



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** April 27, 2017

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors

**FROM:** Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent *V. Keesler*  
Division of Educator, Student, and School Support

**SUBJECT:** Endorsement Phase Out

The Michigan Department of Education's Office of Professional Preparation Services has carefully reviewed data about educator preparation program graduates, K-12 course offerings, and K-12 teacher assignments and determined the following teaching endorsements will be phased out and no longer issued on certificates after July 1, 2026.

Bilingual Other (YL)	Marketing Education (GM)
Communication Arts (AX)	Polish (FI)
Computer Science (NR)	Recreation (MD)
Dance (MH)	Russian (FE)
Fine Arts (OX)	Sociology (CF)
Journalism (BC)	Visual Arts Education Specialist (LZ)

These endorsements will continue to be displayed on current certificates and new certificates issued through July 1, 2026.

Endorsements will no longer be required for teaching these subject areas beginning with 2017 summer programs and for the 2017-2018 school year. Teachers with any of these endorsements are still considered appropriately placed in assignments within these subject areas. Administrators may use discretion when assigning teachers to courses related to these endorsement areas. For example, a teacher with a computer science endorsement may still be assigned to teach computer science. Or, an administrator may place a teacher in the assignment who is certified at the grade level and has demonstrated strong computer science skills, but does not hold a computer science endorsement. The [Quick Reference: Courses That Can be Taught](#) document will be updated to reflect these changes.

If you have questions regarding the phase out of these endorsements, please call the Office of Professional Preparation Services at 517-373-3310.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance