



for High School Counselors

Student Scholarships and Grants Division
Bureau of State and Authority Finance
Michigan Department of Treasury

DECEMBER 2012 NEWSLETTER

This Issue

High School Counselor Webcast	P. 1
Dual Enrollment, MI College Goal, and MISO	P. 2
Postsecondary Handbook , TIP and 2012-13 Financial Aid PowerPoint	P. 3
Non-need Based Aid	P. 4
Federal Student Loans	P. 5
FAQs and SSG Contact Information	P. 6

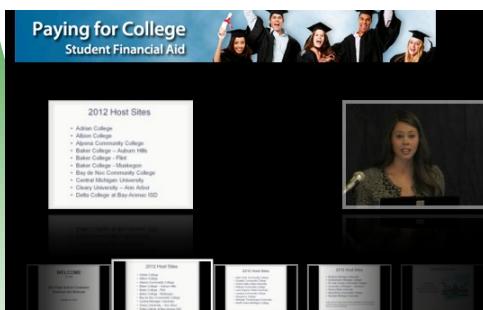
High School Counselor Webcast

About 700 counselors viewed the Webcast at 26 sites around Michigan. Many took advantage of the State Board Continuing Education Units (SB-CEU) that were offered. We would like to thank everyone for completing the surveys.

Many of those in attendance completed their evaluation forms and we received a great deal of positive feedback. Thank you. We also received very constructive feedback on ways to improve this Webcast in the future. Our goal is to ensure that this Webcast meets your needs and provides you with the information and resources you need to help your families. Based on your comments, we will be making some key changes to next year's format and content. You will not want to miss the 2013 High School Counselor Webcast. Stay tuned...!



The recorded version of the Webcast, PowerPoint presentation, resource materials, as well as the questions and answers sessions are posted at www.michigan.gov/ssg under the *Planning for College* tab.



To view the entire Webcast, log on at:
www.michigan.gov/ssg or click on the
Paying for College graphic.

www.michigan.gov/ssg





Dual Enrollment



Deputy Superintendent Vaughn's memo explains that non-public high school students bills are sent to the Michigan Department of Education (MDE). The MDE calculates the payment amount and then forwards it to Treasury/Student Scholarships and Grants (SSG). SSG reimburses the college for the approved amount.

A frequently asked question is: "*What about home schooled students?*"?

The answer: Home schooled students are still allowed to enroll and be counted (for school aid) in a public school in "non-essential elective" classes. Home schooled students can concurrently enroll in one or more non-essential elective class at a public school and also dual enroll through the public school and have their courses paid by the school aid received by the public school.

Treasury is not involved with payments for home schooled students. Essentially dual enrolled home schooled students are billed the same as public school students.

If you have any questions, MDE has indicated that you should contact:

Brian Barber
barberb2@michigan.gov
517-335-3005



Michigan College Goal Sunday 2013

Michigan College Goal 2013 is scheduled for Sunday, February 10, 2013, between 2:00-4:00 pm. Financial aid experts will be available to help graduating seniors and parents complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). More than 30 locations are available in Michigan. This link has more information about [MI College Goal 2013](#).

Go to www.MICollegeGoal.org for more dates and more locations with FAFSA activities. **SSG will include a copy of the flyer in the Tuition Incentive Program (TIP) letter that will be sent to graduating seniors in January 2013.**

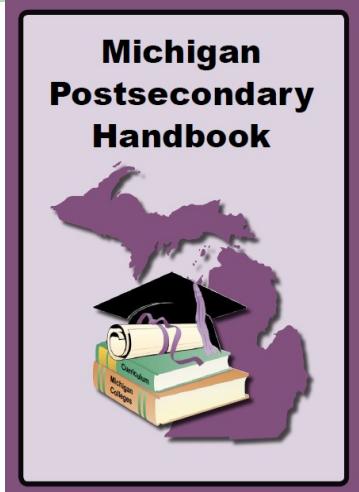
Michigan Competitive Scholarship

In mid December, SSG will send each high school a list of students who qualified on the ACT exam for MCS. The list includes those students who tested through fall; it will not have the names of students who test in December. With this list, we will send you a sample letter to send home to parents. The letter explains that the student needs to provide their **Social Security number** to SSG in order to match their ACT test record to their FAFSA data. Eligible students without a Social Security match will not be awarded.

We are asking for your help to let parents know about the need for Social Security numbers as the State of Michigan can no longer mail notification to the statewide qualified population.

Michigan Postsecondary Handbook

The Michigan Postsecondary Handbook is available online and has been updated with current profile and program information from our Michigan postsecondary institutions. We no longer print a paper copy of the handbook; however, a PDF version is available if you would like to make a copy for yourself. For those of you with the original index dividers for the handbook, you will find the handbook in PDF format by chapter. For those who wish to print a complete book, you have that choice as well. **NOTE: The PDF files “by chapter” are formatted to print on a duplex printer with some pages intentionally left blank for printing two-sided. The complete handbook in PDF format has no blank pages.** Please visit www.michigan.gov/ssg and find a quick link to the handbook under *Featured Resources* on the right side of the page.



