

GovDelivery Messages to High School Counselors

April 29, 2021,

Dear High School Counselors,

MI Student Aid is excited to offer a statewide Webinar/training for high school counselors! The Webinar will focus on the following topics:

- State financial aid program overview
- Live demonstration of MiSSG High School Counselor Portal
- MI Student Aid Outreach services and support

The Webinar will be offered on the following dates:

May 11 from 10:00 am - 11:30 am

May 11 from 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

May 12 from 10:00 am - 11:30 am

May 12 from 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

[Register today](#) for the date/time that works best for you! (Please choose one - multiple dates and times offered to accommodate various schedules)

Thank you for your continued dedication in supporting students during this unusual time. We look forward to connecting with you soon!

April 20, 2021

Dear Counselors,

MI Student Aid is excited to release the first episode of our Counselor's Corner (more episodes to come). This initiative is intended to provide high school counselors with important updates in a quick and engaging way.

Please click on the image below to watch the first episode. Enjoy!



April 19, 2021

Good Morning Counselors,

We recently announced more data is available to you in the MiSSG High School Counselor Portal, which means you are able to identify more TIP eligible students at your school.

MI Student Aid would like to partner with you and offer a 'Virtual TIP Talk' session for your students. This will give your TIP eligible students the opportunity to meet one-on-one with a MI Student Aid Outreach representative to discuss how to best utilize their TIP award.

To learn more about the 'Virtual TIP Talk' sessions and to schedule an event, please visit the [MI Student Aid Event Request Page](#). If you have questions or need more information, please reach out to the [MI Student Aid Outreach representative](#) that serves your region.

We look forward to partnering with you soon!

April 13, 2021

Good Morning High School Counselors and Administrators,

We are excited to share that through our partnership with CEPI, we have identified and resolved MiSSG system issues that have allowed us to identify additional students at your school. What does that mean for you? There is **MORE** student data available in the MiSSG system. If you are an authorized MiSSG user, be sure to check your FAFSA Completion Data and TIP Students lists, as you may see new names listed. We hope this update will help you with your FAFSA completion efforts before the school year is complete.

For those of you who are not authorized to access the MiSSG High School Counselor Portal, the [2020-21 Data Use Agreement \(DUA\)](#) is still available. To ensure you have access, the DUA must be submitted via email to mistudentaid@michigan.gov by an authorizing principal or superintendent.

March 29, 2021

Students who want to be given priority consideration for state of Michigan financial aid programs now have some extra time to complete their Free Application for Federal Student Aid, according to the Michigan Department of Treasury.

Commonly known as the “FAFSA,” this application is a critical step when applying for grants, scholarships and other forms of financial assistance. Academic Year 2021-22 FAFSA submissions now received at the federal processor on or before May 1 -- rather than the original March 1 deadline -- are given priority consideration for the Michigan Competitive Scholarship and Michigan Tuition Grant.

“Completing the FAFSA should be on top of everyone’s list when applying for college financial aid,” said Robin Lott, executive director of Treasury’s Office of Postsecondary Financial Planning. “We are hopeful that this deadline change will help families who have been faced with challenges during the pandemic. Please do not delay and complete this free application today.”

Students who wait to complete their FAFSA after the new May 1 deadline may not receive all the financial aid they could have been entitled to receive.

Prior to completing the FAFSA online, the student and at least one parent or guardian must obtain a Federal Student Aid ID (FSA ID) at www.fafsa.gov. This ID serves as a legal signature and confirms an applicant’s identity when accessing financial aid information through certain U.S. Department of Education websites.

To get started with the FAFSA, go to www.fafsa.gov. To learn more about State of Michigan scholarships and grant programs, visit MI Student Aid’s website at www.michigan.gov/mistudentaid.

December 7, 2020

High School Counselors,

Don't forget to register for our statewide high school counselor's training taking place today and tomorrow! The training will focus on the following topics:

- The Governor’s FAFSA Challenge
- State financial aid program updates
- Recent changes to the Tuition Incentive Program (TIP)
- Navigating and utilizing the MiSSG system
- MI Student Aid Outreach services and support

[Register today](#) for the date/time that works best for you! (Please choose one - multiple dates and times offered to accommodate various schedules)

We look forward to connecting with you soon!

