many carry recertification credits, and
most are free of charge. Some courses are available for a nominal cost. Michigan LearnPort also
offers over a thousand videos from the School Improvement Network of teachers demonstrating
best practice strategies for instruction. Free collaboration spaces enable discussion within an
entire school building, throughout a whole district, or across the state. Find more information
online at www.learnport.org or email learnport@mivu.org.
In 2012, the Governor and Michigan Legislature passed legislation requiring MVU to establish a center for online learning research and innovation, and through this center, directed MVU to work on a variety of projects. The center, now formally known as the **Michigan Virtual Learning Research Institute™** (**MVLRI™**), is a natural extension of the work of MVU. The core strategies of **MVLRI** are research, policy, innovation and networks. **MVLRI** also administers Michigan’s Online Course Catalog ([https://micourses.org/](https://micourses.org/)), which is populated with course titles and syllabi submitted by local school districts, intermediate school districts and the **Michigan Virtual School**. Course syllabi include information such as course descriptions, course outlines, price and more. Find more information online at [www.mvlri.org](http://www.mvlri.org) or email mvlri@mivu.org.

**Postsecondary Dual Enrollment Participation**

Students attending a state-approved nonpublic school are eligible to have certain postsecondary dual enrollment costs paid for by the State of Michigan. Nonpublic schools must report to MDE yearly for their students to be eligible.

Students must meet certain requirements found in the Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act, PA 160 of 1996 (MCL 388.511-388.524) and/or the Career and Technical Preparation Act, PA 258 of 2000 (MCL 388.1901-388.1913).

Nonpublic school students may arrange for postsecondary dual enrollment through a local district (if the student is also enrolled in shared time course), or directly through an eligible postsecondary institution with a letter of eligibility from their nonpublic school’s principal.

In order for a home-schooled student to be eligible to have dual enrollment charges paid for by the State, the student must be enrolled in at least one class at a public or state-approved nonpublic school and have their dual enrollment processed through that school. Find more information at [http://www.michigan.gov/dualenrollment](http://www.michigan.gov/dualenrollment).

**Regional Educational Media Centers (REMC)**

A Regional Educational Media Center (REMC) provides a service that is available to nonpublic and home school students. The REMCs work cooperatively with one or more intermediate school districts for the improvement of instruction in Michigan’s elementary and secondary schools. Many REMCs offer instructional materials including video, video disk, and computer software; cooperative purchasing of equipment, supplies and media; Internet access and support; production services; technological problem solving; training in the use of all types of equipment; training in the integration of media into instruction, media and technology consulting; and a distribution system. Additional services include inservice media; AV, video and computer equipment repair; desktop publishing, graphic design and layout; printing; video production, editing and duplication; professional library and online services; instructional television or building-based video collections; and satellite downlink services.

For additional information regarding REMCs, please contact your intermediate school district or visit their webpage at [http://www.remc.org](http://www.remc.org).

**Special Education**

A nonpublic student may be eligible to receive special education and related services. A parent or a public agency may refer the student suspected of having a disability for an evaluation through the Child Find process of the local public school district in which that nonpublic school is located.

The district then provides notice that it will or will not conduct the evaluation and requests consent to evaluate, if necessary. The district must conduct an evaluation, determine eligibility for special education and develop a services plan in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 USC chapter 33, § 1400 et seq.) and the Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education (R 340.1701-340.1862). For further information about special education,
Title I Participation
Funding for services to nonpublic school students is based on the number of children who live in Title I school attendance areas and meet the eligibility requirement for free or reduced-price school meals. Nonpublic school students who live in Title I (20 USC §6320) school attendance areas, and are failing or at risk of failing to meet the student performance standards in the core academic curriculum, are eligible for Title I services provided by the public school district in which they live.

Each spring, public school districts contact nonpublic school administrators and initiate consultation regarding participation in the Title I program. The local districts will use the list posted on www.michigan.gov/nonpublicschool to determine which schools to contact. If the nonpublic school can provide low-income data and wishes its eligible students to participate, services are offered by the public school district. The 1997 U.S. Supreme Court ruling in Agostini v Felton (117 S Ct 1997) makes it possible to provide Title I services on the premises of religiously affiliated nonpublic schools.

All materials and equipment acquired under the programs are purchased and owned by the public school district to be used by the public school in serving students of the nonpublic school.

Questions regarding Title I should be directed to the public school district(s) where students reside. Further information may be obtained from the Office of Field Services at (517) 373-3743.

Title II, Part A Participation
Nonpublic school staff may participate in professional development activities through the Title II, Part A (Teacher and Principal Training and Recruiting) program. The program is accessed through the local school district in which the nonpublic school is located.

Local public school district officials are responsible for consulting with nonpublic school officials to plan the Title II, Part A services that best meet the identified needs of nonpublic school staff and students. Nonpublic Title II, Part A plans are included with those of the public school district in a single application.

Questions regarding Title II, Part A should be directed to the public school district(s) where students reside. Further information may be obtained from the Office of Field Services at (517) 373-3743.

STUDENT RECORDS
There is no law that requires nonpublic schools or home schools to maintain student records. Parents are encouraged to maintain student records of progress throughout the year. These records will assist public or nonpublic school personnel with placement should the student enroll in a public school.

Nonpublic School Transcripts
The Michigan Department of Education does not collect or maintain copies of nonpublic school transcripts, records or diplomas.