Item of Interest - Cross Reference Index

- The Cross Reference Index is a chapter in the handbook that reports academic programs for Michigan colleges and universities. It includes the college names so the user can see at a glance which colleges offer certain programs of study.
- The names of programs differ between colleges so the cross reference index provides numerical classifications to categorize the programs. This way, no matter what the college calls their program, it will be categorized with the same programs with different names from other colleges and universities.
- The instructions for using the Cross Reference Index are included at the beginning of the Cross Reference Index chapter.

For questions regarding the Michigan Postsecondary Handbook, please contact Patty Hill at 517-373-6051 or hillp@michigan.gov.

General Financial Aid Presentation

An updated Financial Aid PowerPoint presentation is available to counselors to assist them with their presentations to parents and students. It includes information on Federal and State financial aid programs, as well as the Michigan Education and Training Voucher Program, Resources for Youth in Foster Care, and the MET and MESP Programs through the State of Michigan.

This presentation is provided by the Michigan Department of Treasury, Student Scholarships and Grants Division. The presentation can be found on our Web site at www.michigan.gov/ssg. Click on the *Planning for College* tab and then on the *High School Counselor Resources* link.

Student Financial Aid Update

2013 – 14
school year

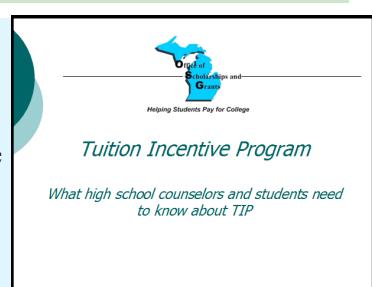


TIP PowerPoint Presentation

SSG has prepared a special PowerPoint presentation just for counselors. The TIP PowerPoint can be used at a financial aid night, with a class of seniors, or in a one-on-one counseling. The following information is provided in the presentation:

- Eligibility criteria
- Senior notification
- Timelines
- Phase I and II payment information and more.

If you would like a copy of the presentation, visit our Web site at www.michigan.gov/ssg and click on the *TIP PowerPoint Presentation* at the bottom of the page to download a copy.



Finding Non-need Assistance for College



Although going to college is an investment you are making in your future, it can be costly, especially if you are not eligible for "need-based" aid. However, there are options available. First, you must know what is available and how to start searching for financial assistance.

SSG has prepared a useful booklet—***Paying for College in Michigan***—which gives a total overview of various ways to pay for college. The main sources of financial assistance is the federal government, state government, institutions, and private sources. To begin searching for financial aid—need and non-need based—you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). More information on the FAFSA can be found at www.fafsa.gov.

The *Paying for College* booklet provides options that are available to those who may choose a specific career, or be a part of a special group (i.e., children of veterans, children/spouse of Iraq or Afghanistan, students pursuing a teaching degree). Information from this booklet can be shared with a group or during an individual counseling session. A copy can be obtained by visiting www.michigan.gov/ssg under *Planning for College*.

For additional information about this booklet, contact Patty Hill at 517-373-6051 or hillp@michigan.gov.

Paying for College in Michigan 2012-13

You know 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.

Whether college is many years away or you are going to be enrolling soon, this guide can help you get connected to many different sources of help.

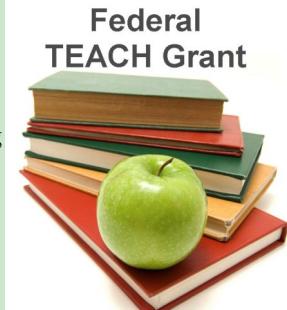
Information is power! Information can help you pay for college in Michigan!



Federal TEACH Grant

The TEACH Grant Program provides grants of up to \$4,000 a year to students who are completing or plan to complete course work needed to begin a career in teaching. As a condition for receiving a TEACH Grant, you must sign a TEACH Grant Agreement to Serve in which you agree to (among other requirements) teach:

- in a high-need field,
- at an elementary school, secondary school, or educational service agency that serves students from low-income families,
- for at least four complete academic years within eight years after completing (or ceasing enrollment in) the course of study for which you received the grant.



IMPORTANT: If you do not complete your service obligation, all TEACH Grant funds you received will be converted to a Direct Unsubsidized Loan. You must then repay this loan to the U.S. Department of Education, with interest charged from the date the TEACH Grant was disbursed (paid to you or on your behalf).

For more information about the TEACH Grant, use the following link: <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sites/default/files/teach-grant.pdf>.

Scholarship Search

Too often students and parents forget to search for scholarships. Various organizations, foundations, businesses, and civic groups offer scholarships each year. However, you must begin your search early, specifically during the high school junior year. SSG's Web site offers tips on how to search for scholarships along with several Internet options. The ***Paying for College--Student Resource Guide*** is also a good resource when searching for scholarships. Visit us at: www.michigan.gov/ssg and click on *Eligibility/Scholarship Search Web sites*.

