



## Tuition Incentive Program Fact Sheet Academic Year 2011-12



### 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 a credit-based 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. Award parameters are subject to legislative changes.

### Application

Students are identified by DHS as having met the Medicaid eligibility requirement. The Department of Treasury will accept certification of Medicaid benefits received while in Michigan only and only from the Michigan Department of Human Services (DHS) for the purposes of verifying if a person is Medicaid eligible for 24 months within the 36 months before application. **Students may be identified as TIP eligible as early as age 12. Since the student must be Medicaid eligible for 24 months out of a 36 consecutive month period, we will look back at the 36 month period prior to the date of the student's 12<sup>th</sup> birthday.** Medicaid eligibility prior to that 36-month period is not counted. 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. OSG will send the student an "eligibility letter" in their senior year of high school. The student should present this letter to their college financial aid office upon enrollment to receive payment. **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. Future awards are subject to available and approved funding.

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. The only billable fees for the TIP program are registration/enrollment fees, student activity/student services and technology fees.

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).

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

<sup>2</sup> Amount is based on the average current in-district tuition rate at participating Michigan community colleges.

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### **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, certificate of completion 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.
- Must not be incarcerated.

### **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), e-mail [osg@michigan.gov](mailto:osg@michigan.gov) or fax 517-241-5835.



Helping Students Pay for College

## 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	Mid Michigan Community College
Bay de Noc Community College	Monroe County Community College
Bay Mills Community College	Montcalm Community College
Compass College of Cinematic Arts	Mott Community College
Delta College	Muskegon Community College
Glen Oaks Community College	North Central Michigan College
Gogebic Community College	Northwestern Michigan College
Grand Rapids Community College	Oakland Community College
Henry Ford Community College	Saint Clair County Community College
Jackson Community College	Schoolcraft College
Kalamazoo Valley Community College	Southwestern Michigan College
Kellogg Community College	Washtenaw Community College
Kirtland Community College	Wayne County Community College
Lake Michigan College	West Shore Community College
Lansing Community College	
Macomb 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	Michigan Technological University
Lake Superior State University	Northern Michigan University
Michigan State University ( <i>Will pay Phase I benefits only for Institute of Agriculture Technology certificate programs.</i> )	

##### *Phase II ONLY*

Central Michigan University	University of Michigan - Ann Arbor
Eastern Michigan University	University of Michigan - Dearborn
Grand Valley State University	University of Michigan - Flint
Oakland University	Wayne State University
Saginaw Valley 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	Kuyper College
Aquinas College	Lawrence Technological University
Baker College	Madonna University
Cleary University	Marygrove College
Concordia University	Michigan Jewish Institute
Cornerstone University	Northwood University
Davenport University	Rochester College
Finlandia University	Siena Heights University
Grace Bible College	Spring Arbor University
Great Lakes Christian College	

##### *Phase II ONLY*

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

#### Other Institutions *Phase I ONLY*

Focus: HOPE  
Michigan federal tribally-controlled community college