

Affording College in Michigan



GUIDEBOOK for Students and Families

This guidebook includes information on planning and applying for college, including financial resources to assist with affording college in Michigan.

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY - STUDENT FINANCIAL SERVICES BUREAU

www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid

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STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY
LANSING

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GOVERNOR

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Dear Student:

It is never too early to start to prepare for college. Higher education is a lifetime investment and will help you meet your life goals. Part of getting there is having the financial help you might need to pay for college.

The State of Michigan has been providing financial assistance programs for Michigan students since 1964 and has helped over three million students, with roughly \$4 billion in scholarship assistance, to achieve their higher education goals.

The State administers a variety of student financial aid programs and services including:

- Scholarships and Grants
- College Savings Programs
- Loan Rehabilitation Services
- College Access Initiatives
- Financial Literacy Initiatives

Our goal is to help you pay for college so you can obtain a valuable postsecondary academic degree or professional/technical certificate. Whether college is many years away or you are going to be enrolling soon, this guide can help you get connected to many different resources to help as you plan for your postsecondary education.

You are a big part of Michigan's bright future and the upcoming leaders of our great state. Get ready for tomorrow starting today! You deserve every opportunity to pursue your dreams of a college education and become anything you want to be. I wish you the very best.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Anne Wohlfert".

Anne Wohlfert, Director
Student Financial Services Bureau
Michigan Department of Treasury

GUIDEBOOK OUTLINE

This guidebook is designed to help high school and college students as they prepare for and complete their postsecondary education. This guidebook is divided into the following sections:

Section I – Planning and Applying for College — This section provides information on helpful tools and resources for high school students. The following planning items are covered:

College Planning Checklist

Get Ready for College

- College Admissions Tests
- College Fairs/College Nights
- Community Service, Extracurricular Activities, Awards, and Honors
- High School Transcript Request
- College Essays
- Letters of Recommendation
- First Generation College-going Students

Saving and Planning for College

- Michigan Education Trust (MET)
- Michigan Education Savings Plan (MESP)
- Scholarship Search
- Be Money Smart - The Importance of Financial Education
- Dual or Concurrent Enrollment
- Early College
- College Level Examination Program (CLEP)

Choosing a College

- Campus Visits
- Types of Certificates and Degrees
- Types of Colleges



Section II – Financial Steps to Paying for College — This section provides information on how to apply for Federal, State, local, and institutional financial aid. The following financial steps are covered:

Paying for College Checklist

Applying for Federal Financial Aid

- Completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- FSA ID
- Financial Aid Funding Options

Federal Financial Aid Programs

Michigan Financial Aid Programs Administered by Student Scholarships and Grants (SSG)

MiSSG Student Portal

Additional Financial Aid Programs/Resources

Searching for Scholarships

- Scholarship Web sites, Book Resources, and Application Tips

Student Loan Options

Section III – Directory of Michigan Colleges and Universities

- Geographical Map
- Alphabetical Listing

SECTION I:

PLANNING AND APPLYING FOR COLLEGE

College Planning Checklist

High School Freshmen

- ☐ Take challenging classes in core academic areas.
- ☐ Update your Educational Development Plan (EDP) and create a four-year plan for meeting graduation requirements.
- ☐ Obtain information about taking AP, honors, and dual/concurrent enrollment courses.
- ☐ Get involved with community-based and leadership-oriented activities.
- ☐ Explore and identify career fields of interest through online research and by attending career fairs and other events.
- ☐ Keep a running list of accomplishments, awards, and recognitions to use in preparing a resume and college applications.

High School Sophomore

- ☐ Attend college and career information events and presentations.
- ☐ Research funding for college; including scholarships, grants, loans, etc.
- ☐ Continue exploring college and career options.
- ☐ Prepare for the PSAT by taking practice tests and using resources available through CollegeBoard and Khan Academy.

High School Junior

Fall

- ☐ Take the PSAT to prep for the SAT.
- ☐ Attend college fairs, college nights, and college-prep presentations. Be prepared to ask questions.
- ☐ Continue exploring college and career options and make a list of your top college choices.

Spring

- ☐ Prep for college admissions exams (SAT/ACT) by taking practice tests and using resources available through CollegeBoard and Khan Academy.
- ☐ Take the SAT and WorkKeys assessments currently required as part of the Michigan Merit Exam (MME).
- ☐ Identify scholarship opportunities to pursue; note deadlines on a calendar.
- ☐ Schedule college campus visits and contact colleges to request information.

High School Senior

Summer Before Senior Year

- ☐ Plan and schedule college visits.
- ☐ Narrow down your list of colleges being considered.

Fall

- ☐ Register for and take (or retake) the SAT and/or ACT, if not already done.
- ☐ Meet with a counselor to verify that graduation requirements will be met on schedule.
- ☐ Complete and submit college applications prior to deadlines.
- ☐ Complete and submit scholarship applications prior to deadlines.
- ☐ Request transcripts and letters of recommendation.
- ☐ Register for a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID).
- ☐ Work with parents to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as soon as possible after October 1.
- ☐ Review and make any necessary changes/corrections to the Student Aid Report (SAR).

Winter

- ☐ Finish submitting scholarship applications.

