

MICHIGAN
COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK

**INCREASING COLLEGE READINESS,
PARTICIPATION AND COMPLETION IN MICHIGAN.**



EDUCATION MATTERS

In Michigan, fewer than half of high school freshmen attain a college degree or certification. We aim to change that. Increasing postsecondary attainment rates in Michigan leads to a more vibrant economy, healthier communities, and a stronger workforce. Armed with a degree, our residents can expect more employment opportunities and higher wages throughout their lifetime.

Making sure students are ready for college, both academically and financially, is a big job. It takes significant community efforts, improved support networks, and of course, funding. MCAN is working statewide and on the community level to support college aspirations and attainment levels in Michigan.

IT'S TIME TO SHIFT

Michigan has persistently lagged behind the national average in college attainment and labor market demands. The days of landing a good-paying career straight out of high school are over. Whether it be a four-year degree, an associate's degree, or a technical certification—some form of education after high school is a must. We cannot ignore the need to transform our culture into one that values postsecondary education.

When students have school, parental, and community support, college is seen as the norm—higher education is the expectation rather than the exception. Relentlessly communicating the value of postsecondary education is the first step in changing the expectations for all Michigan residents.

THE IMPACT OF OUR WORK



OVER \$17,000,000 secured and invested in college access and success efforts in Michigan

OVER \$700,000 in grants distributed to high schools & local communities to plan, implement, or sustain their college access initiatives since 2016



445 school counselors trained in our nationally-renowned college counseling course

56 well-trained, near-peer college advisors from 17 partner colleges serving in 70 high schools through the AdviseMI program



533 schools in the state develop and implement statewide campaigns to promote college application, FAFSA completion, and college enrollment

OUR BIG GOAL

60% of Michigan's residents will have a degree or postsecondary certificate by the year 2025

GOAL 2025



MOBILIZING PEOPLE & PROVIDING SUPPORT

MCAN fosters the creation, expansion, and sustainability of Local College Access Networks (LCANs). These community-based coalitions bring leaders in education, business, philanthropy, government, and the nonprofit sector to the table. They also help them develop a roadmap for creating a culture that values education and results in economic growth and prosperity.

ENCOURAGING INVESTMENT

MCAN works tirelessly to financially support critical grant programs for schools, LCANs, and communities to support college access infrastructure and programming. We secure investments at the local, state, and federal level. We work closely with foundations and private philanthropists to provide the resources necessary to create and sustain programs in high-need communities in Michigan.

DEVELOPING PROGRAMS

MCAN promotes college attainment through integral programs in schools and communities throughout the state. Through our AdviseMI program, we embed near-peer advisers in high schools throughout Michigan to reach the students who need it most. We help communities build a college-going culture with events that encourage and celebrate postsecondary education. We also train and support school counselors and other practitioners who work directly with Michigan students and families.

COLLEGE IS
POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

MCAN uses the term "college" to refer to the attainment of valuable postsecondary credentials beyond high school, including professional/technical certificates and academic degrees.

COLLEGE IS
A NECESSITY

In today's knowledge-based economy, we believe that everyone must pursue and complete a postsecondary credential or degree beyond high school.

COLLEGE IS
FOR EVERYONE

MCAN is committed to closing the gap. The postsecondary education attainment rates among low-income students and students of color are significantly lower than those of other students.

COLLEGE IS
A PUBLIC GOOD

Postsecondary educational opportunity and attainment are critical to a just and equitable society, strong economy, and healthy communities.

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