

Michigan Learning and Education Advancement Program



The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity's Office of Employment & Training received a \$17.8 million U.S. Department of Education grant to respond to the economic impact of COVID-19 in the state. The federal funds will help more than 4,444 job seekers over a four-year period take the leap from education and training to employment by delivering short- and mid-term customized education and training opportunities.

The Michigan Learning and Education Advancement Program helps job seekers transition from short- and mid-term education and training programs to high-skill, high-wage employment and career pathways, resulting in industry-recognized credential attainment and reduced educational debt.

How does the program work?

Michigan employers engage in the program by joining multi-employer consortia to address regional workforce needs and advance existing employees through re- and up-skilling training opportunities.

The 10 program subgrantees submitted competitive, criteria-based Request for Proposals and received funding in July of 2021. Consortia partners may include, but are not limited to:

- Employers, Business Associations, and Organized Labor
- Michigan Works! Agencies
- Michigan Community Colleges and other Institutions of Higher Education
- Nonprofits and other groups associated with workforce development resources to meet the unique needs of program participants

The Michigan Learning and Education Advancement Program focuses on individuals who are dislocated, underemployed, unemployed, essential workers, living in distressed rural and urban communities and are economically disadvantaged.

Additionally, navigators provide job seekers with assistance in assessing and overcoming barriers, identifying resources, and providing guidance and support. Program participants receive individualized competency-based assessments and learning plans that include skills assessments, remote learning opportunities, and industry-recognized credential attainment and contextual learning opportunities.

Learning and Education Advancement Success

The program produces numerous benefits for the State of Michigan:

- Establishment and utilization of Navigators to ensure participants' continuous uninterrupted progress.
- Engagement and participation of under-represented populations and distressed geographic regions.
- Short- and mid-term customized education and training solutions that result in industry recognized credentials and accelerated pathways.
- Increased distance learning and hybrid or blended learning modalities of instructional delivery.
- Competency-based and work-based learning opportunities including Registered Apprenticeships and pre-apprenticeship trainings.
- Opportunities for employers to collaborate in industry-sector training initiatives.
- Credential transparency to job seekers, employers, and education and training providers.

Where can you learn more about the program?

To learn more, visit Michigan.gov/Workforce and search for the Michigan Learning and Education Advancement Program.

Or, contact the Michigan Learning and Education Advancement Program team by email at LEO-Learning@michigan.gov.