

Criteria for Acceptance as a Michigan Clean Water Corps (MiCorps) Program

To be accepted into MiCorps as a member program, a program must meet the following minimum criteria:

1. A Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) must be approved by MiCorps that follows the Department of Environmental Quality QAPP Guidelines and includes:
 - a. an organizational structure with identified positions that are accountable for data quality and fiscal management,
 - b. a sufficient volunteer training program,
 - c. a stated goal and basic fiscal plan to maintain the program into the foreseeable future, and
 - d. a stated commitment to electronically submit data into the MiCorps system using established MiCorps data structure and content standards (to be developed).
2. Initial QAPPs may be approved for the monitoring of specific parameters. The initial QAPPs may later be altered to include additional parameters as a monitoring program matures and expands based on a successful review of preliminary data.
3. Lake and stream volunteer monitoring programs in MiCorps must use volunteer operating procedures (VOPs) that are identical or equivalent to those approved by MiCorps and posted on the MiCorps website.
4. Programs will agree to submit monitoring data to MiCorps administrators for inclusion in a central MiCorps database. Programs may either: a) enter data via an on-line form on the MiCorps website, or b) work with MiCorps administrators to develop procedures for exporting data from a local program database. If a program already maintains an on-line database, links will also be provided to the database from the MiCorps website.
5. Due to the educational rather than analytical focus of K-12 school-based monitoring programs as well as the difficulty in assuring data quality in transient programs, programs exclusively using school children as data collectors can not be approved for inclusion in MiCorps. However, MiCorps will list school-based programs in a separate program directory and provide educational material on the MiCorps website.