Spring

- ☐ Consider college acceptances; compare financial aid packages offered.
- ☐ Call college financial aid representatives with any questions.
- ☐ Decide on the college to attend and contact their offices.
- ☐ Make informed decisions about student loans.

**Source: Connections Academy*

Get Ready for College

You may be receiving a lot of advice about your future – advice from your parents, relatives, or from your school counselor. Whether your postsecondary goal is to attend a state university, community college, private college, career or technical school, or if you aren't sure, it is important to give serious thought to your future goals while you're in high school.



Having the dream to go to college is a great start! Each school, college, or university has different admissions requirements so you need to check the policy for each one. Most four-year colleges and universities require you to take at least one college admissions test as part of your college application process. These tests are prepared by national organizations and are given several times each year at many locations. The two most common tests are the ACT® and the SAT®. (Beginning with the Class of 2017, SAT scores are reviewed for consideration of the merit portion to qualify for the Michigan Competitive Scholarship.)

College Admission Test

Most students take the SAT in their junior year as it is part of the Michigan Merit Exam (MME). If you want to improve your scores, you may take practice SAT tests. Ask your counselor about this process and look at resources available through the CollegeBoard and Khan Academy.

College Fairs and College Nights

College fairs and nights offer a great opportunity for students and parents to meet face-to-face with a college admissions representative. To view a listing of Michigan college fairs, visit www.macrao.org and click on College Day/Night Calendar.

Community Service, Extracurricular Activities, Awards, and Honors

Although your classes, grades, and exam scores are important, most colleges and universities also want to know how you spend your time outside of the classroom. By broadening your experiences, you will be more likely to match your interests with college program options and future employment possibilities. Include your community service, extracurricular activities, awards, and honors on applications.

High School Transcript Request

Long before your college application deadline, ask your high school counselor what the correct steps are to send your transcript electronically to the college(s) you are considering. Some high schools in Michigan process transcripts through Parchment.

College Essays

As part of the application packet, some colleges and universities ask you to write about yourself or another topic. This essay will show them how well you can express yourself in writing. The best way to prepare for this application essay is to take college prep English classes in high school and do well in these classes. Tips for writing your college essay can be found at <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/get-in/essays/8-tips-for-crafting-your-best-college-essay>.

Letters of Recommendation

Many colleges and universities ask for one to three letters of recommendation and some have special forms for these letters. When you apply for college, you will need to ask people to write these letters for you. These people may be teachers, employers, or other adults (but not family members) who know you and have positive things to say about your work and your character. Usually letters of recommendation must be sent directly to the college or university. It's your responsibility to make sure that the letters of recommendation are sent to the college before the deadline date.

First Generation College-Going Student

Are you the first in your family to consider attending college? I'm First! is an online community for first-generation college students and their supporters. Visit www.imfirst.org to find answers to your questions about college, helpful tips, and encouragement.

Saving and Planning for College

College costs have increased over the past few years. Planning ahead will provide you some comfort when it comes time to pay for your postsecondary education. If you start saving for college now, you can reduce the amount of money you need later. Start financial planning and investing now.



Michigan Education Trust

The Michigan Education Trust (MET), Michigan's guaranteed tuition program, allows parents, grandparents, or others to purchase future college tuition at today's rates. With MET you avoid rising tuition rates, which are expected to more than double over the next ten years. For additional information about MET, call 1-800-MET-4-KID (1-800-638-4543) or visit www.setwithmet.com.



Michigan Education Savings Program

MIsaves.com

Michigan Education Savings Program

The Michigan Education Savings Program (MESP) is a savings/investment program designed to assist families with preparing for higher education expenses. A child's parents or others can open an account for the child/beneficiary. The MESP account can then grow through regular contributions and investment growth. For additional information about MESP, call 1-877-861-MESP (1-877-861-6377) or visit www.misaves.com.

Scholarship Search

When searching for scholarships, remember to check local sources through your high school guidance office and local civic groups and businesses. Start searching early during your junior year of high school. Use free, reputable Internet search services. Beware of scams and services requiring payment. (Additional information on scholarship searches and resources are available in Section II of this booklet.)

Be Money Smart - The Importance of Financial Education

Managing your financial resources effectively can lead to a lifetime of financial security. Students who have learned how to be "money smart" before college can save themselves a lot of heartache and money. Knowing how to save, budget, and borrow can make a huge difference. Avoid regrets such as "I wish I would have known that before I took out this loan," or "I wish I didn't run up my credit card."

- Finish your educational program on time with minimal long-term debt and only borrow what you need.
- Know the career you want to pursue. This will reduce your time in college and will allow you to save money.
- Put your money to work for you - learn to budget and save.
- Relax and feel less stress.

For more information visit:

National Endowment for Financial Education High School Financial Planning Program

www.hsfpp.org

Jump\$tart Coalition – Financial Smarts for Students

www.jumpstart.org

Michigan Council on Economic Education (MCEE)

www.michiganecon.org

Greenpath University

www.greenpath.org

Inceptia – A division of National Student Loan Programs (NSLP)

www.inceptia.org

Mapping Your Future – Managing Your Money

www.mappingyourfuture.org/Money

Start Smart: Money Management for Teens

www.fdic.gov/consumers

The Money Game

www.winthemoneygame.com



Dual or Concurrent Enrollment

Another way to be money smart is to participate in dual or concurrent enrollment. Students enrolled in high school or home school may be dual or concurrently enrolled at a local community college or university. Students from grades 9-12 are eligible for dual enrollment up to a maximum of ten courses in four years. If these students pass their college classes, they receive credit that may be applied toward their high school diploma or toward a college degree or certificate. Dual enrollment is advantageous to students because it allows them to get a head start on their college career and save money.

