



EDUCATION

Improve Student Achievement

Help schools achieve high standards through improved plans and assessment tools, and ensure resources and programs are available to allow students and schools to succeed. Support and initiate programs that create an environment where students, parents, mentors, educators, and communities are partners in all aspects of educating children, from birth through high school, and where higher education is valued, accessible, and affordable.

As part of the Cabinet Action Plan and budgeting for outcomes process, the Governor reviewed and prioritized all educational services supported with taxpayer dollars – child care and early childhood learning, K-12 education, support for colleges and universities, higher education financial assistance, and adult learning opportunities. The Governor's budget for fiscal year 2006 recommends total spending for educational services \$15.7 billion, of which over \$2.1 billion is general fund. This represents more than 38 percent of the total state budget. There are over 160 activities in 12 state departments that support the student achievement goal.

Strategies to Achieve Goal

- Increase access to quality early childhood education and child care programs available to all Michigan children.
- Increase the number of Michigan schools achieving significant progress in mathematics, reading and writing, attendance, and graduation rates.
- Increase the number of high school students who qualify for college or advanced study.
- Double the number of students who attain college degrees and other marketable credentials.
- Improve access to lifelong learning opportunities for all citizens.
- Improve access to a safe and supportive learning environment by promoting positive student behaviors and by increasing participation in health and nutrition programs.

Indicators of Success

- Improved student test scores
- Reduced gaps in student achievement
- Increased participation in rigorous high school curriculum
- Increased High School Graduation Rate
- Increased number of high school students entering college
- Increased number of college degrees/credentials



Commitments for the Success of Student Achievement

Improve Student Achievement

Improving Redesign High School Education in Michigan

This commitment will work with the Legislature to raise the drop out age, identify effective professional development for high school teachers and administrators that provides them with strategies and resources to help all high school students succeed, increase dual enrollment and the courses offered by Michigan Virtual High School.

Strengthen Michigan Educational Assessment System of testing and reporting

Replace the current MEAP High School Assessment exam with one that doubles as a college entrance exam.

Improving Teacher Quality

This commitment will work to ensure a highly qualified teacher in every program.

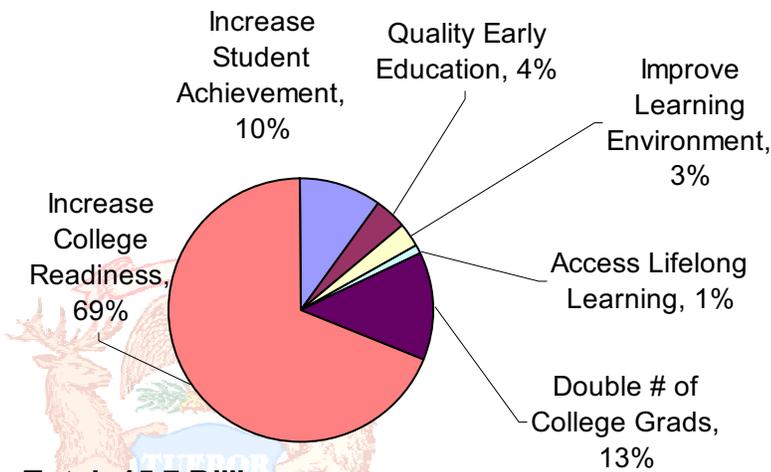
Models of Regional Cooperation

The Governor recommends a \$200,000 grant to a group of intermediate districts to develop models for regional cooperation in the delivery of school management functions. Beginning in fiscal year 2007, districts will have to be members of intermediate district management consortia in order to receive all of their funding.

“There is a strong correlation between the educational level of a state’s workforce and its economic vibrancy. States that educate and nurture creative talent and build and maintain the necessary higher education infrastructure to attract venture capital and research dollars will create the multiplier effects that grow and sustain industries in the new economy. These states will be the leaders in the competition for jobs and income growth.”

Lt. Governor’s Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth (Dec. 2004)

Education Spending



Total: 15.7 Billion

New Merit Scholarship

The Governor is raising the bar to ensure that every child in Michigan has the opportunity to attend college by guaranteeing \$4,000 scholarships to students who complete two years of college or the equivalent training or certification program. The goal is to double the number of students completing the associate's degree or equivalent within 10 years.

