



# Governor Gretchen Whitmer's FY24 Budget Priorities

This year, TICAS Michigan policy priorities were identified by the insights and expressed needs of community stakeholders statewide. These priorities fall under our student-centered pillars of equitable policy focus in Michigan: **access, affordability, and success.**

Below we outline the alignment of Governor Gretchen Whitmer's key higher education-related proposals to TICAS' identified priorities for the FY24 budget with the inclusion of important considerations for community impact or policy implications.

TICAS Michigan's FY24 Budget Priorities	Governor Whitmer's Proposed Postsecondary Related Investments for the FY24 Budget	Considerations for Community Impact or Policy Design
<b>Access</b>		
Expand high-dosage, in-person tutoring opportunities to address learning difficulties and ensure student success.	\$300 million for MI Kids Back on Track tutoring program.	Ensure that all communities in Michigan have equitable access to funds e.g. rural communities.
Making FAFSA or FAFSA waiver completion a high school graduation requirement and providing resources to support completion.	\$15 million to boost FAFSA completion.	Allow schools the authority to determine how funds can best serve their community.
Create a set of supports to re-engage and enroll the high school graduating classes of 2020 – 2022 in postsecondary education.	\$75 million to expand Reconnect to provide BA pathways for students who did not enroll in higher education or dropped out/stopped out of college between 2020 – 2022.	Create supports through community organizations to help students apply and enroll in higher education.
<b>Affordability</b>		
Bridge the gap between TIP and Reconnect.	\$140 million to reduce the age of eligibility for Michigan Reconnect to 21.	Make lowering of the age of eligibility to 21 permanent to close 2yr institution age gap.
Increase \$250 administrative TIP fee cap.		Redefine and/or expand the meaning of "mandatory fees" to include fees required for program completion.
<b>Success</b>		
Invest in intensive support to students for completion.	\$55 million for a Student Wellness Fund to provide higher education institutions resources to assess, evaluate and improve student wellness resources on campus.	Track the cost and effectiveness of each program.
	\$25 million for a College Success Fund to improve college retention and completion rates.	Potentially scale impactful programs statewide.
	\$30 million for student basic needs supports.	Ensure basic needs include other necessities like transportation and broadband access.
Establish clearer guidelines and information on stackable credential pathways and programs for students.	Creation of a BA pathway within the Reconnect program for the high school graduating classes of 2020 - 2022.	Ensure that the navigation of stackable credential pathways is easy to understand and access for students.
	\$6 million to help students make career connections and develop soft skills in preparation for the workforce.	Do not include complex steps in design to access resources and support.
Improve housing resources for community college students.		Provide access to affordable housing and/or housing resources for students which creates a stable learning and living environment needed for student success.

We are excited about the journey ahead and the state's continued commitment and prioritization of the educational and economic advancement of Michiganders. We are looking forward to ongoing partnership and collaboration with higher education partners and community stakeholders to continue improving access to resources and better streamlining processes to effectively and equitably remove barriers for students and families especially in marginalized communities.