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○ ISSUE 1 | ○ September | ○ 2011



Helping Students Pay for College



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# News from OSG

## State of Michigan - Restructuring

Located in the Michigan Department of Treasury, the Student Financial Services (SFS) Bureau has been folded into the new Bureau of State and Authority Finance directed by Joseph Fielek. The Office of Scholarships and Grants (OSG) will continue to serve your institutions and students same as before.

## Program News

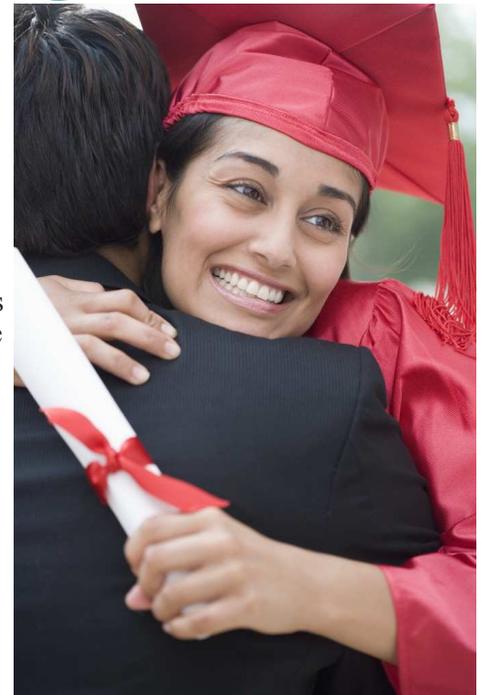
The **Michigan Tuition Grant (MTG)** program is level funded for FY12. The maximum award will be \$1,512.

For many years the **Michigan Competitive Scholarship (MCS)** received match funding from the federal Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (LEAP) program. The federal budget did not include funding for this program so Michigan lost \$1.3 million in funds for this program. Without supplemental funding, the state appropriation is insufficient to cover a maximum MCS award of \$600. OSG asked for additional funding to keep the maximum at \$600. Unfortunately, funding was not provided, which requires the OSG to reduce the maximum MCS award for FY 12 to **\$575**. If you have already packaged \$600, you will need to reduce those awards to \$575.

OSG is finalizing edits to students' FAFSAs. We intend to run awards the first week of October so that we may send your first weekly file on October 10, 2011.

### Changes to DEG

The state of Michigan is taking steps to make the Data Exchange Gateway (DEG) more secure. The attached information explains how to change your password. These revised passwords must be entered by 10/1/11. You will want to ensure that your new password is entered by that date to avoid any problems with picking up your award file on 10/10/11. For help with password updates, contact Marion Seelman. Her new email address is [seelmanm@michigan.gov](mailto:seelmanm@michigan.gov).



## Tuition Incentive Program

The **Tuition Incentive Program (TIP)** received a 6.4 million dollar increase in funding. The increase is needed to cover the 11% growth in the program and the increase in tuition and fees costs. Coverage is still limited to a maximum of 24 semester or 36 term credits during an academic year. Fees are limited to \$250 per semester/term and are restricted to registration, student activity, or technology fees. The maximum rate for independent institutions remains at \$84 per credit hour.

Recently OSG has received several questions about using Medicaid received while the student was in another state in order to qualify for TIP. The OSG policy does not allow that. The policy states: *"The Department of Treasury will accept certification of Medicaid benefits received while in Michigan only and only from 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."*

# Budget for Academic Year 2011-12



OSG will administer 12 programs for students pursuing higher education. The funding for those programs in FY12 is \$96,734,153 which is up from the total funding in FY11 which was \$92,847,069. As the table illustrates, the overall amount is higher even though the majority of programs are funded the same or less than last year. The only increase went to TIP.

Program	FY11	FY12	Difference
MCS	\$19,709,869	\$18,361,700	\$1,348,169 less
MTG	31,664,700	31,664,700	same
TIP	37,400,000	43,800,000	6,400,000 more
CVTG and STG	1,200,000	1,200,000	same
Byrd Scholarship	1,372,500	207,753	1,164,747 less
GEAR UP	1,500,000	1,500,000	same
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$92,847,069</b>	<b>\$96,734,153</b>	<b>\$3,887,084</b>

OSG will continue to pay **Merit** awards to eligible returning military students. Staff will also continue to administer the **Michigan Nursing Scholarship (MNS)** and **Paul Douglas Teacher Scholarship** by handling employment verifications and collecting loan repayments. OSG will also maintain the state's **Teacher Loan Cancellation List (TCLI)** for the federal website.

OSG holds all payments until after the beginning of the State's Fiscal Year which begins October 1. Please see the attached OSG Payment Schedule for important Payment Dates and Deadlines for FY2011-12.

## OTHER PROGRAM UPDATES

### Children of Veterans Tuition Grant (CVTG) and Survivor's Tuition Grant (STG)

STG represents the program formerly referred to as the Police Officers' and Firefighters' Survivor Tuition Waiver. Both programs, CVTG and STG, will be paid using this shared funding source.

### Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship

The federal budget did not include funding for this program. States were directed to spend down any remaining funds to current students. No new awards are to be made. Michigan had enough money to pay only 183 seniors and students returning from approved deferments. Students' awards will be reduced from \$1,500 to \$1,150 for full-time and \$575 for part-time attendance. These are the last awards to be paid. The program is officially ended after FY12.

### GEAR UP Michigan! Scholarship GEAR UP College Day Scholarship

As GEAR UP Michigan students are approaching the end of their scholarships, a group of new awardees will be enrolling this fall under the GEAR UP College Day (GUCD) program. EVRs for GEAR UP Michigan were already mailed. Enrollment Verification Rosters (EVR) for College Day went out on September 15th.

Please pay special attention and note that each of these programs have different students and criteria. Questions about these program should be referred to Flora Boles at bolesf@michigan.gov or by calling 517-335-2882.

**Survey** - How are we doing? Please complete and return the attached survey.

## OSG Staff Information

If you have specific questions about one of our programs, call us toll-free at 1-888-4-GRANTS (1-888-447-2687) and one of our customer service representatives will assist you. Program coordinators and their numbers are listed below:

GEAR UP	Flora Boles	517-335-2882
CVTG	Kathy Welch	517-373-7120
TIP	Kathy Welch	517-373-7120
MCS/MTG	Marion Seelman	517-241-3106
MNS/TCLI	Nancy Vaughn	517-373-1871

Or contact:  
Carla Foltyn, Deputy Director 517-335-1790  
Anne Wohlfert, Director 517-373-0458

**OSG - 1-888-447-2687 - Fax: 517-241-5835**