Check with your high school counselor to find out how you can be involved in the Dual Enrollment program. Information can also be found at www.michigan.gov/dualenrollment.

Early/Middle College

Attending an Early/Middle College offers college savings. An Early/Middle College Program is a five-year high school program designed to allow a pupil to earn a high school diploma and substantial college credit through an additional fifth year of study. A formal agreement with each postsecondary partner is required. Early/Middle College High Schools can begin as early as 9th or 10th grade. Students attend for five years and follow a specific, five-year program of instruction. For more information, visit <http://www.michigan.gov/mde> and click on MDE Programs.

College Level Examination Program (CLEP)

CLEP is a credit-by-examination program that is accepted by some colleges and universities. Taking and passing the CLEP can provide a student with college credit without paying the cost of tuition. There is a fee to take CLEP; however, the fee varies depending on the course. For more information, please visit <https://clep.collegeboard.org>.



Choosing a College

Campus Visits

Most colleges and universities have a form to complete for scheduling a campus visit on their Web site. Contact the admissions office for more information about scheduling a campus visit. Spend some time thinking about what you want to get out of your visit, make yourself a checklist and compare your notes after visiting different campuses. Check out the Campus Visit Guide on the CollegeBoard Web site at <https://bigfuture.collegeboard.org/find-colleges/campus-visit-guide>.

Types of Certificates and Degrees

The number of years you need to spend in college depends on the career you are preparing for, the certificate or degree required for that career, and whether or not you are in college full time. Different careers have different minimum certificate or degree requirements. Undergraduate postsecondary education includes:

Certificate

A certificate prepares you for entry-level jobs in a professional environment. Certificates provide training and/or education beyond high school to prepare for a specific occupation. Completion time depends upon the requirements of the program.

Apprenticeship

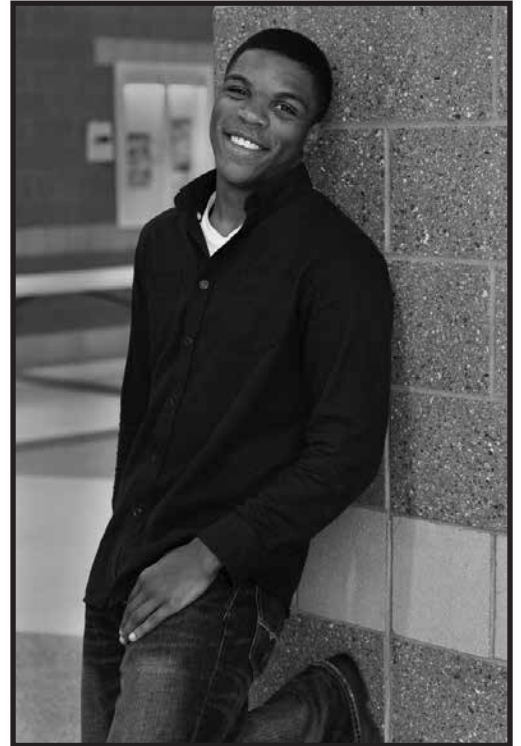
The apprenticeship program gives you hands-on job training and classroom study to help prepare you for a job. Students in these programs are called apprentices or trainees. Completion time depends on the requirements of the program, but it is usually two to three years after graduation from high school.

Associate Degree

An associate degree provides education and training for a specific career. Courses taken for an associate degree can be transferred to a four-year university if you plan ahead with the help of your college counselor. Completion time is usually two to four years after receiving a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent.

Bachelor's Degree

A bachelor's degree is composed of general and specific courses to prepare you for a career. In these programs, you will take the courses that are more focused on a specific career after a year or so of general classes. Completion time is usually four to six years after receiving a high school diploma or its recognized equivalent.



Types of Colleges

Career Schools

Career schools provide certificates of completion or diplomas; not degrees. They provide training in a specific trade, occupation, or vocation, and offer short programs.

Community Colleges

Community colleges are two-year public institutions that offer certificates and associate degrees, as well as apprentice and journeyman programs. They prepare you for technical careers or for transfer into a four-year college or university.

Four-year Colleges and Universities

Four-year colleges and universities offer a wider variety of degrees including bachelor's and master's degrees. They may cost more than a community college and usually have specific admission requirements.

Note: Many colleges provide incoming students with an assessment test. These tests allow colleges to gauge the knowledge level of incoming students and ensure that they place these students in appropriate courses. By preparing for, and scoring high on college assessment tests, students can earn the opportunity to skip entry level courses and proceed to more advanced coursework.

