

Michigan Achievement Scholarship Packaging

Public Act 120 of 2024



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How to Use This Guide

This guide includes eligibility information for students enrolling at a Community College, Tribal College, Four-year Public or Four-year Private College or University. Please navigate to the appropriate section to review eligibility and awarding criteria for your work. This information is based on the most recent 2024-25 State Budget and information is subject to change.

Community College Guarantee

Eligibility

To be considered for a Michigan Achievement Scholarship Award, a student must:

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Be a Michigan resident since July 1 of the previous calendar year.
 - If a dependent student, the contributor(s) on the FAFSA must also be a Michigan resident.
 - This will be confirmed based on the FAFSA.
- Be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or approved refugee.
- Graduate from high school in Michigan with a diploma or a certificate of completion or achieved a high school equivalency certificate in 2023 or after.
- Enroll full-time as defined by the eligible institution.
 - Eligible institutions include Michigan Community Colleges and Tribal Colleges.
- Be an undergraduate student.
- Enroll at an eligible institution within 15 months of high school graduation or earning a high school equivalency certificate.
- Students are not eligible if they are in default on a federal student loan.
- Meet the institution's Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) policy.
- Students may be eligible to receive the Michigan Achievement Scholarship for up to five consecutive years total, with no more than three years at a Michigan Community College and Tribal College.
 - Students enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program at a Michigan Community College may be eligible to receive the Michigan Achievement Scholarship for up to five consecutive years.

Michigan Achievement Scholarship

The State of Michigan's flagship financial aid program — including the new Community College Guarantee — at a glance.

Four-year Public or Private Colleges and Universities

Beginning fall 2024, students from the class of 2023 or after may apply the Michigan Achievement Scholarship to their Cost of Attendance.

Students enrolling at a four-year private college or university are now eligible for up to \$5,500 per year — an increase from the previous \$4,000 award.

Up to \$5,500 per year toward cost of attendance

Eligibility Requirements

- File a FAFSA
- Have a Student Aid Index (SAI) of \$30K or lower
- Be a Michigan resident since July 1 of the previous calendar year
- Earn a high school diploma or high school equivalency in 2023 or later
- Enroll full-time at an eligible Michigan institution within 15 months of completing high school

Class of 2023 spring graduates must enroll by fall 2024
Class of 2024 spring graduates must enroll by fall 2025

Community College Guarantee

Beginning fall 2024, the Community College Guarantee gives every high school graduate an opportunity to earn a tuition-free associate degree or certificate from an in-district community or tribal college.*

There is no financial need (Student Aid Index) requirement for this pathway.

Covers in-district tuition, contact hours, and mandatory fees

Additional \$1,000 bonus award for Pell-eligible students, which can be used toward other college costs

Eligibility Requirements

- File a FAFSA
- Be a Michigan resident since July 1 of the previous calendar year
- Earn a high school diploma or high school equivalency in 2023 or later
- Enroll full-time at an eligible Michigan institution within 15 months of completing high school

Class of 2023 spring graduates must enroll by fall 2024
Class of 2024 spring graduates must enroll by fall 2025

**For out-of-district students, the Community College Guarantee may never exceed the cost of in-district tuition, contact hours, and mandatory fees.*



Renewable:

Up to five consecutive years total, with no more than three years at a community or tribal college.

Learn more at mi.gov/achievement

Learn about other Michigan scholarships, financial aid programs, and resources at michigan.gov/mistudentaid

Award Amount

Qualifying students may be eligible for:

- Up to the cost of In-District tuition if they attend a Michigan Community College or Tribal College, each year for up to 3 years.
 - For Out-of-District students, the Community College Guarantee Last-dollar amount may never exceed the student's actual In-District tuition, contact hours and mandatory fees.
- \$1,000 Michigan Achievement Bonus award for students eligible for a Federal Pell Grant.

Definitions

“Community College Guarantee Last-dollar Award” must be applied towards In-District tuition, contact hours, and mandatory fees.

“Community College Guarantee Last-dollar payment amount” for a student attending a Community College or Tribal College means an amount equal to the In-District tuition, contact hours and the student's mandatory fees for each student's actual program of study*, minus all gift aid received by the student.

