

Form **990**  
Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

# Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)  
Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public  
Information about Form 990 and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990)

OMB No 1545-0047  
**2017**  
Open to Public Inspection

### A For the 2017 calendar year, or tax year beginning 07-01-2017, and ending 06-30-2018

**B** Check if applicable  
 Address change  
 Name change  
 Initial return  
 Final return/terminated  
 Amended return  
 Application pending

**C** Name of organization  
MICHIGAN EDUCATION SPECIAL SERVICES ASSN  
Doing business as  
Number and street (or P O box if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite  
1475 KENDALE BLVD  
City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code  
EAST LANSING, MI 48823

**D** Employer identification number  
38-1641634  
**E** Telephone number  
(517) 332-6551  
**G** Gross receipts \$ 1,256,612,348

**F** Name and address of principal officer  
ROSS WILSON  
1475 KENDALE BLVD  
EAST LANSING, MI 48823

**H(a)** Is this a group return for subordinates?  Yes  No  
**H(b)** Are all subordinates included?  Yes  No  
If "No," attach a list (see instructions)  
**H(c)** Group exemption number ▶

**I** Tax-exempt status  501(c)(3)  501(c) ( 9 ) ◀ (insert no)  4947(a)(1) or  527  
**J** Website: ▶ WWW.MESSA.ORG

**K** Form of organization  Corporation  Trust  Association  Other ▶

**L** Year of formation 1960 **M** State of legal domicile MI

### Part I Summary

**1** Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities  
TO PROVIDE MEMBERS WITH GROUP INSURANCE BENEFITS

**2** Check this box  if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets

<b>3</b> Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	13
<b>4</b> Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	13
<b>5</b> Total number of individuals employed in calendar year 2017 (Part V, line 2a)	0
<b>6</b> Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	18
<b>7a</b> Total unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	14,358,233
<b>7b</b> Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	0

	Prior Year	Current Year
<b>8</b> Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	0	0
<b>9</b> Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	1,181,999,809	1,161,234,383
<b>10</b> Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	20,410,032	14,357,999
<b>11</b> Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	0	0
<b>12</b> Total revenue—add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1,202,409,841	1,175,592,382
<b>13</b> Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3)	0	0
<b>14</b> Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	1,079,657,030	1,085,389,368
<b>15</b> Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10)	50,729,103	46,478,974
<b>16a</b> Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)	0	0
<b>b</b> Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶ 0		
<b>17</b> Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24e)	18,433,288	17,057,391
<b>18</b> Total expenses Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	1,148,819,421	1,148,925,733
<b>19</b> Revenue less expenses Subtract line 18 from line 12	53,590,420	26,666,649

	Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
<b>20</b> Total assets (Part X, line 16)	522,149,026	581,141,046
<b>21</b> Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	187,088,457	207,679,533
<b>22</b> Net assets or fund balances Subtract line 21 from line 20	335,060,569	373,461,513

### Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge

**Sign Here**  
Signature of officer: \*\*\*\*\*  
Date: 2019-05-15  
ROSS WILSON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Type or print name and title

**Paid Preparer Use Only**  
Print/Type preparer's name: JEFFREY L STALEY CPA  
Preparer's signature: JEFFREY L STALEY CPA  
Date: 2019-05-15  
Check  if self-employed  
PTIN: P00010224  
Firm's name: MANER COSTERISAN PC  
Firm's EIN: 38-2157642  
Firm's address: 2425 E GRAND RIVER SUITE 1  
LANSING, MI 489123291  
Phone no: (517) 323-7500

**Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part III

**1** Briefly describe the organization's mission

TO SERVE THE MEMBERS OF THE MICHIGAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION BY PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH AND RELATED EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS WHICH RESPOND TO THE FINANCIAL AND SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS OF THE MEMBERSHIP, WITH A CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO PERSONALIZED SERVICE