SECTION II:

FINANCIAL STEPS TO PAYING FOR COLLEGE

Paying for College Checklist

High School Freshman/Sophomore

- ☐ Find out how financial aid can help you afford college.
- ☐ Get an idea of what college might really cost you.
- ☐ Talk to your family about ways to pay for college.
- ☐ Save money for college. Save part of your birthday money, allowance, or earnings from chores or an after-school job for future college expenses.
- ☐ Challenge yourself inside the classroom. Good grades not only expand your college opportunities, but also can help you pay for college. Many grants and scholarships are awarded based on academic performance.
- ☐ Get involved in activities you like. Your activities outside the classroom can lead to scholarships that will help you afford college.



High School Junior

- ☐ Continue talking with your family about paying for college. Start planning your financial strategy.
- ☐ Take the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT). Juniors who take the PSAT/NMSQT, which is given in October, are automatically entered into the National Merit Scholarship Program.
- ☐ Take an inventory of your interests and passions. Many scholarships award money for college based on a student's activities, talents, background, and intended major.
- ☐ Learn the difference between sticker price and net price. A college's sticker price is its full published cost, while the net price is the cost of attending a college minus grants and scholarships you receive.
- ☐ Research the various types of financial aid. Find out the difference between a grant and a loan, the way work-study can help with college costs, and more.
- ☐ Consider taking Advanced Placement (AP) classes and exams, which can count toward college credit and may help you save money.
- ☐ Go to a financial aid event. Many schools host financial aid nights so students and their families can get information and ask questions.
- ☐ Set aside money from a summer job. Even a little extra money will help you pay for books and living expenses while in college.

High School Senior

- ☐ Research local scholarship opportunities. Talk to your school counselor, teachers, or other adults in your community about scholarships offered by local organizations. Ask your parents to see if their employers grant scholarships.
- ☐ Look up deadlines. Don't miss the priority deadlines for your colleges' financial aid applications and scholarships.
- ☐ Get an estimate of what the colleges on your final list will actually cost.
- ☐ Find out about different kinds of student loans. Not all student loans are equal.
- ☐ Complete your FAFSA. You can submit the FAFSA after October 1.
- ☐ Apply for any private scholarships you've found. Make sure you understand and follow the application requirements and apply by the deadline.
- ☐ Compare your financial aid awards.
- ☐ Contact a college's financial aid office, if necessary. Financial aid officers are there to help you if you have questions.
- ☐ Get ready to pay the first college tuition bill.

**Source – Big Future by the College Board*

Applying for Federal Financial Aid

Student financial aid consists of any source of funds available to students and their families to pay for the cost of any postsecondary education. The main sources of student financial aid are the federal government, state government, institutions (colleges and universities), and private sources (associations, foundations, employers, and unions).

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

To be considered for most financial aid programs, students must file the FAFSA after October 1 of their high school senior year, and **each year** thereafter when applying for aid. This can be done online at www.fafsa.gov. Priority consideration for State programs is given to those students who apply and whose application is received at the federal processor **on or before March 1**.

FSA ID

Prior to completing the online FAFSA, the student and at least one parent must obtain a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID). You can create a FSA ID when logging into www.fafsa.ed.gov. The FSA ID serves as a legal signature and confirms your identity when accessing your financial aid information through certain U.S. Department of Education Web sites.

Financial Aid Funding Options

Financial aid funding options can be merit-based, need-based, or both.

- **Merit-based:** Designed to assist students who excel in areas such as academics, sports, leadership, music, art, dance, etc. It is used to recruit and recognize students for their special talent or merit.
- **Need-based:** Determined by completing the FAFSA. Students who demonstrate financial need based on the results of the FAFSA may be eligible to receive an award based on their financial need for aid.

Note: The financial aid process is separate from the admissions process. Be aware of the forms that are required for each college you apply to. Some colleges require additional paperwork. Complete and submit all required forms in a timely manner.

Federal Financial Aid Programs

These programs are awarded by the financial aid office of the college you attend:

Federal Pell Grant — The Federal Pell Grant is a grant for undergraduate students who demonstrate financial need and have not yet completed a bachelor's or professional degree. Amounts change yearly.

Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) — FSEOG provides funds to undergraduate students with exceptional financial need. Priority consideration is given to Federal Pell Grant recipients. Students could receive between \$100 and \$4,000 a year depending on need, when you apply, and funds available at your school.

Federal Work-Study — The Federal Work-Study program provides part-time employment for undergraduate and graduate students with financial need to assist with paying educational expenses.

Determining Eligibility

It is important to educate yourself on the variety of assistance available to you regardless of your financial situation. It is recommended you **submit your FAFSA as soon as possible after October 1, even if you believe you do not qualify for aid**. Priority consideration for State aid programs is given to those students whose FAFSA is **received** at the federal processor **on or before March 1**.

Remember, the first "F" in FAFSA means "Free." **There is no reason to pay** to submit the FAFSA. Visit <http://micollegegoal.org/> to get free assistance with the FAFSA process.

Federal Perkins Loan — The Federal Perkins Loan is available to undergraduate and graduate students at a low interest rate. The principal and interest of the loan must be repaid to the school that disbursed the loan. **Note:** Not all institutions participate in the Federal Perkins Loan Program.

Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education Grant (TEACH) — For undergraduates who are completing or plan to complete coursework needed to begin a career in teaching at an elementary school, secondary school, or educational service agency that serves students from low-income families. Students must work in the field; otherwise, the grant turns into a loan.

