



## Tuition Incentive Program Fact Sheet Academic Year 2008-09



Helping Students Pay for College

### Description

The Tuition Incentive Program (TIP) is an incentive program that encourages eligible students to complete high school by providing tuition assistance for the first two years of college and beyond. To meet the financial eligibility requirement, a student must have (or have had) Medicaid coverage for 24 months within a 36-consecutive-month period as identified by the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS). TIP provides assistance in two phases. Phase I covers tuition and mandatory fee charges for eligible students enrolled in an associate degree or certificate program at a participating Michigan community college, public university, degree-granting independent college, federal tribally-controlled college, or Focus: HOPE. Phase II provides a maximum of \$2,000 total tuition assistance for credits earned in a four-year program at an in-state, degree-granting college or university.

### Application

Students are identified by DHS as having met the Medicaid eligibility requirement. Students may be identified as TIP eligible as early as sixth grade, typically age 12 or after. After being identified, the Office of Scholarships and Grants (OSG) will send the student an acceptance form. The student must then complete the acceptance form and return it to OSG **before** graduation from high school or GED completion<sup>1</sup> **and before** their 20<sup>th</sup> birthday to activate financial eligibility for the program. The student will then receive an "eligibility letter" from OSG. **The student is responsible for notifying OSG of a change in their college choice.**

NOTE: Identified students are encouraged to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) even though it is not necessary for establishing TIP eligibility. By filing the FAFSA, students will be considered for other federal and state financial aid programs and, if eligible, can use those additional funds to cover other educational expenses such as books, supplies, transportation, or room and board. The FAFSA can be filed online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov) or students can receive a paper form by calling 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243).

### Program Limits, Phase I:

Students must begin using TIP by enrolling at a participating college (see page 3) within four years of high school graduation. Eligibility ends within ten years of high school graduation or GED completion.

Phase I covers the cost of tuition at the current in-district rate at participating Michigan community colleges (see page 3). For persons not residing in a community college district, the out-of-district rate may be authorized. Tuition at the lower level resident rate is covered at **participating** Michigan public universities. The amount that can be received at participating degree-granting independent colleges, federal tribally-controlled colleges, or Focus: HOPE is \$84<sup>2</sup> per credit hour.

Mandatory fees cannot exceed \$250 per semester or term and are defined as "only those fees that are charged to all students as a requirement for enrollment at the institution." Student activity fees and registration fees are considered mandatory fees. No college admissions, online or course-specific fees will be covered.

Not all colleges and universities offer associate degree programs (see page 3). If the college or university does not offer two-year associate degree or certificate programs, the student will not receive TIP assistance for the first two years.

TIP benefits cannot exceed 80 semester or 120 term credits (24 semester or 36 term credits per academic year). Contact hours<sup>3</sup> are not eligible for payment reimbursement.

<sup>1</sup> A student has until August 31 of the academic year in which his/her class graduates.

<sup>2</sup> Amount changes each academic year.

<sup>3</sup> Contact hours are required hours spent engaged in non-classroom practical experience learning to supplement a class.

## Tuition Incentive Program Fact Sheet (Continued)

### **Program Limits, *Phase II*:**

Phase II provides tuition and mandatory fee assistance not to exceed \$500 per semester or \$400 per term up to a maximum of \$2,000 for credits earned in a four-year program at a Michigan degree-granting college or university. Phase II must be completed within 30 months of completion of Phase I requirements. Students can receive Phase II benefits without having received Phase I benefits. To receive Phase II benefits, the student must demonstrate the eligibility criteria for Phase I and have one of the following:

- 56 transferable semester or 84 transferable term credits
- An associate degree or certificate

### **Eligibility for both Phase I and Phase II**

- Provide evidence of eligibility, i.e., submit a copy of the “eligibility letter” to the financial aid office of the college
- Obtain a high school diploma or GED certificate prior to age 20
- Be enrolled at least half time in a program earning less than 80 semester or 120 term credits
- Be a Michigan resident as determined by institutional criteria
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- Meet the institution’s satisfactory academic progress (SAP) policy

### **For More Information**

Visit [www.michigan.gov/osg](http://www.michigan.gov/osg). Contact the Tuition Incentive Program, Office of Scholarships and Grants, at the toll-free number 1-888-4-GRANTS (1-888-447-2687) or e-mail [osg@michigan.gov](mailto:osg@michigan.gov).

## Tuition Incentive Program Fact Sheet (Continued)

### Participating Institutions

See the list below and note which institutions are Phase II ONLY prior to enrollment.

#### Community Colleges

**Eligible charges include current in-district tuition and mandatory fees. For persons residing in an area that is not included in any community college district, the out-of-district tuition rate may be authorized.**

##### *Phase I ONLY*

Alpena Community College Bay de Noc Community College Bay Mills Community College Delta College Glen Oaks Community College Gogebic Community College Grand Rapids Community College Henry Ford Community College Jackson Community College Kalamazoo Valley Community College Kellogg Community College Kirtland Community College Lake Michigan College Lansing Community College Macomb Community College	Mid Michigan Community College Monroe County Community College Montcalm Community College Mott Community College Muskegon Community College North Central Michigan College Northwestern Michigan College Oakland Community College Saint Clair County Community College Schoolcraft College Southwestern Michigan College Washtenaw Community College Wayne County Community College West Shore Community College
--	--

#### Public Universities

**Eligible charges include lower level resident tuition and mandatory fees for the current year. Reminder: The student must be enrolled in an associate degree program to be eligible for TIP Phase I benefits.**

##### *Phase I and Phase II*

Ferris State University Lake Superior State University Michigan State University ( <i>Will pay Phase I benefits only for Institute of Agriculture Technology certificate programs.</i> )	Michigan Technological University Northern Michigan University
--	---

##### *Phase II ONLY*

Central Michigan University Eastern Michigan University Grand Valley State University Oakland University Saginaw Valley State University	University of Michigan - Ann Arbor University of Michigan - Dearborn University of Michigan - Flint Wayne State University Western Michigan University
--	--

#### Independent, Colleges and Universities

**Eligible charges include mandatory fees for the current year and a per credit payment that does not exceed the average community college in-district per credit tuition rate. Reminder: The student must be enrolled in an associate degree program to be eligible for TIP Phase I benefits.**

##### *Phase I and Phase II*

Adrian College Aquinas College Baker College Cleary University Concordia University Cornerstone University Davenport University Finlandia University Grace Bible College Great Lakes Christian College	Kuyper College Lawrence Technological University Madonna University Marygrove College Michigan Jewish Institute Northwood University Rochester College Siena Heights University Spring Arbor University
---	---

##### *Phase II ONLY*

Albion College Alma College Andrews University Calvin College College for Creative Studies	Hope College Olivet College Robert B. Miller College University of Detroit Mercy Walsh College
--	--

#### Other Institutions

##### *Phase I ONLY*

Focus: HOPE  
 Michigan federal tribally-controlled community college