**2** Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ?  Yes  No

If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O

**3** Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services?  Yes  No

If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O

**4** Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported

**4a** (Code ) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )  
See Additional Data

**4b** (Code ) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )

**4c** (Code ) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )

**4d** Other program services (Describe in Schedule O )  
(Expenses \$ including grants of \$ ) (Revenue \$ )

**4e** Total program service expenses ▶

**Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules**

		Yes	No
<b>1</b>	Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule A</i> . . . . .		No
<b>2</b>	Is the organization required to complete <i>Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors</i> (see instructions)? . . . . .		No
<b>3</b>	Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I</i> . . . . .		No
<b>4</b>	<b>Section 501(c)(3) organizations.</b> Did the organization engage in lobbying activities, or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II</i> . . . . .		
<b>5</b>	Is the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization that receives membership dues, assessments, or similar amounts as defined in Revenue Procedure 98-19? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III</i> . . . . .		No
<b>6</b>	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts for which donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I</i> 🗑️ . . . . .		No
<b>7</b>	Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II</i> 🗑️ . . . . .		No
<b>8</b>	Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III</i> 🗑️ . . . . .		No
<b>9</b>	Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21 for escrow or custodial account liability, serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X, or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV</i> 🗑️ . . . . .		No
<b>10</b>	Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in temporarily restricted endowments, permanent endowments, or quasi-endowments? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V</i> 🗑️ . . . . .		No
<b>11</b>	If the organization's answer to any of the following questions is "Yes," then complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable		
<b>a</b>	Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI</i> 🗑️ . . . . .	Yes	
<b>b</b>	Did the organization report an amount for investments—other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII</i> 🗑️ . . . . .		No
<b>c</b>	Did the organization report an amount for investments—program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII</i> 🗑️ . . . . .		No
<b>d</b>	Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX</i> 🗑️ . . . . .	Yes	
<b>e</b>	Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i> 🗑️ . . . . .	Yes	
<b>f</b>	Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i> 🗑️ . . . . .	Yes	
<b>12a</b>	Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI and XII</i> 🗑️ . . . . .	Yes	
<b>b</b>	Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," and if the organization answered "No" to line 12a, then completing Schedule D, Parts XI and XII is optional</i> 🗑️ . . . . .		No
<b>13</b>	Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule E</i> . . . . .		No
<b>14a</b>	Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States? . . . . .		No
<b>b</b>	Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, investment, and program service activities outside the United States, or aggregate foreign investments valued at \$100,000 or more? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts I and IV</i> . . . . .		No
<b>15</b>	Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for any foreign organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts II and IV</i> . . . . .		No
<b>16</b>	Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or other assistance to or for foreign individuals? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Parts III and IV</i> . . . . .		No
<b>17</b>	Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I</i> (see instructions) . . . . .		No
<b>18</b>	Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II</i> . . . . .		No
<b>19</b>	Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III</i> . . . . .		No

**Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules** (continued)

	Yes	No
<b>20a</b> Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule H . . . . .</i>		No
<b>b</b> If "Yes" to line 20a, did the organization attach a copy of its audited financial statements to this return?		
<b>21</b> Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to any domestic organization or domestic government on Part IX, column (A), line 1? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II . . . . .</i>		No
<b>22</b> Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants or other assistance to or for domestic individuals on Part IX, column (A), line 2? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III . . . . .</i>		No
<b>23</b> Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J . . . . .</i>	Yes	
<b>24a</b> Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? <i>If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25a . . . . .</i>		No
<b>b</b> Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception? . . . . .		
<b>c</b> Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds? . . . . .		
<b>d</b> Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year? . . . . .		
<b>25a Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations.</b> Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I . . . . .</i>		
<b>b</b> Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I . . . . .</i>		
<b>26</b> Did the organization report any amount on Part X, line 5, 6, or 22 for receivables from or payables to any current or former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, or disqualified persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II . . . . .</i>		No
<b>27</b> Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor or employee thereof, a grant selection committee member, or to a 35% controlled entity or family member of any of these persons? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III . . . . .</i>		No
<b>28</b> Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions)		
<b>a</b> A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV . . . . .</i>		No
<b>b</b> A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV . . . . .</i>		No
<b>c</b> An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee (or a family member thereof) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV . . . . .</i>		No
<b>29</b> Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M . . . . .</i>		No
<b>30</b> Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule M . . . . .</i>		No
<b>31</b> Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I . . . . .</i>		No
<b>32</b> Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II . . . . .</i>		No
<b>33</b> Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I . . . . .</i>		No
<b>34</b> Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part II, III, or IV, and Part V, line 1 . . . . .</i>		No
<b>35a</b> Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?		No
<b>b</b> If "Yes" to line 35a, did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2 . . . . .</i>		
<b>36 Section 501(c)(3) organizations.</b> Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2 . . . . .</i>		
<b>37</b> Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI . . . . .</i>		No
<b>38</b> Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11b and 19? <b>Note.</b> All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O . . . . .	Yes	

Part V Statements Regarding Other IRS Filings and Tax Compliance

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part V . . . . .

Table with columns for question ID, question text, and Yes/No response boxes. Includes sections for backup withholding, employee reporting, foreign accounts, prohibited tax shelter transactions, deductible contributions, and 501(c)(7), (12), and (29) organizations.

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to lines 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O See instructions

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VI [X]

Section A. Governing Body and Management

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 1a (13), 1b (13), 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7a, 7b, 8a, 8b, 9.

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

Table with 3 columns: Question, Yes, No. Rows include: 10a, 10b, 11a, 11b, 12a, 12b, 12c, 13, 14, 15a, 15b, 16a, 16b.

Section C. Disclosure

Table with 2 columns: Question, Answer. Rows include: 17, 18, 19, 20.

**Part VII Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VII

**Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees**

**1a** Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year.

- List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.
- List all of the organization's **current** key employees, if any. See instructions for definition of "key employee."
- List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee or key employee) who received reportable compensation (Box 5 of Form W-2 and/or Box 7 of Form 1099-MISC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, or highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.
- List all of the organization's **former directors or trustees** that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

List persons in the following order: individual trustees or directors; institutional trustees; officers; key employees; highest compensated employees; and former such persons.