*Actual program of study as it pertains to Community College Guarantee Last-dollar payment amount, refers to the actual cost of courses incurred by the student and does not limit the courses that can be paid for. Courses outside of the student's degree program may count towards both the enrollment requirement and may be paid by the Community College Guarantee Last-dollar Award.

“Michigan Achievement Bonus” Students receiving the Michigan Achievement Scholarship at the Community College or Tribal College who are eligible for Federal Pell Grants shall also receive an additional award of \$1,000.

“Mandatory fees” must be fees specified in the institution's course catalog as a condition of enrollment and/or required for the student's completion of an eligible certificate or degree (such as online fees and lab fees required for course enrollment).

“Cost of Attendance” all awards must fit within the student's individual cost of attendance.

“Gift aid” includes:

- Federal Pell Grants under 20 USC 1070a,
- Tuition Incentive Program benefits under Public Act 120 of 2024, Section 256,
- State tuition grants under Public Act 120 of 2024, Section 252,
- Michigan Achievement Scholarship Minimum Awards,
- Higher education expenses paid under the Michigan Promise Zone Authority Act, Public Act 549 of 2008, MCL 390.1661 to 390.1679, and,
- All other federal, state, local/outside, or institutional aid in the form of grants, scholarships, discounts restricted to tuition and mandatory fees.

“Gift aid” does not include:

- Other non-tuition specific state aid,
- Other non-tuition specific institutional aid,
- Other non-tuition specific local/outside aid,
- Student loans,
- Work-study awards,
- Qualified withdrawals made from education savings accounts to pay higher education expenses pursuant to the Michigan Education Savings Program Act, 2000 Public Act 161 of 2000, MCL 390.1471 to 390.1486,
- Higher education expenses paid under the Michigan education trust program pursuant to the Michigan Education Trust Act, 1986 Public Act 316 of 1986, MCL 390.1421 to 390.1442, and,
- VA benefits.

Semester Maximums

Community College Guarantee Last-dollar Award

- There is no maximum dollar amount for the Community College Guarantee Last-dollar Award.
 - Students may receive Community College Guarantee Last-dollar Award for every semester they meet eligibility requirements.

Michigan Achievement Bonus

- Community College/Tribal College
 - Fall \$500
 - Spring \$500
 - Summer (\$500 Limited to two semesters per academic year and a maximum of \$1,000)

Michigan Achievement Scholarship at Michigan Four-year Public or Private Colleges and Universities

Eligibility

To be considered for a Michigan Achievement Scholarship Award, a student must:

- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Demonstrate financial need when they complete the FAFSA— for Academic Year 2024-25, by having a [Student Aid Index \(SAI\)](#) of \$30,000 or less.
 - Students who **received** the Michigan Achievement Scholarship in Academic Year 2023-24, and have completed a 2024-25 FAFSA, shall be considered meeting the financial need component of the Michigan Achievement Scholarship for Academic Year 2024-25 regardless of their SAI. Received is defined as:
 - A student receiving payment of Michigan Achievement Scholarship, or
 - A student who met all eligibility criteria and was certified as exceeds Cost of Attendance (COA).
- Be a Michigan resident since July 1 of the previous calendar year.
 - If a dependent student, parent(s) must also be a Michigan resident since July 1 of the previous calendar year.
- Be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or approved refugee.

- Graduate from high school in Michigan with a diploma or a certificate of completion or achieved a high school equivalency certificate in 2023 or after.
- Enroll full-time as defined by the eligible institution.
 - Eligible institutions include Public or Private Colleges or Universities or students enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program at a Michigan Community College.
- Be an undergraduate student.
- Enroll at an eligible institution within 15 months of high school graduation or earning a high school equivalency certificate.
- Students are not eligible if they are in default on a federal student loan.
- Meet the institution’s Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) policy.
- Students may be eligible to receive the Michigan Achievement Scholarship for up to five consecutive years total, with no more than three years at a Michigan Community College and Tribal College.
 - Students enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program at a Michigan Community College may be eligible to receive the Michigan Achievement Scholarship for up to five consecutive years.

