

**Michigan State Standards  
correlated to  
Merit Software Process Writing Programs**

At its July 19, 1995, meeting, the Michigan State Board of Education unanimously adopted the model content standards for curriculum. The content standards provide descriptions of what students should know and be able to do in the subject areas of English language arts, social studies, mathematics and science. In addition, benchmarks in each of the content areas were drafted to further clarify the content standards. The standards and benchmarks are not a state curriculum, but are specifically designed to be used by local districts as they develop their curricula.

Merit’s Process Writing programs address the following Michigan State Standards:

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Grades 6-8           pg. 2  
Grades 9-12         pg. 2-3

Grades 3-5

Subhead	Content Standards	Benchmarks	Merit Software
Meaning and Communication	Standard 2: All students will demonstrate the ability to write clear and grammatically correct sentences, paragraphs, and compositions.	1. Write with developing fluency for multiple purposes to produce a variety of texts, such as stories, journals, learning logs, directions, and letters.	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading
Meaning and Communication	Standard 2: All students will demonstrate the ability to write clear and grammatically correct sentences, paragraphs, and compositions.	3. Begin to plan and draft texts, and revise and edit in response to the feelings and ideas expressed by others.	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading
Meaning and Communication	Standard 2: All students will demonstrate the ability to write clear and grammatically correct sentences, paragraphs, and compositions.	4. Begin to edit text and discuss language conventions using appropriate terms. Examples include action words, naming words, capital letters, and periods.	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading

Genre and Craft of Language	Standard 8: All students will explore and use the characteristics of different types of texts, aesthetic elements, and mechanics—including text structure, figurative and descriptive language, spelling, punctuation, and grammar—to construct and convey meaning.	3. Describe and use characteristics of various informational genre (e.g., biographies, newspapers, brochures, and persuasive arguments and essays) and elements of expository text structure (e.g., multiple patterns of organization, relational links, and central purposes) to convey ideas.	Starter Paragraph Punch, Paragraph Punch, Writing About Reading
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Grades 6-8

Subhead	Content Standards	Benchmarks	Merit Software
Meaning and Communication	Standard 2: All students will demonstrate the ability to write clear and grammatically correct sentences, paragraphs, and compositions.	1. Write fluently for multiple purposes to produce compositions, such as personal narratives, persuasive essays, lab reports, and poetry.	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing About Reading
Meaning and Communication	Standard 2: All students will demonstrate the ability to write clear and grammatically correct sentences, paragraphs, and compositions.	3. Plan and draft texts, and revise and edit their own writing, and help others revise and edit their texts in such areas as content, perspective, and effect.	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing About Reading
Genre and Craft of Language	Standard 8: All students will explore and use the characteristics of different types of texts, aesthetic elements, and mechanics—including text structure, figurative and descriptive language, spelling, punctuation, and grammar—to construct and convey meaning.	3. Describe and use characteristics of various informational genre (e.g., biographies, newspapers, brochures, and persuasive arguments and essays) and elements of expository text structure (e.g., multiple patterns of organization, relational links, and central purposes) to convey ideas.	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Writing About Reading

Grades 9-12

Subhead	Content Standards	Benchmarks	Merit Software
Meaning and Communication	Standard 2: All students will demonstrate the ability to write clear and grammatically correct sentences, paragraphs, and compositions.	1. Write fluently for multiple purposes to produce compositions, such as stories, poetry, personal narratives, editorials, research reports, persuasive essays, resumes, and memos.	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Business Letter Punch, Writing about Reading, Writing for Business
Meaning and Communication	Standard 2: All students will demonstrate the ability to write clear and grammatically correct sentences, paragraphs, and compositions.	3. Plan, draft, revise, and edit their texts, and analyze and critique the texts of others in such areas as purpose, effectiveness, cohesion, and creativity.	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Business Letter Punch, Writing about Reading, Writing for Business
Genre and Craft of Language	Standard 8: All students will explore and use the characteristics of different types of texts, aesthetic elements, and mechanics—including text structure, figurative and descriptive language, spelling, punctuation, and grammar—to construct and convey meaning.	3. Describe and use characteristics of informational genre (e.g., manuals, briefings, documentaries, and research presentations) and complex elements of expository texts (e.g., thesis statement, supporting ideas, and authoritative and/or statistical evidence) to convey ideas.	Paragraph Punch, Essay Punch, Business Letter Punch, Writing about Reading, Writing for Business