Check this box if neither the organization nor any related organization compensated any current officer, director, or trustee

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
(1) AMY COTTINGHAM TRUSTEE	5 00	X					0	0	0	
(2) ROBERT HANCHEK TRUSTEE	5 00	X					0	0	0	
(3) TAMARA LEWIS TRUSTEE	5 00	X					0	0	0	
(4) CHRIS KRISS TRUSTEE	5 00	X					0	0	0	
(5) JENNIFER JONES TRUSTEE	5 00	X					0	0	0	
(6) JEFF CONDON TRUSTEE	5 00	X					0	0	0	
(7) MICHAEL GRAVES TRUSTEE	5 00	X					0	0	0	
(8) ANNEMARIE CONWAY TRUSTEE (ENDED 8/31/17)	5 00	X					0	0	0	
(9) STEVEN B COOK TRUSTEE (ENDED 8/31/17)	5 00	X					0	0	0	
(10) NANCY L STRACHAN TRUSTEE (ENDED 8/31/17)	5 00	X					0	0	0	
(11) RICHARD S TRAINOR TRUSTEE (ENDED 8/31/17)	5 00	X					0	0	0	
(12) MICHELLE CHASE TRUSTEE (BEGAN 9/1/17)	5 00	X					0	0	0	
(13) PAULA HERBART TRUSTEE (BEGAN 9/1/17)	5 00	X					0	0	0	
(14) CHANDRA MADAFFERI TRUSTEE (BEGAN 9/1/17)	5 00	X					0	0	0	
(15) BRETT SMITH TRUSTEE (BEGAN 9/1/17)	5 00	X					0	0	0	
(16) NICK VALENTI VICE PRESIDENT	5 00	X		X			0	0	0	
(17) CHERYL LAKE PRESIDENT	5 00	X		X			0	0	0	

**Part VII Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees** (continued)

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week (list any hours for related organizations below dotted line)	(C) Position (do not check more than one box, unless person is both an officer and a director/trustee)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations	
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional Trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former				
(18) GRETCHEN DZIADOSZ EXECUTIVE SECRETARY	5 00			X				0	0	0	
(19) ROSS WILSON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	40 00			X				241,625	0	87,533	
(20) JEFFREY L NYQUIST STRATEGIC OFFICER	40 00					X		229,705	0	87,892	
(21) LISA J ALLEN CFO	40 00					X		213,831	0	84,047	
(22) ARJAY PATRICK DIRECTOR OF IT SERVICES	40 00					X		188,985	0	51,846	
(23) RICHARD BONKOWSKI DIRECTOR OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT	40 00					X		181,709	0	77,378	
(24) JOSEPH FIRESTONE GENERAL COUNSEL/LEGAL & COMPLIANCE	40 00					X		180,288	0	77,378	
<b>1b Sub-Total</b>											
<b>1c Total from continuation sheets to Part VII, Section A</b>											
<b>1d Total (add lines 1b and 1c)</b>								1,236,143	0		466,074

<b>2</b>	Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization	59
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	Yes	No
<b>3</b> Did the organization list any <b>former</b> officer, director or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>		No
<b>4</b> For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than \$150,000? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual</i>	Yes	
<b>5</b> Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization or individual for services rendered to the organization? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person</i>		No

**Section B. Independent Contractors**

**1** Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
BSWIFT LLC 10 S RIVERSIDE PLAZA STE 1100 CHICAGO, IL 60606	ONLINE TECHNOLOGY	1,052,235
PREFERRED CASE MANAGEMENT 139 W LAKE LANSING RD STE 100 EAST LANSING, MI 48823	CASE MANAGEMENT	1,040,227
A FOREVER RECOVERY 216 ST MARYS LAKE RD BATTLE CREEK, MI 49017	SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES	542,700
PEDIATRIC SPECIAL CARE INC 17040 W 12 MILE RD STE 200 SOUTHFIELD, MI 48076	HOME HEALTH CARE	530,844
PRIVATE DUTY HOME HEALTHCARE 2626 NILES AVE ST JOSEPH, MI 49085	HOME HEALTH CARE	486,033

**2** Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization

**Part VIII Statement of Revenue**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part VIII

		(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512-514	
<b>Contributions, Gifts, Grants and Other Similar Amounts</b>	<b>1a</b> Federated campaigns . . . . .	<b>1a</b>				
	<b>b</b> Membership dues . . . . .	<b>1b</b>				
	<b>c</b> Fundraising events . . . . .	<b>1c</b>				
	<b>d</b> Related organizations . . . . .	<b>1d</b>				
	<b>e</b> Government grants (contributions) . . . . .	<b>1e</b>				
	<b>f</b> All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above . . . . .	<b>1f</b>				
	<b>g</b> Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f \$ _____					
	<b>h Total.</b> Add lines 1a-1f . . . . . ▶					
<b>Program Service Revenue</b>			<b>Business Code</b>			
	<b>2a</b> MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS		900099	1,081,524,526	1,081,524,526	
	<b>b</b> CLAIMS PROCESSING FEES		900099	77,772,637	77,772,637	
	<b>c</b> SHARED SERVICES		900099	1,815,594		1,815,594
	<b>d</b> MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE		900099	121,626	121,626	
	<b>e</b> _____					
	<b>f</b> All other program service revenue					
<b>g Total.</b> Add lines 2a-2f . . . . . ▶			1,161,234,383			
<b>Other Revenue</b>	<b>3</b> Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts) . . . . . ▶		9,038,728		9,038,728	
	<b>4</b> Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds . . . . . ▶					
	<b>5</b> Royalties . . . . . ▶					
	<b>6a</b> Gross rents	(i) Real	(ii) Personal			
		<b>b</b> Less rental expenses				
		<b>c</b> Rental income or (loss)				
		<b>d</b> Net rental income or (loss) . . . . . ▶				
	<b>7a</b> Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities	(ii) Other			
		<b>b</b> Less cost or other basis and sales expenses			234	
		<b>c</b> Gain or (loss)			-234	
		<b>d</b> Net gain or (loss) . . . . . ▶		5,319,271	5,319,505	-234
	<b>8a</b> Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c) See Part IV, line 18 . . . . . <b>a</b>					
	<b>b</b> Less direct expenses . . . . . <b>b</b>					
	<b>c</b> Net income or (loss) from fundraising events . . . . . ▶					
	<b>9a</b> Gross income from gaming activities See Part IV, line 19 . . . . . <b>a</b>					
<b>b</b> Less direct expenses . . . . . <b>b</b>						
<b>c</b> Net income or (loss) from gaming activities . . . . . ▶						
<b>10a</b> Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances . . . . . <b>a</b>						
<b>b</b> Less cost of goods sold . . . . . <b>b</b>						
<b>c</b> Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory . . . . . ▶						
Miscellaneous Revenue	<b>Business Code</b>					
<b>11a</b> _____						
<b>b</b> _____						
<b>c</b> _____						
<b>d</b> All other revenue . . . . .						
<b>e Total.</b> Add lines 11a-11d . . . . . ▶						
<b>12 Total revenue.</b> See Instructions . . . . . ▶		1,175,592,382	1,159,418,789	14,358,233	1,815,360	

**Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses**

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A).

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

	<b>(A)</b> Total expenses	<b>(B)</b> Program service expenses	<b>(C)</b> Management and general expenses	<b>(D)</b> Fundraising expenses
<b>Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.</b>				
<b>1</b> Grants and other assistance to domestic organizations and domestic governments. See Part IV, line 21.				
<b>2</b> Grants and other assistance to domestic individuals. See Part IV, line 22.				
<b>3</b> Grants and other assistance to foreign organizations, foreign governments, and foreign individuals. See Part IV, line 15 and 16.				
<b>4</b> Benefits paid to or for members	1,085,389,368			
<b>5</b> Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	327,991			
<b>6</b> Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
<b>7</b> Other salaries and wages	21,515,833			
<b>8</b> Pension plan accruals and contributions (include section 401(k) and 403(b) employer contributions)	6,269,002			
<b>9</b> Other employee benefits	16,653,586			
<b>10</b> Payroll taxes	1,712,562			
<b>11</b> Fees for services (non-employees)				
<b>a</b> Management				
<b>b</b> Legal	110,984			
<b>c</b> Accounting	666,460			
<b>d</b> Lobbying				
<b>e</b> Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17.				
<b>f</b> Investment management fees				
<b>g</b> Other (If line 11g amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 11g expenses on Schedule O)	957,669			
<b>12</b> Advertising and promotion	1,270,177			
<b>13</b> Office expenses	4,266,729			
<b>14</b> Information technology	26,510			
<b>15</b> Royalties				
<b>16</b> Occupancy	2,381,102			
<b>17</b> Travel	1,021,160			
<b>18</b> Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
<b>19</b> Conferences, conventions, and meetings	253,894			
<b>20</b> Interest				
<b>21</b> Payments to affiliates				
<b>22</b> Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	1,509,752			
<b>23</b> Insurance	290,245			
<b>24</b> Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above (List miscellaneous expenses in line 24e. If line 24e amount exceeds 10% of line 25, column (A) amount, list line 24e expenses on Schedule O.)				
<b>a</b> MARKETING & RESEARCH	3,213,672			
<b>b</b> ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	495,589			
<b>c</b> STAFF DEV & TRAINING	279,866			
<b>d</b> MISCELLANEOUS	216,629			
<b>e</b> All other expenses	96,953			
<b>25</b> Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24e	1,148,925,733			
<b>26</b> Joint costs. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation.				
Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2 (ASC 958-720)				

