



Winter/Spring 2015 Fostering Futures Application

The [Fostering Futures Scholarship](#) provides eligible foster youth with scholarship funds for tuition, fees, room/board, books, and supplies/equipment required for enrollment. This scholarship is available to students on a first come, first served basis. Please complete the [Fostering Futures Scholarship Application](#) and submit it along with the required documentation, to Student Scholarships and Grants as indicated on the form. The deadline for submitting the application is December 31, 2014.

Attention High School Counselors: Michigan Competitive Scholarship

During the first week of December, you will be receiving a roster of all students at your school with composite ACT scores of 23 or above without a matching Social Security Number (SSN). In order for SSG to match ACT records with the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) records, we MUST have the SSN, otherwise eligibility cannot be determined for the Michigan Competitive Scholarship (MCS). You will be sent a separate roster in early Spring listing those students eligible to receive an MCS certificate. In order to actually receive an MCS monetary award, the student must also meet additional requirements including

SSG e-Newsletter: Affording College in Michigan | November 2014

Quick Links

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Michigan Postsecondary Handbook

Content has been added to the online version of the [Michigan Postsecondary Handbook](#). The "Support Services" section includes college access information for and about: Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver, Foster Care, Homeless, Military and Veterans, Reserve Officer Training Corp, and Undocumented youth.



Today's Technology. Tomorrow's Innovations. Your Future. Apply Today for MAT2

Entering today's high-tech job market is difficult. As a high school or college graduate, students are often at a disadvantage, competing with more experienced professionals. But with the Michigan Advanced Technician Training (MAT2) program, students are hired on the first day.

MAT2 matches career goals with the needs of industry partners to produce a pipeline of educated and highly qualified technical employees. During the three-year program, students alternate between classroom training at a community college and on-the-job training with

demonstrating financial need.

Please contact Marion Seelman at seelmanm@michigan.gov or 517-241-3106 if you have questions.

For Financial Aid Professionals: Citizenship Reminder

The citizenship of all students must be verified by the college as stated in the SSG [State Programs Procedures Manual](#). As stated in the manual, a college must verify citizenship and the student must be a U.S. citizen, a U.S. national, or a U.S. permanent resident who has a Permanent Resident card (I-551) or Conditional Permanent Resident (I-551C) or must hold an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security showing one of the following designations: "Refugee," "Asylum Granted," "Indefinite Parolee," and/or "Humanitarian Parole," "Cuban-Haitian Entrant, Status Pending," or "Conditional Entrant" (valid only if issued before April 1, 1980).

SSG does not verify Michigan residency or U.S. citizenship.

First Lady Michelle Obama Announces Reach Higher Challenges

The "Reach Higher Initiative" is the First Lady's effort to inspire all students in America to take charge of their future by completing their education beyond high school, whether at a professional training program, a community college, or a four-year college or university. In today's economy, a high school diploma isn't enough. Students have to "reach higher," which is why the First Lady is working to rally the country around the President's "North Star" goal — that by 2020, America will once again have the highest proportion of college graduates in the world.

The First Lady's ["FAFSA Completion](#)

an employer, gaining hands-on, marketable skills. MAT2 provides students with:

- College tuition paid for by an employer
- On-the-job training with pay
- An associate degree in a high-tech, in-demand field
- A job upon successful completion of the program

For parents, this is an opportunity for their children to achieve a well-paying manufacturing or technology career without the worry of tuition or a never-ending spiral of student loan debt.

Applications are now open for the 2015 MAT2 program, which will begin next fall. Possible career paths for MAT2 students include Mechatronics Technician, IT Technician, Technical Product Design Technician, and CNC Manufacturing Technician.

For more information, and to learn how to apply, please visit www.mitalent.org/mat2. For questions, please contact MAT2@michigan.org.

Calendar of Events

Outreach staff will be at these upcoming events. If you have questions about these events (including times, specific locations, topics covered, etc.), please contact Shannon Price at prices4@michigan.gov.

- Saturday, November 22: Aquinas College/Jump Shot West
- Tuesday, December 2: Schoolcraft College
- Monday, December 8: Eaton Rapids High School
- Wednesday, December 10: Jump\$tart Educators Conference
- Wednesday, December 17: Detroit International Academy for Young Women

SSG Office Closings

Our offices will be closed November 27, 28, December 24, 25, 31, and January 1.

Have a safe and happy holiday season!

[Challenge](#)” video urges high schools to increase FAFSA completion rates among their seniors.

“Through FAFSA, the Department of Education provides more than \$150 billion each year in loans, grants, and work-study programs that can help you and your family pay for college. That’s why I’m calling on every high school senior in America to complete their FAFSA form starting on January 1st. And I want students, teachers, school counselors, and administrators to show me how your school is taking action to get more students to fill out their forms this year. So fill out your FAFSA, make a video, and share it online.” - Michelle Obama



Michigan Department of Treasury
Student Scholarships and Grants
Contact us at: ssg@michigan.gov