

## MI Talent Sustainability Agenda

**Overarching Goals:** Increase the number of working-age adults with a skill certificate or college degree to 60% by 2030 and make postsecondary education attainment more accessible and affordable.

### “Top 10” Recommendations

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| #1  | Improve postsecondary participation and completion rates by closing opportunity and achievement gaps among low-income students, first-generation college-going students, students with disabilities, and students of color.   |
| #2  | Increase the proportion of Michigan high school students that complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) annually to 75% and seek consensus on a statewide policy, funding, and partnership framework that will help achieve this goal.  |
| #3  | Continue building out and sustain investment in the Michigan Achievement Scholarship to the planned 2028 target of \$562 million, making college affordable to more students in Michigan.   |
| #4  | Increase and sustain postsecondary institutional annual operating support to at least 1 percentage point above the rate of inflation annually and emphasize support for the whole-education system to build a foundation that sets low-income students, first-generation college-going students, students with disabilities, and students of color on a path for success.                             |
| #5  | Permanently lower the age for Michigan Reconnect from age 25 to 21, ensuring non-degreed adults who have a high school diploma, and those who left college without a degree, have an opportunity to earn a tuition-free associate degree or postsecondary certificate.  |
| #6  | Allocate additional resources and align programs to support adult worker training and retraining (e.g., Going Pro Talent Fund, New Jobs Training Program, Community College Skilled Trades Equipment Program, Michigan Achievement Skills Scholarship, and Reconnect Short-Term Training Program).  |
| #7  | Increase high school student participation in and completion of all forms of early college credit, especially among low-income students, first-generation college-going students, students with disabilities, and students of color.  |
| #8  | Reduce the student-to-counselor ratio for all students and provide high-quality training and professional development for existing counselors to deliver developmentally appropriate services and meet the academic, career, and personal, social support needs of students.  |
| #9  | Continue progress toward multi-institutional credit acceptance between higher education institutions, associate-to-bachelor’s degree transfer pathways, and secondary to postsecondary credit acceptance, and expand access to the Michigan Transfer Network, the Michigan Transfer Agreement, and the MiTransfer Pathways, to make the transfer process more efficient, simplified, and transparent. |
| #10 | Elevate and share national and state best practices and strategies among all partners of the Office of Higher Education ensuring that every student has the skill certificate or degree needed to prosper, and help employers hire the talent they need to succeed.   |

*In 2024, MIHEART has a responsibility to collaborate with the Michigan Department of Lifelong Education, Advancement, and Potential (MiLEAP) to optimize current programs and policy, to inform and implement other activities, and to amplify and sustain momentum around Michigan’s attainment, affordability, and success agenda.*

