



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

September 27, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for the College Access Challenge Grant Program

The College Access Challenge Grant (CACG) Program was authorized in Public Law 110-315 which was signed by the President on August 14, 2008. The CACG Program will provide Michigan approximately \$21 million over five years. The purpose of the College Access Challenge Grant Program (CACGP) is to foster partnerships among federal, state, and local governments and philanthropic organizations through matching challenge grants that are aimed at increasing the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. Funds are to pay the Federal share of the costs of carrying out college access activities and services provided by states and non-profit partners.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the criteria for the College Access Challenge Grant Program, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated September 27, 2010.

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MICHIGAN
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Criteria for College Access Challenge Grant

The State Board of Education has adopted as its goal "Significant and meaningful improvement in the academic achievement of all students/children with major emphasis on the persistently lowest achieving schools and students."

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will serve to further attain the above goal, and the Board's Vision and Principles of Universal Education.

PRIORITIES, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS THAT THESE CRITERIA SUPPORT

This grant program supports the general goal of college and career readiness by providing support for the college access initiatives of the department and its partners. Efforts are aimed at dramatically increasing the percentage of low-income students who enroll and complete a postsecondary credential.

BACKGROUND/PURPOSE OF GRANT

X Competitive Formula New Continuation (*check all that apply*)

The College Access Challenge Grant (CACG) was authorized in Public Law 110-315 on August 14, 2008. The CACG Program provides \$150,000,000 (\$21,342,740 to Michigan) in funding for states to foster partnerships among federal, state, and local governments as well as philanthropic organizations through matching challenge grants that are aimed at increasing the number of low-income students who are prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education. State use of funds is directed in the law.

CRITERIA

Date criteria were last approved _____ N/A _____

x Defined in Law Defined in Department's Approved Grant Application to the Funder x Proposed by Staff

Funds will be distributed to the MDE partners in accordance with the US Department of Education approved grant application. Approved partner activities include those that strengthen the state's movement to increase the proportion of Michigan residents with degrees and credentials. Activities can include planning, starting, or expanding community based college access networks; starting or expanding research based intervention to increase the number of students that persist through degree completion; expanding on-campus outreach to administrators and faculty; increasing the number of trained college student volunteers participating in local outreach; increasing community outreach within Michigan Promise Zones; recruiting and training recent college graduates to serve as college advisors in under served high schools.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS/TARGET POPULATION TO BE SERVED BY GRANT

Non-profit agencies; colleges and universities; community colleges.

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

Estimated at \$21,342,740

LAW

Public Law 110-315 (August 14, 2008), Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, Title VII, Part E

OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT/PROGRAM CONTACT

Grants Coordination and School Support/Mary Ann Chartrand