



# MI GEAR UP

Fall 2012—Spring 2013



## What does GEAR UP stand for?

**G**aining **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 schools with 50% of more free/reduced lunch counts and is especially equipped to assist low-income underrepresented students and families. The program is currently working with students in the graduating class of 2017 (8th grade) who attend the following schools:

Albion School District  
Paul Robeson/Malcolm X Academy (Detroit)  
Middle School at Parkside (Jackson)  
Lansing STEM Academy  
Gardner Academy (Lansing)  
Pleasant View Magnet School (Lansing)  
Eastern High School (Lansing)  
Sexton 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 (Workforce 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

**The MI Gear-Up Program works with designated school districts across the State of Michigan. It offers a number of initiatives that reach over 1,000 students per year. Examples of those programs include community outreach, one day on-campus visitation, Saturday Academy, and Summer Residency 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; numbers of students who attend this event average a number of 200 to 250 each Saturday. Have established a partnership with the College of Veterinary Medicine to provide students with on going seminars on STEM related activities. Continue to provide outreach seminars to designated schools in the program service area. Provided a travelling summer residency program during SU 2012. Students were introduced to college campuses across the State of Michigan.

## Contact Information:

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**MICHIGAN STATE**  
**UNIVERSITY**