**Part X Balance Sheet**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part IX

		(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
<b>Assets</b>	<b>1</b> Cash—non-interest-bearing . . . . .	1,834,474	<b>1</b>	4,439,519
	<b>2</b> Savings and temporary cash investments . . . . .	70,920,398	<b>2</b>	63,703,169
	<b>3</b> Pledges and grants receivable, net . . . . .		<b>3</b>	
	<b>4</b> Accounts receivable, net . . . . .		<b>4</b>	
	<b>5</b> Loans and other receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees Complete Part II of Schedule L . . . . .		<b>5</b>	
	<b>6</b> Loans and other receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)), persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B), and contributing employers and sponsoring organizations of section 501(c)(9) voluntary employees' beneficiary organizations (see instructions) Complete Part II of Schedule L . . . . .		<b>6</b>	
	<b>7</b> Notes and loans receivable, net . . . . .		<b>7</b>	
	<b>8</b> Inventories for sale or use . . . . .		<b>8</b>	
	<b>9</b> Prepaid expenses and deferred charges . . . . .	6,302,422	<b>9</b>	3,791,715
	<b>10a</b> Land, buildings, and equipment cost or other basis Complete Part VI of Schedule D	48,327,474		
	<b>b</b> Less accumulated depreciation	33,964,912		
	<b>11</b> Investments—publicly traded securities . . . . .	418,632,760	<b>11</b>	437,214,589
	<b>12</b> Investments—other securities See Part IV, line 11 . . . . .		<b>12</b>	
	<b>13</b> Investments—program-related See Part IV, line 11 . . . . .		<b>13</b>	
	<b>14</b> Intangible assets . . . . .		<b>14</b>	
	<b>15</b> Other assets See Part IV, line 11 . . . . .	10,580,871	<b>15</b>	57,629,492
<b>16</b> <b>Total assets.</b> Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34) . . . . .	522,149,026	<b>16</b>	581,141,046	
<b>Liabilities</b>	<b>17</b> Accounts payable and accrued expenses . . . . .	7,630,268	<b>17</b>	36,977,662
	<b>18</b> Grants payable . . . . .		<b>18</b>	
	<b>19</b> Deferred revenue . . . . .	27,245,856	<b>19</b>	17,828,465
	<b>20</b> Tax-exempt bond liabilities . . . . .		<b>20</b>	
	<b>21</b> Escrow or custodial account liability Complete Part IV of Schedule D . . . . .		<b>21</b>	
	<b>22</b> Loans and other payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons Complete Part II of Schedule L . . . . .		<b>22</b>	
	<b>23</b> Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties . . . . .		<b>23</b>	
	<b>24</b> Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties . . . . .		<b>24</b>	
	<b>25</b> Other liabilities (including federal income tax, payables to related third parties, and other liabilities not included on lines 17-24) Complete Part X of Schedule D . . . . .	152,212,333	<b>25</b>	152,873,406
	<b>26</b> <b>Total liabilities.</b> Add lines 17 through 25 . . . . .	187,088,457	<b>26</b>	207,679,533
<b>Net Assets or Fund Balances</b>	<b>27</b> <b>Organizations that follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.</b> Unrestricted net assets		<b>27</b>	
	<b>28</b> Temporarily restricted net assets . . . . .		<b>28</b>	
	<b>29</b> Permanently restricted net assets		<b>29</b>	
	<b>30</b> <b>Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117 (ASC 958), check here</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>and complete lines 30 through 34.</b> Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds . . . . .	0	<b>30</b>	0
	<b>31</b> Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building or equipment fund . . . . .	0	<b>31</b>	0
	<b>32</b> Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds . . . . .	335,060,569	<b>32</b>	373,461,513
	<b>33</b> Total net assets or fund balances . . . . .	335,060,569	<b>33</b>	373,461,513
	<b>34</b> Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances . . . . .	522,149,026	<b>34</b>	581,141,046

**Part XI Reconciliation of Net Assets**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XI

<b>1</b>	Total revenue (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12) . . . . .	<b>1</b>	1,175,592,382
<b>2</b>	Total expenses (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25) . . . . .	<b>2</b>	1,148,925,733
<b>3</b>	Revenue less expenses Subtract line 2 from line 1 . . . . .	<b>3</b>	26,666,649
<b>4</b>	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (must equal Part X, line 33, column (A)) . . . . .	<b>4</b>	335,060,569
<b>5</b>	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments . . . . .	<b>5</b>	11,734,295
<b>6</b>	Donated services and use of facilities . . . . .	<b>6</b>	
<b>7</b>	Investment expenses . . . . .	<b>7</b>	
<b>8</b>	Prior period adjustments . . . . .	<b>8</b>	
<b>9</b>	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O) . . . . .	<b>9</b>	0
<b>10</b>	Net assets or fund balances at end of year Combine lines 3 through 9 (must equal Part X, line 33, column (B))	<b>10</b>	373,461,513

**Part XII Financial Statements and Reporting**

Check if Schedule O contains a response or note to any line in this Part XII

	Yes	No
<p><b>1</b> Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990 <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Accrual <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____</p> <p>If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O</p>		
<p><b>2a</b> Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant?</p> <p>If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were compiled or reviewed on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis</p>		No
<p><b>b</b> Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?</p> <p>If 'Yes,' check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were audited on a separate basis, consolidated basis, or both</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Separate basis <input type="checkbox"/> Consolidated basis <input type="checkbox"/> Both consolidated and separate basis</p>	Yes	
<p><b>c</b> If "Yes," to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant?</p> <p>If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O</p>	Yes	
<p><b>3a</b> As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?</p>		No
<p><b>b</b> If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits</p>		

## Additional Data

**Software ID:**

**Software Version:**

**EIN:** 38-1641634

**Name:** MICHIGAN EDUCATION SPECIAL SERVICES ASSN

Form 990 (2017)

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**Form 990, Part III, Line 4a:**

MEDICAL, VISION, DENTAL, DISABILITY, AND VARIOUS OTHER HEALTH RELATED INSURANCE BENEFITS WERE PROVIDED TO THE 63,098 MEMBERS

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**SCHEDULE D**  
(Form 990)  
  
Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**Supplemental Financial Statements**  
▶ Complete if the organization answered "Yes," on Form 990, Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11a, 11b, 11c, 11d, 11e, 11f, 12a, or 12b.  
▶ Attach to Form 990.  
**Information about Schedule D (Form 990) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).**

OMB No 1545-0047  
**2017**  
**Open to Public Inspection**

**Name of the organization**  
MICHIGAN EDUCATION SPECIAL SERVICES ASSN

**Employer identification number**  
38-1641634

**Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts.**  
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 6.

	(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
<b>1</b> Total number at end of year		
<b>2</b> Aggregate value of contributions to (during year)		
<b>3</b> Aggregate value of grants from (during year)		
<b>4</b> Aggregate value at end of year		
<b>5</b> Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<b>6</b> Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

**Part II Conservation Easements.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

**1** Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply)

Preservation of land for public use (e g , recreation or education)       Preservation of an historically important land area

