



## MI GEAR UP – 2017-2018

Gaining Early Awareness and  
Readiness for Undergraduate Programs

### General Overview/Objectives

The MI GEAR UP Program (MIGU) is a statewide collaborative providing early intervention in 2 key areas:

- Gaining Early Awareness refers to college exposure, financial aid/admissions, FAFSA assistance, college choice and other knowledge to prepare students for postsecondary options.
- Readiness for Undergraduate Programs refers to academic preparedness including reading, literacy, critical thinking skills, study techniques and test-taking ability.

### Audience

- The MSU MIGU program is a cohort model serving the following school districts: Albion, Detroit, Jackson, and Lansing. The program works exclusively with one group of students starting in 7<sup>th</sup> grade and follows those students through their freshman year of college. MIGU serves schools with 50% or more free/reduced lunch counts and is especially equipped to assist low-income underrepresented students and families.
- The MSU MIGU program for 2017-2018 was operating on Year 7 of the grant. Program participants in 2017 were in their freshman year of college.

### Description

- The 2017 Summer Residency program included: a college tour of the East Coast Ivy League Schools; MI GEAR UP students accepted to MSU and LCC participated in a week-long residential program at MSU emphasizing transition skills to prepare them for their first year of college.
- The 2018 Residency program for college had three components: (1) **Winter retreat-Bavarian Inn-Frankenmuth, MI** (academic advising, financial aid, time management, finding a mentor, and networking); (2) **Spring retreat-Kellogg Biological Station (KBS)-Hickory Corners, MI** (SEEDS Training, Team Development, Integrity, Interpersonal Skills, Mistakes=Learning); (3) **Summer retreat-KBS** (wellness, mindfulness, resiliency, relaxation/yoga).

### Collaboration

- MIGU collaborates with many MSU and community partners such as the School of Veterinary Medicine, the Cyclotron, Abrams Planetarium, Kellogg Biological Station, the MSU Credit Union, Case Credit Union, and Lansing Community College.



### Funding

The U.S. Department of Education awarded a grant to Michigan spread over a seven-year program, distributed among the 15 public universities. The MIGU Program at MSU receives funding from three providers: (1) U.S. Department of Education (federal funding); (2) State of Michigan (Michigan Talent Investment Agency); (3) Michigan State University.

### Outcomes

- **56.34% of our MIGU participants (609) enrolled in a postsecondary institution immediately after high school graduation.**
- **64.11% of our MIGU participants (609 above plus an additional 84 students) enrolled in postsecondary institutions as of October 2018, during Spring, Summer, and Fall semesters of 2018.**
- **Both of these rates are superior to the 47% rate of Michigan college enrollment for students from low-income families.**

### Contact Information

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