

EXPANDING POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

In her State of the State address, the governor will provide updates and make announcements related to the Governors' Sixty by 30 Goal to ensure 60% of adults in Michigan will have attained a post-secondary credential 2030. The governor has also been traveling the state to visit high school seniors and encourage them to continue their education after they graduate, whether that's through a community college degree, a four-year university degree, or an apprenticeship program.

THE PROBLEM

When announced, Michigan was one of only about nine states to not have an attainment goal, and right now, too many Michigan students aren't pursuing a post-secondary degree or credential. Michigan's labor market demands a more educated and skilled workforce, and our students need paths to success so they can build a good life for themselves and their families here. To help our students succeed, connect businesses to the talent they need to thrive, and grow our economy, we must help more Michiganders attain degrees, certificates, and certifications.

Additionally, each year, too few Michigan students fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, known as the FAFSA, to access crucial financial support for their post-secondary education. The FAFSA unlocks the Pell Grant and other federal, state, and institutional financial aid. Last year, Michigan students left \$100 million in Federal Pell Grants on the table.

THE GOVERNOR'S PLAN:

Call on the legislature to quickly pass bills to appropriate funding for the Michigan Reconnect program in a supplemental budget, so that the program can begin serving adults by Fall 2020.

- Governor Whitmer announced plans for the Michigan Reconnect initiative in her 2019 State of the State address to help us achieve that goal, and now, a bipartisan group of legislators have proposed bills in the legislature to get it done.
- Senators Horn and Ananich, and Representatives Frederick, Kennedy, and Anthony are all working on bills to secure funding to implement the Michigan Reconnect program.

Discuss her FAFSA Completion Challenge in partnership with the Michigan College Access Network.

- The goal of the challenge is to raise the percentage of high school students that fill out their FAFSA applications. The governor will also announce that she and the Michigan College Access Network will provide cash prizes to the high schools that win the Challenge.

GOVERNOR'S FAFSA CHALLENGE

DATA ON THE CHALLENGE CAN BE FOUND AT [HTTPS://MICHIGAN.FAFSATRACKER.COM/](https://michigan.fafsatracker.com/)