Protection of natural habitat       Preservation of a certified historic structure

Preservation of open space

**2** Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year

	Held at the End of the Year	
<b>a</b> Total number of conservation easements	<b>2a</b>	
<b>b</b> Total acreage restricted by conservation easements	<b>2b</b>	
<b>c</b> Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)	<b>2c</b>	
<b>d</b> Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 8/17/06, and not on a historic structure listed in the National Register	<b>2d</b>	

**3** Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

**4** Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

**5** Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds?  Yes  No

**6** Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ▶ \_\_\_\_\_

**7** Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, handling of violations, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**8** Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)?  Yes  No

**9** In Part XIII, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements

**Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets.**  
Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

**1a** If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIII, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items

**b** If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116 (ASC 958), to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items

**(i)** Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**(ii)** Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**2** If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 (ASC 958) relating to these items

**a** Revenue included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**b** Assets included in Form 990, Part X ▶ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets** *(continued)*

- 3** Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply)
- a**  Public exhibition
  - b**  Scholarly research
  - c**  Preservation for future generations
  - d**  Loan or exchange programs
  - e**  Other
- 4** Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIII
- 5** During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection?  Yes  No

**Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements.**

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21.

- 1a** Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X?  Yes  No
- b** If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII and complete the following table
- |  | Amount |
|--|--------|
| <b>c</b> Beginning balance             |        |
| <b>d</b> Additions during the year     |        |
| <b>e</b> Distributions during the year |        |
| <b>f</b> Ending balance                |        |
- 2a** Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21, for escrow or custodial account liability?  Yes  No
- b** If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIII Check here if the explanation has been provided in Part XIII . . . . .

**Part V Endowment Funds.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 10.

	(a) Current year	(b) Prior year	(c) Two years back	(d) Three years back	(e) Four years back
<b>1a</b> Beginning of year balance . . . . .					
<b>b</b> Contributions . . . . .					
<b>c</b> Net investment earnings, gains, and losses					
<b>d</b> Grants or scholarships . . . . .					
<b>e</b> Other expenditures for facilities and programs . . . . .					
<b>f</b> Administrative expenses . . . . .					
<b>g</b> End of year balance . . . . .					

- 2** Provide the estimated percentage of the current year end balance (line 1g, column (a)) held as
- a** Board designated or quasi-endowment ▶
  - b** Permanent endowment ▶
  - c** Temporarily restricted endowment ▶
- The percentages on lines 2a, 2b, and 2c should equal 100%
- 3a** Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by
- |  |               |    |
|--|---------------|----|
|  | Yes           | No |
| <b>(i)</b> unrelated organizations . . . . .   | <b>3a(i)</b>  |    |
| <b>(ii)</b> related organizations . . . . .  | <b>3a(ii)</b> |    |
| <b>b</b> If "Yes" on 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R? . . . . . | <b>3b</b>     |    |
- 4** Describe in Part XIII the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds

**Part VI Land, Buildings, and Equipment.**

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11a. See Form 990, Part X, line 10.

Description of property	(a) Cost or other basis (investment)	(b) Cost or other basis (other)	(c) Accumulated depreciation	(d) Book value
<b>1a</b> Land . . . . .		718,340		718,340
<b>b</b> Buildings . . . . .		15,166,898	6,221,122	8,945,776
<b>c</b> Leasehold improvements				
<b>d</b> Equipment . . . . .		31,393,035	26,694,589	4,698,446
<b>e</b> Other . . . . .		1,049,201	1,049,201	0
<b>Total.</b> Add lines 1a through 1e (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c) ) . . . ▶				14,362,562

**Part VII Investments—Other Securities.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11b. See Form 990, Part X, line 12.

(a) Description of security or category (including name of security)	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation Cost or end-of-year market value
(1) Financial derivatives . . . . .		
(2) Closely-held equity interests . . . . .		
(3) Other _____		
(A)		
(B)		
(C)		
(D)		
(E)		
(F)		
(G)		
(H)		
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 12 )	▶	

**Part VIII Investments—Program Related.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11c. See Form 990, Part X, line 13.

(a) Description of investment	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation Cost or end-of-year market value
(1)		
(2)		
(3)		
(4)		
(5)		
(6)		
(7)		
(8)		
(9)		
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 13 )	▶	

**Part IX Other Assets.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11d. See Form 990, Part X, line 15

(a) Description	(b) Book value
(1) STABILIZATION RESERVE	43,186,753
(2) BCBS DEFERRED TAX ASSET	14,244,013
(3) BLUEVISION DEFERRED TAX ASSET	198,726
(4)	
(5)	
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 15 )	▶ 57,629,492

**Part X Other Liabilities.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 11e or 11f. See Form 990, Part X, line 25.