Iraq and Afghanistan Service Grant — For students who are not eligible for a Pell Grant due to not meeting the program's need requirement and whose parent or guardian died as a result of military service performed in Iraq or Afghanistan after the events of September 11th. The award is equal to the maximum Federal Pell Grant for the award year.

For more information on Federal Student Aid Programs, please visit www.StudentAid.gov.

Michigan Financial Aid Programs Administered by SSG

These programs are awarded by Student Scholarships and Grants (SSG), within the Michigan Department of Treasury. All awards are subject to approved and available funding.

Michigan Competitive Scholarship — The Michigan Competitive Scholarship (MCS) is based on both financial need and merit. MCS funds may be used at Michigan public and independent, nonprofit, degree-granting postsecondary institutions. To be considered, a student must take the SAT prior to entering college and achieve a qualifying score. When filing the FAFSA, the first institution listed under your college choice will be considered your priority school, and that is where the award will be delivered. Students are responsible for notifying SSG of a change in their college choice. This can be done through the MiSSG Student Portal at www.michigan.gov/missg or by calling 1-888-4-GRANTS (888-447-2687).



Michigan Tuition Grant — The Michigan Tuition Grant (MTG) is based on financial need for use at private, nonprofit, degree-granting colleges and universities in Michigan. The first institution listed under your college choice will be considered your priority school, and that is where the award will be delivered. Students are responsible for notifying SSG of a change in their college choice.

Police Officer's and Fire Fighter's Survivor Tuition Grant — The Police Officer's and Fire Fighter's Survivor Tuition Grant program (STG) provides for the waiver of tuition at public community colleges and state universities for the surviving spouse and children of Michigan police officers and fire fighters killed in the line of duty. An application is required and the student must demonstrate financial need.

Tuition Incentive Program — The Tuition Incentive Program (TIP) encourages eligible students to complete high school by providing tuition assistance for college. To be eligible, a student must have received Medicaid coverage for 24 months within a 36-consecutive month period between the ages of nine and high school graduation. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) determines which students are Medicaid eligible and transmits this information to the Michigan Department of Treasury. An application must be submitted by August 31 of the student's graduating year of high school. Applications can be completed on the MiSSG Student Portal at www.michigan.gov/missg or over the phone by calling 1-888-4-GRANTS (1-888-447-2687). TIP must be initiated within four years from high school graduation and eligibility ends after six years from the date of high school graduation. The award is limited to tuition credit hours and mandatory fees at participating colleges and universities.

Children of Veterans Tuition Grant — The Children of Veterans Tuition Grant (CVTG) is designed to provide undergraduate tuition assistance to students older than 16 and less than 26 years of age who are the natural or adopted child of a Michigan veteran. The veteran must have died or become totally and permanently disabled as a result of military service. An application is required.

GEAR UP College Day Scholarship — GEAR UP recipients must have successfully completed the GEAR UP Scholarship six-year program and be nominated. They must also possess a high school diploma, be less than 22 years old, be a resident of Michigan, and must use the scholarship within five years of high school graduation.

Dual Enrollment — Dual Enrollment allows students to begin taking dual enrollment classes in the 9th grade and continue to take up to ten dual enrollment courses in grades 9-12. Private school students must first get a signed letter of eligibility from their principal to participate in the program. Public school students should check with their counseling office for more information. For additional information, visit www.michigan.gov/dualenrollment.

Fostering Futures Scholarship — The Fostering Futures Scholarship (FFS) provides eligible foster youth with scholarship funds for tuition, fees, room/board, books, and supplies/equipment required for enrollment. Students must have been in foster care on or after their 13th birthday to qualify.

MiSSG Student Portal

SOG has a MiSSG Student Portal where students can check eligibility and complete applications for State of Michigan aid consideration. For students to have access to the MiSSG Student Portal, they must have a current-year FAFSA on file or a TIP record. First-time users must have their Social Security number when signing up. Visit www.michigan.gov/missg and click on the "Student" button to navigate to the MiSSG Student Portal to create an account and log in.

For more information on Michigan Financial Aid Programs, please visit www.michigan.gov/sog. All awards are subject to approved and available funding.



Additional Financial Aid Programs/Resources

Program requirements may vary.

Mapping Your Future — Web site www.mappingyourfuture.org

KnowHow2Go — Web site <http://knowhow2go.acenet.edu>

You Can Go! — Web site <http://youcango.collegeboard.org>

Education and Training Voucher (ETV) — Foster care youth, Samaritas. Web site <https://mietv.samaritas.org/> or call 1-877-660-6388

Youth In Transition (YIT) — Foster care youth. Web site www.michigan.gov/fyit or call 1-517-241-8904

National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE) — Web site http://center.serve.org/nche/ibt/higher_ed.php

Michigan Rehabilitation Services (MRS) — Web site www.michigan.gov/mrs or call 1-800-605-6722

Michigan Works! — Web site <http://michiganworks.org> or call 1-800-285-WORKS (9675)

Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver — Web site www.michigan.gov/mdcr or call 1-517-241-7748

Bureau of Indian Education — Web site www.bie.edu or call 1-202-208-6123

Federal Health and Human Services Programs — Web site <http://bhpr.hrsa.gov/scholarshipsloans>

Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (Michigan National Guard State Tuition Assistance Program) — Web site www.michigan.gov/dmva

Military Programs — Web site www.gibill.va.gov or call 1-888-442-4551

Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC) — Web sites www.afrotc.com, www.goarmy.com/rotc, www.nrotc.navy.mil, or www.marines.com

Education Tax Credits — Web site www.irs.gov (Publication 970) or call 1-800-829-1040

Searching for Scholarships

There are thousands of scholarships from all kinds of organizations. The scholarship search is a significant undertaking. It is never too early to begin; however, it is recommended to start applying for scholarships as early as the 10th grade and continue while in college. According to The Princeton Review, there are five things you can do to jumpstart your search:

1. Check with your prospective colleges – There is usually a separate scholarship application process.
2. Inquire with the financial aid office – They may have a scholarship that is the right fit for you.
3. Research local community groups or your parent's place of business; start by asking your counselor.
4. Search online – Useful Web sites are listed on the following page.
5. Be aware of deadlines – It is recommended that you keep a calendar and make your earliest deadline the deadline for all of your applications.

Apply early, often, and each year that you are in college. If you miss a deadline and send your application in late, your application is likely to go to the bottom of the pile. If you skip over an award because you think you would not get it, you could be missing out on an opportunity for some generous funding that you would not need to pay back.

When searching for other scholarship sources, remember the following:

- Check local sources first through your high school guidance office, local civic groups, and businesses.
- Start searching early, during your high school junior year.
- Use **free**, reputable Internet search services. Beware of scams and services requiring payment.

Useful Scholarship Web Sites:

www.michigan.gov/ssg

<https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/types/grants-scholarships>

www.collegeboard.org

www.fastweb.com

www.petersons.com

www.salliemae.com/plan-for-college/scholarships/scholarship-search/

Useful Scholarship Book Resources:

Confessions of a Scholarship Winner by Kristina Ellis

The Ultimate Scholarship Book 2017: Billions of Dollars in Scholarships, Grants and Prizes by Gen and Kelly Tanabe

Scholarship Application Tips

Helpful information on scholarship essays is available on Sallie Mae's College Answer Web site at www.collegeanswer.com. They explain that **many scholarship applications require at least one essay**. The information you give about yourself on the essay will give the scholarship committee **an insight of who you are beyond your grades**. It is your opportunity to make a strong impression. When writing your essay you should:

- Be original
- Avoid meaningless information
- Have a main point
- Clearly state why you deserve to win
- Be honest

Visit www.collegeanswer.com to see other important information about saving, planning, and paying for college. Please also visit the SSG Web site at www.michigan.gov/ssg, click on the Eligibility tab, and then Searching for Scholarships.



Beware

Do not pay to find money for college. Visit www.studentaid.gov and click on Types of Aid to find out more about scholarship scams.

Student Loan Options

Federal Direct Subsidized Loan — For undergraduate students. The federal government pays the interest while the borrower is in school, during grace, and deferment periods. The student must attend at least half time. Financial need is required. If you are a first-time borrower, there is a limit on the maximum period of time (measured in academic years) that you can receive Direct Subsidized loans. Check with your financial aid office for more details.

Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan — For undergraduate and graduate students. The borrower is responsible for all interest and the student must attend at least half time. Financial need is not required.

Federal Direct PLUS Loan — For parents of dependent undergraduate students and for graduate or professional students. The student must be enrolled at least half time. Financial need is not required. A credit check is required. If the parent is denied, the student can qualify for additional unsubsidized funds.

Private Loans — Loans can also be obtained from private sources such as a bank or financial institution. A credit check is required. Note that loans made by the federal government **usually offer borrowers lower interest rates and have more flexible repayment options** than loans from banks or other private sources. See www.studentaid.ed.gov for more information and to keep abreast of any changes.

Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)

Maintaining a good GPA, not withdrawing from classes, and not changing majors multiple times are areas monitored for SAP. SAP requirements must be based on qualitative and quantitative standards, as well as compliance with the maximum timeframe allowed for completion of a degree program. How well a student does in a class, along with the number of credit hours completed versus the number of credit hours attempted is very important and helps to determine that SAP is being met. If you fall into violation of SAP in college, you lose your financial aid.