Award Amount

Qualifying students may be eligible for:

- Up to \$5,500 if they attend a Michigan public university, Private College or University or are enrolled in a baccalaureate degree program at a Michigan Community College, per year
 - \$2,500 Michigan Achievement Scholarship Minimum Award
 - \$3,000 Michigan Achievement Scholarship Last-dollar Award

Semester Maximums

Michigan Achievement Scholarship Minimum Award

- Michigan Public University, Private College or University, or Baccalaureate Degree Program at a Michigan Community College
 - Fall \$1,250
 - Spring \$1,250
 - Summer (\$1,250 Limited to two semesters per academic year and a maximum of \$2,500)

* For term schools, Fall \$834, Winter \$833, Spring \$833, and Summer (\$833 Limited to three terms per academic year and a maximum of \$2,500).

Michigan Achievement Scholarship Last-dollar Award

- Michigan Public University, Private College or University, or Baccalaureate Degree Program at a Michigan Community College
 - Fall \$1,500
 - Spring \$1,500
 - Summer (\$1,500 Limited to two semesters per academic year and a maximum of \$3,000)

* For term schools, Fall \$1,000, Winter \$1,000, Spring \$1,000, and Summer (\$1,000 Limited to three terms per academic year and a maximum of \$3,000).

Definitions

“Michigan Achievement Scholarship Minimum Award” all eligible participants will receive a minimum award up to their Cost of Attendance (COA).

“Michigan Achievement Scholarship Last-dollar Award” must be applied towards tuition, contact hours, mandatory fees, and other costs up to the student’s cost of attendance.

“Last-dollar payment amount” for a student attending a Public or Private University or College, means an amount equal to the student’s individual cost of attendance, minus all gift aid received by the student.

“Mandatory fees” must be fees specified in the institution’s course catalog as a condition of enrollment and/or required for the student’s completion of an eligible certificate or degree (such as online fees and lab fees required for course enrollment).

“Cost of Attendance” all awards must fit within the student’s individual cost of attendance.

“Gift aid” includes:

- Federal Pell Grants under 20 USC 1070a,
- Tuition Incentive Program benefits under Public Act 120 of 2024, Section 256,
- State tuition grants under Public Act 120 of 2024, Section 252,
- Michigan Achievement Scholarship Minimum Awards,
- Higher education expenses paid under the Michigan Promise Zone Authority Act, Public Act 549 of 2008, MCL 390.1661 to 390.1679, and,
- All other federal, state, local/outside, or institutional aid in the form of grants, scholarships, discounts restricted to tuition and mandatory fees.

“Gift aid” does not include:

- Other non-tuition specific state aid,
- Other non-tuition specific institutional aid,
- Other non-tuition specific local/outside aid,
- Student loans,
- Work-study awards,
- Qualified withdrawals made from education savings accounts to pay higher education expenses pursuant to the Michigan Education Savings Program Act, 2000 Public Act 161 of 2000, MCL 390.1471 to 390.1486,
- Higher education expenses paid under the Michigan education trust program pursuant to the Michigan Education Trust Act, 1986 Public Act 316 of 1986, MCL 390.1421 to 390.1442, and,
- VA benefits.

Michigan Achievement Scholarship Packaging Order

The packaging order is:

1. All federal, state, local/outside (including Kalamazoo Promise), or institutional aid in the form of grants, scholarships, discounts restricted to tuition and mandatory fees. For institutional free tuition/fee guarantee/pledge programs, see [reference below](#).
2. Police Officer's and Firefighter's Survivor Tuition Grant (STG)
3. Children of Veterans Tuition Grant (CVTG)
4. Michigan Tuition Grant (MTG)
5. Futures for Frontliners (F4F)
6. Tuition Incentive Program (TIP)
7. Michigan Reconnect (Reconnect)*
8. Fostering Futures Scholarship (FFS)
 - a. Include only the tuition/fee portion.
9. Michigan Future Educator Fellowship (MI Fellowship)
10. Federal Pell Grant (Pell)
11. Promise Zone Scholarship**
12. Michigan Achievement Scholarship Minimum Award***
13. Michigan Achievement Scholarship Last-dollar Award***
14. Community College Guarantee Last-dollar Award****
15. Michigan Achievement Bonus

Michigan GEAR UP (MI GEAR UP) is not tuition specific and does not need to be included in last dollar award calculations for Michigan Achievement Scholarship.