November 30, 2020

Dear High School Counselors,

MI Student Aid and the Michigan College Access Network (MCAN), in support of the Governor's FAFSA completion initiative, are excited to offer a statewide Webinar/training for high school counselors! The Webinar will focus on the following topics:

- The Governor's FAFSA Challenge
- State financial aid program updates
- Recent changes to the Tuition Incentive Program (TIP)
- Navigating and utilizing the MiSSG system
- MI Student Aid Outreach services and support

The Webinar will be offered on the following dates:

December 7th from 9:30 am - 11:00 am

December 7th from 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

December 8th from 9:30 am - 11:00 am

December 8th from 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm

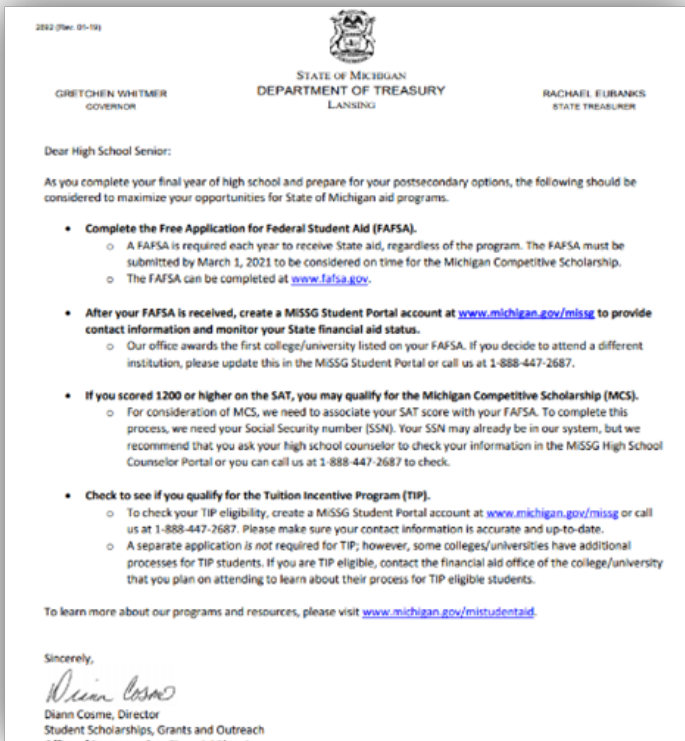
[Register today](#) for the date/time that works best for you! (Please choose one - multiple dates and times offered to accommodate various schedules)

Thank you for your continued dedication in supporting students during this unusual time. We look forward to connecting with you soon!

November 5, 2020

Hello High School Counselors!

The [Class of 2021 Senior Letter](#) is now available! This letter contains information and resources to help your seniors maximize opportunities for State financial aid programs. This letter also explains steps in the financial aid process and how to access the [MiSSG Student Portal](#).



The Class of 2021 Senior Letter is also available on the [MI Student Aid website](#) and the letter has been added to the MiSSG News box for High School Counselors:



For questions please contact MI Student Aid at 1-888-447-2687 or email mistudentaid@michigan.gov.

October 22, 2020

Hello School Counselors!

We hope you are staying safe as Academic Year 2020-21 rolls forward. We want to take this opportunity to share some important changes to the Tuition Incentive Program (TIP)!

- Students are no longer required to complete the TIP application.
- TIP benefits expire ten years after initial enrollment.

Check out the updated [TIP Fact Sheet](#) for more details.

The MI Student Aid Outreach Team remains committed to helping your TIP eligible students understand how to use TIP and how to make the most of their TIP benefits. We would love to schedule an event with you and your students. Please feel free to [request an event](#) via our website!

We understand that your TIP Student List may be showing fewer eligible TIP students due to not having SAT scores or recent CEPI data. While we work to update this information, we wanted to share some strategies to help identify TIP eligible students (that may not be listed on your TIP Student List).

1. Utilize the TIP Look Up feature in MiSSG to search for specific students.
 - Authorized MiSSG High School Users can use the TIP Look Up feature in MiSSG to see if a TIP record exists and add the Grad Date to the student's record. Once this is complete, the student can be added to your Student List! To access to this feature, your principal/superintendent must submit the [2020-21 Data Use Agreement](#).
2. Use your list of students who qualify for Free and Reduced Lunch to try to identify prospective TIP eligible students at your school.
3. Contact your [MI Student Aid Outreach Representative](#) in your region to better serve you and your students!

We look forward to working with you and your students this school year!

August 20, 2020

Please be aware that the MiSSG High School Counselor Portal will be unavailable beginning tomorrow, August 21, and will open again for Academic Year 2020-21 on Wednesday, September 2. Only authorized users for Academic Year 2020-21 will have access on this date and will receive a Welcome to MiSSG email.

In order to be an authorized user, a [2020-21 Data Use Agreement](#) (DUA) must be completed and submitted to our office. The DUA is available on the [High School Counselors MI Student Aid page](#) (click on "NEED ACCESS"). Completing a DUA gives school staff access to valuable, individual student-level data such as completion data for the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), Tuition Incentive Program (TIP) and more.

As a reminder, all DUAs must be:

- Completed electronically and annually
- Submitted via email to mistudentaid@michigan.gov by the authorizing principal/superintendent

For questions or more information, please contact our Customer Care Center at 1-888-447-2687 or mistudentaid@michigan.gov.