Series 5000: Students, Curriculum, and Academic Matters

5400 Curriculum, Instruction, and Parent Involvement

5414 Completion Certificates

In lieu of a traditional high school diploma, the Board recognizes 3 completion certificates. Completion certificates are only available to students who are unable to satisfy District and state graduation requirements. A student who earns a completion certificate may participate in commencement and all other District graduation ceremonies and events to the same extent, and subject to the same rules, as students who have earned a traditional high school diploma. Receipt of a completion certificate does not terminate a student's right to a free appropriate public education under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

A. Certificate of Academic Competence

   The Board will award a Certificate of Academic Competence to a student who earns the minimum Michigan Merit Curriculum high school credits and who demonstrates college or career readiness through the Michigan Merit Examination or on a recognized career-readiness assessment, such as the Compass or WorkKeys assessment. A Certificate of Academic Competence is not a high school diploma and is intended for students who are not able to successfully complete the Michigan Merit Curriculum but who have demonstrated the requisite academic skills to be successful in a college or vocational trades program.

B. Certificate of Vocational Readiness

   The Board will award a Certificate of Vocational Readiness to a student who completes 4 years of high school and who has demonstrated through a special education or career and technical education program the ability to perform work-related tasks. A Certificate of Vocational Readiness is not a high school diploma and is intended for students who are not able to successfully complete the Michigan Merit Curriculum or to earn a Certificate of Academic Competence but who have demonstrated the requisite job-related skills to successfully enter the workforce, with or without accommodation.

Date adopted: October 26, 2026

Date revised:

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