



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

July 20, 2006

Dear K-12 Superintendents, ISDs, PSAs, Executive Directors, and TPIs:

On April 14, 2006, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) received notification that Public Act 118, which amends section 1531 of the Michigan School Code, was signed by the Governor and filed with the Secretary of State. The amendment requires completion of a three-semester credit hour course of study in diagnostic and remediation for the renewal of a Provisional certificate or for advancement to the Professional Education certificate. This requirement is effective July 1, 2007.

This means that:

- A Provisional teaching certificate shall not be renewed unless the individual successfully completes at least a three-credit course of study with appropriate field experiences in diagnosis, remediation of reading disabilities and differentiated instruction.
- An individual shall not advance to the Professional Education certificate unless he/she successfully completes at least a three-credit course of study with appropriate field experiences in the diagnosis and remediation of reading disabilities and differentiated instruction.
- A teacher may complete the three credits as part of the 18-credit hour planned program required to advance to the Professional Education certificate.

The text of the relevant amended section of the Michigan School Code is enclosed. **It's essential that this information is distributed to all teachers who have not yet received their professional certificate.** To assist in that effort, this letter and the attachment will also be posted on the MDE website:  
[http://www.michigan.gov/documents/SB327\\_Implementation\\_164725\\_7.doc](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/SB327_Implementation_164725_7.doc)

Sincerely,

Flora L. Jenkins, Ph.D.  
Director  
Office of Professional Preparation

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## Implementation of Senate Bill 327

**Effective July 1, 2007, satisfactory completion of a three-credit course of study with appropriate field experiences in the diagnosis and remediation of reading disabilities and differentiated instruction is required for ALL teachers holding a provisional teaching certificate.**

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Excerpt from THE REVISED SCHOOL CODE  
Section 1531 (4) of the Michigan School Code [1976 PA 451](#) (MCL [380.1531](#)).

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

(4) Except as otherwise provided in this act, the superintendent of public instruction shall only issue a teaching certificate to a person who has met the elementary or secondary, as applicable, reading credit requirements established under superintendent of public instruction rule. If a person holds a teaching certificate, then beginning July 1, 2007, notwithstanding any rule to the contrary, the superintendent of public instruction shall not renew the person's provisional teaching certificate or advance the person's certification to professional certification unless the person, during the first 6 years of his or her employment in classroom teaching, successfully completes at least a 3-credit course of study with appropriate field experiences in the diagnosis and remediation of reading disabilities and differentiated instruction. To meet this requirement, the course of study should include the following elements, as determined by the department to be appropriate for the person's certification level and endorsements: interest inventories, English language learning screening, visual and auditory discrimination tools, language expression and processing screening, phonemics, phonics, vocabulary, fluency, comprehension, spelling and writing assessment tools, and instructional strategies.