If you are searching for nonpublic school records, please contact the church, diocese, or synod that was affiliated with the nonpublic school; a staff person that may have been employed at the school; or the intermediate school district the nonpublic school was located in.

Release of Student Records
The collection of tuition and the provision of student records are a matter of contract between the school and the parent. A nonpublic school may have the right under the contract to withhold student records. Involved parties may contact their legal counsel to determine responsibilities.
**Transfer of Grades and Credits**

The granting of credits and placement of students is solely determined by the receiving public or nonpublic school. Nonpublic schools and home school families are encouraged to determine what the public school policy is for grade placement and granting of credits should a student decide to return to the public system. If a student attends a nonpublic or home school and returns to a public school, the public school generally reevaluates the student for grade placement and the transfer of credit.

The issuance of report cards, transcripts, and diplomas are the responsibility of the nonpublic school and home school family (based on internal standards).

**MISCELLANEOUS**

**Accreditation**

Nonpublic schools may choose, but are not required, to participate in either of the following accreditation programs:

- Michigan Nonpublic School Accreditation Association
  - 510 S. Capitol Avenue
  - Lansing, Michigan 48933
  - (517) 372-9315
- North Central Association
  - 826 Municipal Way
  - Lansing, Michigan 48917
  - (866) 642-4622

**Discipline Policies**

In general, state law does not address disciplinary procedures in nonpublic schools. Michigan law prohibits the use of corporal punishment in a public school [MCL 380.1312]. In addition, Michigan law requires a public school to permanently expel a student who possesses a dangerous weapon, commits arson or criminal sexual conduct, commits physical assault against an employee or a volunteer at a public school, or issues a bomb threat or other similar threat [MCL 380.1311 and MCL 380.1311a].

**Playground Equipment**


**State Education Assessments**

Nonpublic School Students: All nonpublic schools can elect to administer the state assessments to their students during the assessment windows identified by the Michigan Department of Education.

Home School Students: Home-schooled students also have the opportunity to take the state assessments. To do so, the home-schooled student should contact the school district in which the student resides to make arrangements. The student’s scores will be reported individually and not included in district results where they were tested.

The latest assessment window information is available on MDE Student Assessment at [http://mi.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709---,00.html](http://mi.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-22709---,00.html). Information regarding the State Education Assessments can be found at [www.michigan.gov/mstep](http://www.michigan.gov/mstep), by contacting the Division of Accountability Services at 877-560-8378, or by email [baa@michigan.gov](mailto:baa@michigan.gov).
T.B. Testing
Teachers are not required by the state to have regular tests for tuberculosis. However, school systems, public or nonpublic, may require regular T.B. testing of employees.

Work Permits
The Youth Employment Standards Act at MCL 409.104 states:

"...a minor shall not be employed in an occupation regulated by this act until the person proposing to employ the minor procures from the minor and keeps on file at the place of employment a copy of the work permit or a temporary permit. The work permit shall be issued by the issuing officer of the school district, intermediate school district, public school academy, or nonpublic school at which the minor is enrolled, and a copy of the work permit shall be placed in the minor’s permanent school file for as long as the minor is employed. A temporary permit shall be valid for 10 days from the date of issue. A work permit may be issued by the school district in which the minor’s place of employment is located, or by the public school academy or nonpublic school nearest that place of employment."

Minors seeking employment who are home schooled shall be issued a work permit by the issuing officer of the school district, intermediate school district, public school academy, or nonpublic school in which the minor’s residence or prospective employer is located. The minor must present a signed, written statement from the parent or guardian, as the instructor of record, indicating how many hours per week the student is being home schooled. The issuing officer will review the parent/guardian statement and issue the work permit with those hours reflected. The issuing officer will attach the parent/guardian statement to the work permit and keep a copy of the statement with their copy of the work permit filed at the school.

For additional information, contact Tara Bride, Office of Career and Technical Education, Department of Education, at (517) 335-6041 or email bridet@michigan.gov.
Department of Education Resource Phone Numbers

- Academically Talented: (517) 241-0439
- Child Nutrition Programs: (517) 373-3347
- Curriculum and Instruction: (517) 241-4285
- Dual Enrollment: (517) 335-3005
- National School Lunch/School Breakfast Program: (517) 373-3347
- Pupil Transportation: (517) 373-1806
- Special Education: (888) 320-8384
- Students Assessments: (877) 560-8378
- Title I; Title II, Part A: (517) 373-3743

Information about Department of Education programs is accessible at http://www.michigan.gov/mde.

Programs Available Through Other State and Federal Agencies

- Bureau of Construction Codes
  - Plan Review Division: Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
    - Todd Cordill (517) 241-9328
- Bureau of Fire Services
  - Plan Review Division: Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs
    - Adam Krouse (517) 241-1044
- Child Day Care Licensing: Department of Human Services
  - (517) 335-6124 or (866) 685-0006
- Driver Education: Department of State
  - (517) 241-6850
- Michigan Student Financial Aid Programs: Department of Treasury, Office of Scholarships and Grants
  - (888) 447-2687
  - Email Address: OSG@Michigan.gov
- Nonpublic School Personnel Report: Center for Educational Performance & Information
  - Customer Support
    - (517) 335-0505, option 3
- Office of Non-Public Education: U.S. Department of Education
  - (202) 401-1365
  - Email Address: OIINon-PublicEducation@ed.gov