(a) Description of liability	(b) Book value
(1) Federal income taxes	
ACCRUED PAYROLL AND RELATED ITEMS	1,996,310
ACCRUED CLAIMS PROCESSING EXPENSES	2,110,000
ACCRUED PENSION COST	77,584,626
DUE TO INSURANCE COMPANIES	1,461,936
ACCRUED RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS	69,720,534
(6)	
(7)	
(8)	
(9)	
<b>Total.</b> (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 25 )	▶ 152,873,406

**2.** Liability for uncertain tax positions. In Part XIII, provide the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that reports the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48 (ASC 740). Check here if the text of the footnote has been provided in Part XIII

**Part XI Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return**

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

<b>1</b>	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements . . . . .		<b>1</b>	1,809,768,589
<b>2</b>	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12			
<b>a</b>	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments . . . . .	<b>2a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Donated services and use of facilities . . . . .	<b>2b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Recoveries of prior year grants . . . . .	<b>2c</b>		
<b>d</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>2d</b>	634,176,207	
<b>e</b>	Add lines <b>2a</b> through <b>2d</b> . . . . .		<b>2e</b>	634,176,207
<b>3</b>	Subtract line <b>2e</b> from line <b>1</b> . . . . .		<b>3</b>	1,175,592,382
<b>4</b>	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1			
<b>a</b>	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b . . . . .	<b>4a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>4b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Add lines <b>4a</b> and <b>4b</b> . . . . .		<b>4c</b>	0
<b>5</b>	Total revenue Add lines <b>3</b> and <b>4c</b> . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12 ) . . . . .		<b>5</b>	1,175,592,382

**Part XII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return.**

Complete if the organization answered 'Yes' on Form 990, Part IV, line 12a.

<b>1</b>	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements . . . . .		<b>1</b>	1,677,544,223
<b>2</b>	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25			
<b>a</b>	Donated services and use of facilities . . . . .	<b>2a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Prior year adjustments . . . . .	<b>2b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Other losses . . . . .	<b>2c</b>		
<b>d</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>2d</b>	528,618,490	
<b>e</b>	Add lines <b>2a</b> through <b>2d</b> . . . . .		<b>2e</b>	528,618,490
<b>3</b>	Subtract line <b>2e</b> from line <b>1</b> . . . . .		<b>3</b>	1,148,925,733
<b>4</b>	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1:			
<b>a</b>	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b . . . . .	<b>4a</b>		
<b>b</b>	Other (Describe in Part XIII ) . . . . .	<b>4b</b>		
<b>c</b>	Add lines <b>4a</b> and <b>4b</b> . . . . .		<b>4c</b>	0
<b>5</b>	Total expenses Add lines <b>3</b> and <b>4c</b> . (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18 ) . . . . .		<b>5</b>	1,148,925,733

**Part XIII Supplemental Information**

Provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9, Part III, lines 1a and 4, Part IV, lines 1b and 2b, Part V, line 4, Part X, line 2, Part XI, lines 2d and 4b, and Part XII, lines 2d and 4b Also complete this part to provide any additional information

Return Reference	Explanation
See Additional Data Table	



## Additional Data

**Software ID:**

**Software Version:**

**EIN:** 38-1641634

**Name:** MICHIGAN EDUCATION SPECIAL SERVICES ASSN

## Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
PART X, LINE 2	IN THE PREPARATION OF TAX RETURNS, TAX POSITIONS ARE TAKEN BASED ON INTERPRETATION OF FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL INCOME TAX LAWS MANAGEMENT PERIODICALLY REVIEWS AND EVALUATES THE STATUS OF UNCERTAIN TAX POSITIONS AND MAKES ESTIMATES OF AMOUNTS, INCLUDING INTEREST AND PENALTIES, ULTIMATELY DUE OR OWED NO AMOUNTS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED, OR RECORDED, AS UNCERTAIN TAX POSITIONS FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL TAX RETURNS GENERALLY REMAIN OPEN FOR EXAMINATION BY THE VARIOUS TAXING AUTHORITIES FOR A PERIOD OF THREE TO FOUR YEARS

## Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
PART XI, LINE 2D - OTHER ADJUSTMENTS	RECONCILIATION DUE TO 12 MONTH 990 AND 18 MONTH AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 634,176,207

## Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
PART XII, LINE 2D - OTHER ADJUSTMENTS	RECONCILIATION DUE TO 12 MONTH 990 AND 18 MONTH AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 528,618,490

**Schedule J**  
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

## Compensation Information

**For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees**

▶ **Complete if the organization answered "Yes" on Form 990, Part IV, line 23.**  
▶ **Attach to Form 990.**  
▶ **Information about Schedule J (Form 990) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).**