Putting forth the effort to search for scholarships will pay off in the long run.

Paying for College Student Resource Guide
(Includes scholarships, internships, fellowships, resource books, and websites)

U.S. Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard
Congressional District 34-California



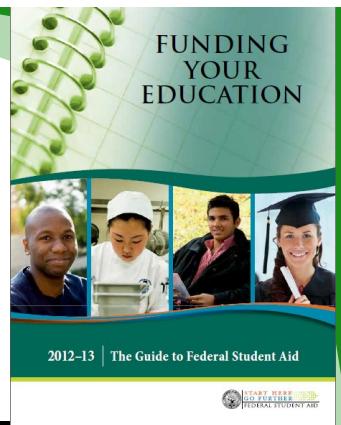
Paying for College is provided by Congressman Lucille Roybal-Allard's Office. This is a self-help guide. Content of the 2012-2013 edition may impact financial aid to students. Please check with each scholarship contact for their most current information.

[Last updated on July 2012]

Federal Student Loans

If students decide to take out a loan, they should understand who is making the loan and the terms and conditions of the loan. Student loans can come from the federal government or from private sources such as a bank or financial institution. Loans made by the federal government, called **federal student loans**, usually offer borrowers lower interest rates and have more flexible repayment options than loans from banks or other private sources. Additional information is available at this link:

<http://studentaid.ed.gov/sites/default/files/2012-13-funding-your-education.pdf>



Federal Student Loan Type	Overview
Direct Subsidized Loans are loans made to eligible undergraduate students who demonstrate financial need to help cover the costs of higher education at a college or career school.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Available to undergraduate students with financial need.The college determines the amount student can borrow.<ul style="list-style-type: none">The U.S. Department of Education pays the interest while a student is in school at least half-time, for the first six months after leaving school*, and during a period of deferment. <p>*If the student receives a Direct Subsidized Loan that is first disbursed between July 1, 2012, and July 1, 2014, they will be responsible for paying any interest that accrues during the grace period. If they choose not to pay the interest that accrues during the grace period, the interest will be added to the principal balance.</p>
Direct Unsubsidized Loans are loans made to eligible undergraduate, graduate, and professional students, but in this case, the student does not have to demonstrate financial need to be eligible for the loan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Available to undergraduate and graduate students; not based on financial need.The college determines the amount student can borrow.The Student is responsible for paying the interest during all periods.If the student chooses not to pay the interest, the interest will accrue (accumulate) and be capitalized (added to the principal).
Direct PLUS Loans are loans made to parents of dependent undergraduate students to help pay for education expenses not covered by other financial aid.	

Maximum Annual and Total Loan Limits as of July 1, 2012

Year	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.

Note: Students may qualify for the total maximum loan amount each year if they have not completed their first year. For example, a First-year Undergraduate for more than one year. In this example, the student would be eligible to receive a total of \$11,000 (two years of \$5,500). If a student took two years to complete their freshman, sophomore, and junior grade levels, and they accepted the total maximum loan amount each of these years, they would reach the \$31,000 Maximum Total Debt before they reach their senior status, and therefore would no longer be eligible for any more federal student loans.

Frequently Asked Questions

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

We compiled some frequently asked questions that we received from parents and students. If there are questions you would like to include in this section, please send them to our email at ssg@michigan.gov.

1. What are the eligibility requirements for the TIP program?

Answer: Students must have (or have had) Medicaid coverage for 24 months within a 36-consecutive month prior to the date of the student's 12th birthday and go forward until high school graduation. Students must graduate high school, or obtain their GED, before turning 20 years of age. Students must also apply for TIP before August 31 of the year they graduate high school (or obtain their GED) in order to meet eligibility requirements.

2. Can I use the TIP program out of state?

Answer: No. State program funds are only available for use at degree-granting colleges and universities in the state of Michigan.

3. When do TIP payments go out?

Answer: Per legislation, payments are sent to colleges and universities quarterly. Payments were made at the end of November 2012 for the first quarter. The next payment is scheduled for February 2013.

4. Does SSG have materials available in Spanish? Is there a Spanish interpreter?

Answer: Currently SSG does not have information available in Spanish, nor do we have a Spanish interpreter. Students must call our office with an interpreter on the line in order for us to assist them.

CONTACT SSG

We would like to send you newsletters on a quarterly basis. The newsletter will contain information on the following:

- Financial Aid Workshops
- Financial Aid Counseling Tools
- Financial Aid Deadlines
- Program Facts, etc.

Please forward your school email address to Stacy Cardwell at cardwells@michigan.gov (not your personal email) and we will add you to our email listserv for quarterly updates.

If any other staff members or colleagues would like to receive a copy of our newsletter, please contact:

Stacy Cardwell
cardwells@michigan.gov
517-373-6074

You can always contact us toll-free at:

1-888-447-2687

Or send an email to

ssg@michigan.gov

Visit our Web site at

www.michigan.gov/ssg



SSG
Student Scholarships
and Grants

Michigan Department of Treasury
Bureau of State and Authority Finance