*Pell must be applied first per [Reconnect](#) program rules provided in their respective handbook published by Sixty by 30 within MiLEAP.

**Michigan Promise Zone awards restricted to tuition and fees only.

*****Effective 2024-25, students are eligible for Michigan Achievement Minimum and Last-Dollar Awards at Four-year Public and Private Colleges or Universities or Baccalaureate Degree Programs at a Michigan Community College. The Community College Guarantee Last-dollar award and Michigan Achievement Bonus is only available at Community Colleges and Tribal Colleges.**

**** The Community College Guarantee Last-dollar amount may never exceed the student's actual In-District tuition, contact hours and mandatory fees.

Institutional Free Tuition/Fee Guarantee/Pledge Programs

Institutional grants or scholarships that are not designated as restricted to tuition and mandatory fees but were used to determine the amount covered by your pledge, promise or guarantee, may be excluded from award calculations for the minimum and last-dollar Michigan Achievement Scholarship awards.

Additionally, if your institution does not restrict your pledge, promise, or guarantee to tuition and mandatory fees, it does not need to be included as an award in the Michigan Achievement Scholarship calculations.

The minimum award and last-dollar award may need to be reduced if total awards exceed the student's Cost of Attendance.

Michigan Achievement Scholarship Standard Calculations

Community College/Tribal College

In-District Example (Fall and Winter/Spring):

COA	\$15,000
In-District Tuition and Fees Total *	\$5,000
Tuition Incentive Program	\$3,500
Federal Pell Grant	\$1,000
Community College Guarantee Last-dollar payment amount	\$500
Michigan Achievement Bonus	\$1,000

A student has a Cost of Attendance (COA) of \$15,000 and is eligible for the Community College Guarantee Last-dollar and \$1,000 Michigan Achievement Bonus.

Their tuition, contact hours, and mandatory fees total \$5,000. They received \$1,000 Federal Pell Grant (Pell) and TIP has been calculated at \$3,500 for the Fall and Winter/Spring terms.

In this scenario, first the Community College Guarantee Last-dollar would be calculated:

- $\$5,000$ (Tuition and Fees) - $\$3,500$ (TIP) - $\$1,000$ (Pell) = $\$500$. Because there is Tuition and Fee remaining, the student would be awarded \$500 in Community College Guarantee Last-dollar.

Next, the Michigan Achievement Bonus would be calculated:

- $\$15,000$ (COA) - $\$3,500$ (TIP) - $\$1,000$ (Pell) - $\$500$ (Community College Guarantee Last-Dollar) = $\$10,000$. Because there is still room remaining, the student would be awarded the full Michigan Achievement Bonus award of \$1,000.

* The Community College Guarantee Last-dollar amount may never exceed the student's actual In-District tuition, contact hours and mandatory fees.

Public and Private Four-year Colleges or Universities, or Baccalaureate Degree Program at a Michigan Community College

Example (Fall and Winter/Spring):

COA	\$30,000
Tuition and Fees Total	\$15,000
Federal Pell Grant	\$7,000
Michigan Achievement Scholarship Minimum Award	\$2,500
Michigan Achievement Scholarship Last-dollar Award	\$3,000

A student has a Cost of Attendance (COA) of \$30,000 and is eligible for a maximum of \$2,500 of Michigan Achievement Scholarship Minimum Award and \$3,000 Michigan Achievement Scholarship Last-dollar Award. Their tuition, contact hours, and mandatory fees total \$15,000. They received \$7,000 Federal Pell Grant (Pell) for the Fall and Winter/Spring terms.

In this scenario, first the Michigan Achievement Scholarship Minimum Award would be calculated:

- $\$30,000$ (COA) - $\$7,000$ (Pell) = $\$23,000$. Because there is still room remaining, the student would be awarded the full Michigan Achievement Scholarship Minimum Award of $\$2,500$.

Next, the Michigan Achievement Scholarship Last-dollar would be calculated:

- $\$30,000$ (COA) - $\$7,000$ (Pell) - $\$2,500$ (Michigan Achievement Scholarship Minimum Award) = $\$20,500$. Because there is still room remaining, the student would be awarded the full Michigan Achievement Scholarship Last-dollar Award of $\$3,000$.

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