OMB No 1545-0047

# 2017

**Open to Public Inspection**

Name of the organization  
MICHIGAN EDUCATION SPECIAL SERVICES ASSN

Employer identification number  
38-1641634

**Part I Questions Regarding Compensation**

		Yes	No		
<p><b>1a</b> Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a. Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel  <input type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions  <input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments  <input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account                 </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use  <input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees  <input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)                 </td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel <input type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions <input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments <input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use <input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees <input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)			
<input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel <input type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions <input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments <input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account	<input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use <input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees <input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef)				
<p><b>b</b> If any of the boxes in line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain.</p>	<b>1b</b>	Yes			
<p><b>2</b> Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all directors, trustees, officers, including the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked in line 1a?</p>	<b>2</b>	Yes			
<p><b>3</b> Indicate which, if any, of the following the filing organization used to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director. Check all that apply. Do not check any boxes for methods used by a related organization to establish compensation of the CEO/Executive Director, but explain in Part III.</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee  <input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant  <input type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations                 </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract  <input type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee                 </td> </tr> </table>	<input type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee <input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant <input type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract <input type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee			
<input type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee <input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant <input type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract <input type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee				
<p><b>4</b> During the year, did any person listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, with respect to the filing organization or a related organization:</p> <p><b>a</b> Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?</p> <p><b>b</b> Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?</p> <p><b>c</b> Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement?</p> <p>If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III.</p>	<b>4a</b>		No		
	<b>4b</b>		No		
	<b>4c</b>		No		
<p><b>Only 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations must complete lines 5-9.</b></p> <p><b>5</b> For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of:</p> <p><b>a</b> The organization?</p> <p><b>b</b> Any related organization?</p> <p>If "Yes," on line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III.</p>	<b>5a</b>				
	<b>5b</b>				
<p><b>6</b> For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of:</p> <p><b>a</b> The organization?</p> <p><b>b</b> Any related organization?</p> <p>If "Yes," on line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III.</p>	<b>6a</b>				
	<b>6b</b>				
<p><b>7</b> For persons listed on Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any nonfixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III.</p>	<b>7</b>				
<p><b>8</b> Were any amounts reported on Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regulations section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III.</p>	<b>8</b>				
<p><b>9</b> If "Yes" on line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?</p>	<b>9</b>				

**Part II Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees.** Use duplicate copies if additional space is needed.

For each individual whose compensation must be reported on Schedule J, report compensation from the organization on row (i) and from related organizations, described in the instructions, on row (ii). Do not list any individuals that are not listed on Form 990, Part VII

**Note.** The sum of columns (B)(i)-(iii) for each listed individual must equal the total amount of Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, applicable column (D) and (E) amounts for that individual

(A) Name and Title		(B) Breakdown of W-2 and/or 1099-MISC compensation			(C) Retirement and other deferred compensation	(D) Nontaxable benefits	(E) Total of columns (B)(i)-(D)	(F) Compensation in column (B) reported as deferred on prior Form 990
		(i) Base compensation	(ii) Bonus & incentive compensation	(iii) Other reportable compensation				
<b>1</b> ROSS WILSON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	(i)	241,625	0	0	42,499	45,034	329,158	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>2</b> JEFFREY L NYQUIST STRATEGIC OFFICER	(i)	229,705	0	0	42,499	45,393	317,597	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>3</b> LISA J ALLEN CFO	(i)	213,831	0	0	38,654	45,393	297,878	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>4</b> ARJAY PATRICK DIRECTOR OF IT SERVICES	(i)	188,985	0	0	31,985	19,861	240,831	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>5</b> RICHARD BONKOWSKI DIRECTOR OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT	(i)	181,709	0	0	31,985	45,393	259,087	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>6</b> JOSEPH FIRESTONE GENERAL COUNSEL/LEGAL & COMPLIANCE	(i)	180,288	0	0	31,985	45,393	257,666	0
	(ii)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Part III Supplemental Information**

Provide the information, explanation, or descriptions required for Part I, lines 1a, 1b, 3, 4a, 4b, 4c, 5a, 5b, 6a, 6b, 7, and 8, and for Part II. Also complete this part for any additional information.

Return Reference	Explanation
PART I, LINE 1A	AMOUNTS PAID FOR SOCIAL CLUB DUES ARE INCLUDED IN RECIPIENTS' TAXABLE WAGES
COMMON PAYMASTER	IN ORDER TO MINIMIZE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS MESSA PARTICIPATES WITH MEA AND OTHER RELATED ENTITIES IN A COMMON PAYMASTER AGREEMENT WHEREBY MEA PROCESSES PERIODIC PAYROLLS AND REMITS RELATED PAYROLL TAXES UNDER ITS EIN 38-0827000. MESSA REIMBURSES MEA FOR THESE EXPENSES AS THEY OCCUR.

**SCHEDULE O**  
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

**Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ**

OMB No 1545-0047

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

**2017**

**Open to Public Inspection**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

Name of the organization

MICHIGAN EDUCATION SPECIAL SERVICES ASSN

Employer identification number

38-1641634

**990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information**

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION A, LINE 6	MEMBERS PER BYLAWS

**990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information**

<b>Return Reference</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION A, LINE 7A	MESSA BOARD IS ELECTED BY THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

## 990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 11B	THE CONTROLLER REVIEWS THE FORM 990 THE MESSA DIVISION DIRECTOR OF INTERNAL OPERATIONS REVIEWS THE FORM 990 NEXT AFTER REVIEW AND APPROVAL THE FORM 990 THEN GOES TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR FINAL REVIEW AND SIGNATURE THE RETURN IS THEN FILED WITH THE IRS

**990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information**

<b>Return Reference</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 12C	THE MESSA BOARD OF TRUSTEES ADOPTED A CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY AND EACH TRUSTEE SIGNS A STATEMENT THE POLICY WILL BE REVIEWED WITH THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNUALLY AND AN UPDATED STATEMENT WILL BE SIGNED BY EACH TRUSTEE AT THAT TIME THE POLICY IS REVIEWED WITH NEW BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEMBERS AT THE START OF HIS/HER TERM AND A STATEMENT IS SIGNED BY THE NEW TRUSTEE AT THAT TIME

# 990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 15	SALARIES ARE SET BY BOARD APPROVED SALARY SCHEDULES

# 990 Schedule O, Supplemental Information

Return Reference	Explanation
FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION C, LINE 19	DOCUMENTS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST TO MESSA ADMINISTRATION