

Michigan Integrated Technology Competencies for Students (MITECS)

District and School Administration One Page Overview

It is incumbent on our schools to prepare students for success in career, college, and community; and appropriate use of technology is critical. In the past, technology standards have focused more on technology tools than teaching. The focus now is on the skills students must develop to face a future that is unknown. Technology competencies should no longer be taught as a separate class, but rather integrated across the content areas enhancing learning. Many Michigan schools are already taking this approach.

The new Michigan Integrated Technology Competencies for Students (MITECS), recommended by a group of Michigan educational technology stakeholders in 2017, replace the 2009 Michigan Educational Technology Standards for Students (METS-S) and align to the Top 10 in 10 focus areas of deeper learning and personalized learning. These competencies are now focused on learning enhanced by technology, rather than technology tools. The MITECS are adapted from and directly aligned to the 2016 International Society of Technology in Education (ISTE) Standards for Students. These are internationally recognized educational technology standards with which the METS-S have also historically been aligned.

The MITECS will further enhance learning across the content areas, focusing on integrated implementation rather than technology. Many teachers are already integrating technology in ways that allow for students to cultivate these competencies. The integration of MITECS into teaching and learning should not be burdensome, but rather a natural extension of deeper learning and rich, transformational instruction.

The MITECS are available at <http://www.techplan.org/mitecs/>. A toolkit has been developed to support district level implementation. This toolkit includes:

- A customizable [Google Slide Deck](#)
- [Age Band Articulation](#) which specifies how the competencies can be incorporated into teaching and learning activities at various age band/grade levels
- [Scenarios](#) which showcase the MITECS implemented in an integrated setting within academic context
- [Technology Scope and Sequence](#) which is a grade level breakdown of required technology skill development (beginning, developing, secure) that students must have to demonstrate competency

Currently there is no assessment for mastery of the MITECS. With the elimination of Title II Part D, Enhancing Education Through Technology (E2T2) Grant as of May 2013 districts are no longer required to submit the following to the Michigan Department of Education:

- Integrated technology status
- Instructional computers
- Personnel skilled in technology
- 8th grade technology literacy

While districts are no longer required to ensure via assessment that students can appropriately use technology, successful mastery of the MITECS should be observable in student achievement within the core content areas.