



MI GEAR UP

2016-2017



What does GEAR UP stand for?

Gaining **E**arly **A**wareness and **R**eadiness
for **U**ndergraduate **P**rograms

General Overview

The MI GEAR UP Program (MIGU) is a statewide collaborative effort providing early intervention services in two key component areas:

- **G**aining **E**arly **A**wareness refers to college exposure, financial aid/admissions, college choice and other important knowledge necessary for students to become prepared to pursue post-secondary options.
- **R**eadiness for **U**ndergraduate **P**rograms refers to skill building and academic preparedness including reading, literacy, critical thinking skills, study techniques and test-taking ability.

Audience

The MI/GU program at Michigan State University begins working exclusively with students in 7th grade and follows them through their freshman year of college. MI/GU serves selected schools with 50% or more free/reduced lunch counts and is especially equipped to assist low-income underrepresented students and families. The program currently working with students in the graduating class of 2017 (12th grade) who attend the following schools:

Albion School District
Detroit School District
Jackson High School
Eastern High School (Lansing)
Sexton High School (Lansing)
Everett High School (Lansing)

Funding

The U.S. Department of Education awarded a multi-million grant to Michigan, spread out over a seven-year program, distributed among the 15 public universities. The MI/GU program at Michigan State University receives funding from the following three providers:

- U.S. Department of Education (Federal Funding);
- State of Michigan (Department of Talent and Economic Development);
- Michigan State University

Objectives

The project will produce, support and disseminate college preparation and planning publications. In addition, MI/GU will assist students in their senior year of high school with financial by providing important information about FAFSA applications and competitive scholarships, including limited funding for scholarships awarded to long-time program participants in a competitive selection process.

Description

GU serves designated school districts across the State of Michigan. It offers a number of initiatives that reach over 1,536 students per year. Examples of those programs include: community outreach; one day on-campus visitations; Saturday Academies; and Summer Residency / College Tour Programs. Working with our college partners, state, and community partners the program continues to provide students with the latest educational information and skills necessary for academic success.

Outcomes

Saturday Academy is offered twice a month. The number of students who attend average between 150 to 200 each Saturday. Promoting ongoing seminars on STEM and STEAM career development. Continue to provide outreach seminars to designated schools in the program service area. In the summer of 2017, provided a tour of Ivy League schools, and a week of Bridge program on MSU campus.

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