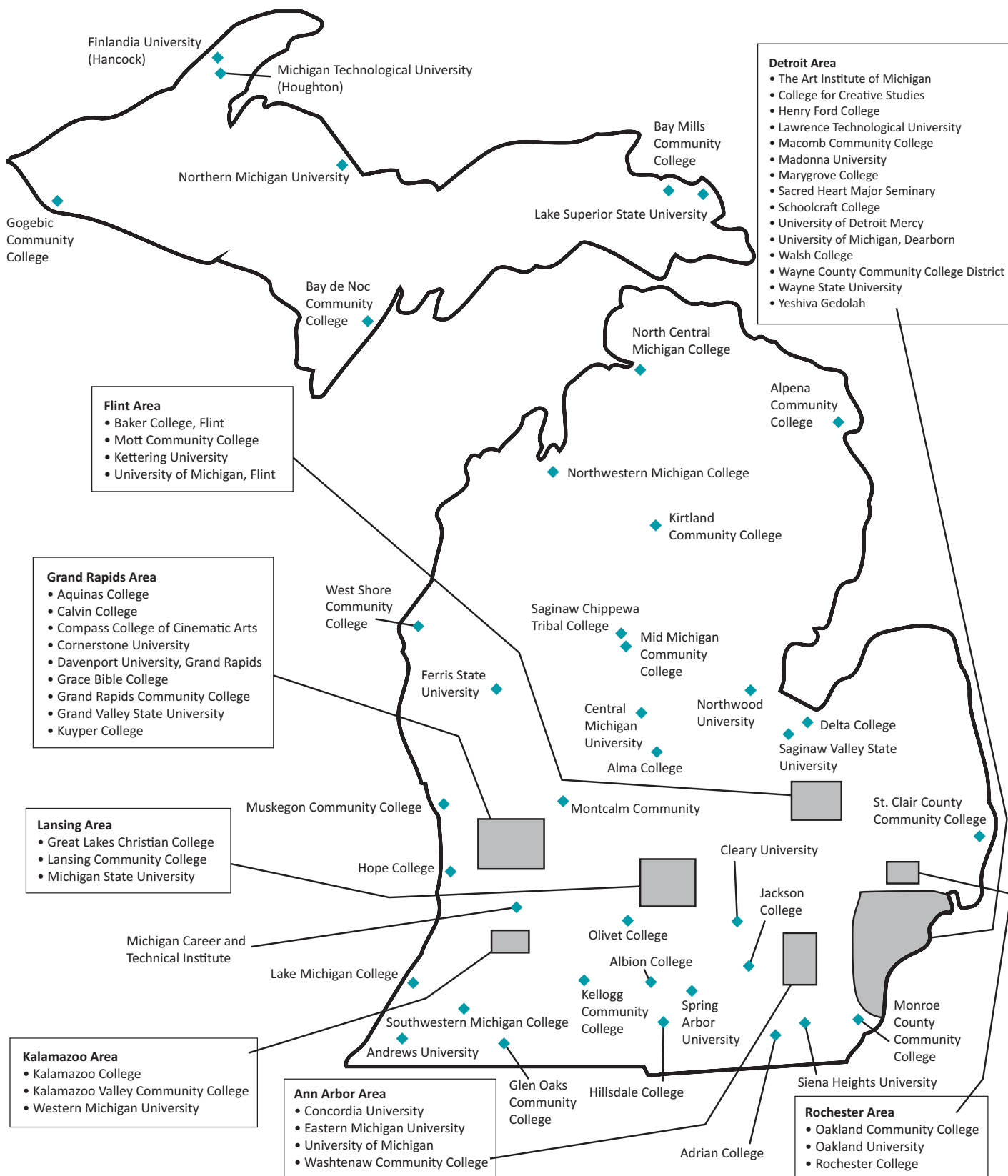
Maximum Annual and Aggregate Loan Limits

	Dependent Students (except students whose parents are unable to obtain PLUS loans)	Independent Students (and dependent undergraduate students whose parents are unable to obtain PLUS loans)
First-year Undergraduate	\$5,500 — No more than \$3,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.	\$9,500 — No more than \$3,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.
Second-year Undergraduate	\$6,500 — No more than \$4,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.	\$10,500 — No more than \$4,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.
Third-year and Beyond Undergraduate	\$7,500 per year — No more than \$5,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.	\$12,500 per year — No more than \$5,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.
Maximum Total Debt from Subsidized and Unsubsidized Loans	\$31,000 — No more than \$23,000 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.	\$57,500 for undergraduates — No more than \$23,000 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.

Beware

Don't be blind-sided. Even though students may qualify for the total maximum loan amount each year of an academic level (i.e., \$5,500/year for the first year at freshman level and \$5,500/year for the second year at freshman level), it is not recommended they borrow the full amount they qualify for if there is not an immediate need. Once the maximum total debt from loans has been reached (\$31,000 for an undergraduate dependent student), the student is no longer eligible for more student loans. Only borrow what you need to cover your remaining tuition, books, and room/board after scholarships and grants have been applied.

SECTION III: DIRECTORY OF MICHIGAN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES



Note: Some institutions may not participate in every State of Michigan program. Branch locations are not listed on this map. Contact your institution for details.

Michigan Four-year Public Universities

Institution	Web Site	Admissions
Central Michigan University	www.cmich.edu	888-292-5366
Eastern Michigan University	www.emich.edu	800-468-6368
Ferris State University	www.ferris.edu	800-433-7747
Grand Valley State University	www.gvsu.edu	800-748-0246
Lake Superior State University	www.lssu.edu	888-800-5578
Michigan State University	www.msu.edu	517-355-8332
Michigan Technological University	www.mtu.edu	888-688-1885
Northern Michigan University	www.nmu.edu	906-227-2650
Oakland University	www.oakland.edu	800-625-8648
Saginaw Valley State University	www.svsu.edu	800-968-9500
University of Michigan – Ann Arbor	www.umich.edu	734-764-7433
University of Michigan – Dearborn	https://umdearborn.edu	313-593-5100
University of Michigan – Flint	www.umflint.edu	810-762-3300
Wayne State University	www.wayne.edu	313-577-3577
Western Michigan University	www.wmich.edu	269-387-2000

Michigan Public Community Colleges

Alpena Community College	http://discover.alpenacc.edu	888-468-6222
Bay de Noc Community College	www.baycollege.edu	800-221-2001
Bay Mills Community College	www.bmcc.edu	800-844-2622 x8422
Delta College	www.delta.edu	989-686-9093
Glen Oaks Community College	www.glenoaks.edu	888-994-7818
Gogebic Community College	www.gogebic.edu	800-682-5910
Grand Rapids Community College	www.grcc.edu	616-234-3567
Henry Ford College	www.hfcc.edu	800-585-4322
Jackson College	www.jccmi.edu	517-796-8425
Kalamazoo Valley Community College	www.kvcc.edu	269-488-4100
Kellogg Community College	www.kellogg.edu	269-965-4153
Kirtland Community College	www.kirtland.edu	989-275-5000
Lake Michigan College	www.lakemichigancollege.edu	800-252-1562
Lansing Community College	www.lcc.edu	517-483-1200
Macomb Community College	www.macomb.edu	866-622-6621
Mid Michigan Community College	www.midmich.edu	989-386-6661
Monroe County Community College	www.monroeccc.edu	734-384-4135
Montcalm Community College	www.montcalm.edu	989-328-2111
Mott Community College	www.mcc.edu	810-762-0315
Muskegon Community College	www.muskegoncc.edu	866-711-4622
North Central Michigan College	www.ncmich.edu	888-298-6605
Northwestern Michigan College	www.nmc.edu	855-346-3662
Oakland Community College	www.oaklandcc.edu	248-341-2000
Schoolcraft College	www.schoolcraft.edu	734-462-4429
Southwestern Michigan College	www.swmich.edu	800-456-8675
St. Clair County Community College	www.sc4.edu	800-553-2427
Washtenaw Community College	www.wccnet.edu	734-973-3300
Wayne County Community College	www.wcccd.edu	313-496-2634
West Shore Community College	www.westshore.edu	800-848-9722

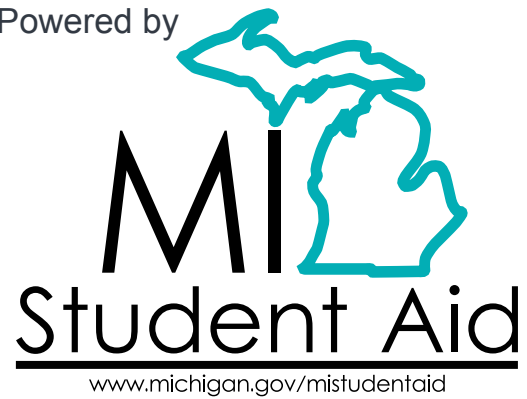
Private Colleges and Universities

Institution	Web Site	Admissions
Adrian College	www.adrian.edu	800-877-2246
Albion College	www.albion.edu	800-858-6770
Alma College	www.alma.edu	800-321-2562
Andrews University	www.andrews.edu	800-253-2874
Aquinas College	www.aquinas.edu	800-678-9593
The Art Institute of Michigan	www.artinstitutes.edu/detroit	888-624-0300
Baker College, Flint	www.baker.edu	800-964-4299
Calvin College	www.calvin.edu	800-688-0122
Cleary University	www.cleary.edu	800-686-1883
College for Creative Studies	www.collegeforcreativestudies.edu	800-952-2787
Compass College of Cinematic Arts	www.compass.edu	616-988-1000
Concordia University	www.cuaa.edu	888-282-2338
Cornerstone University	www.cornerstone.edu	616-949-5300
Davenport University	www.davenport.edu	800-686-1600
Finlandia University	www.finlandia.edu	877-202-5491
Grace Bible College	www.gbcol.edu	800-968-1887
Great Lakes Christian College	www.glcc.edu	800-937-4522
Hillsdale College	www.hillsdale.edu	517-607-2327
Hope College	www.hope.edu	800-968-7850
Kalamazoo College	www.kzoo.edu	800-253-3602
Kettering University	www.kettering.edu	800-955-4464
Kuyper College	www.kuyper.edu	616-988-3608
Lawrence Technological University	www.ltu.edu	800-225-5588
Madonna University	www.madonna.edu	800-852-4951
Marygrove College	www.marygrove.edu	866-313-1927
Northwood University	www.northwood.edu	800-622-9000
Olivet College	www.olivetcollege.edu	800-456-7189
Rochester College	www.rc.edu	800-521-6010
Sacred Heart Major Seminary	www.shms.edu	313-883-8500
Siena Heights University	www.sienaheights.edu	800-521-0009
Spring Arbor University	www.arbor.edu	800-968-0011
University of Detroit Mercy	www.udmercy.edu	800-635-5020
Walsh College of Accountancy and Business Admin.	www.walshcollege.edu	800-925-7401
Yeshiva Gedolah	N/A	248-968-3360

Special Category Schools

Tribal		
Bay Mills Community College	www.bmcc.edu	800-844-2622 x8422
Saginaw Chippewa Community College	www.sagchip.edu	989-775-4123
Specializing in Students with Disabilities		
Michigan Career and Technical Institute	www.michigan.gov/mcti	877-901-7360

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