

MCAN's Affordability Work

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MICOLLEGEACCESS.ORG





Our Mission

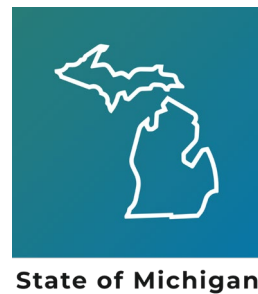
Increase college readiness, participation and completion in Michigan, particularly among low-income students, first-generation college-going students, and students of color.



Our Goal: Sixty by 30

Increase the percentage of Michigan residents with degrees or postsecondary certificates to 60 percent by 2030.

MCAN's Funders



Context: Michigan has no SHEEO and little authority as a state to govern higher education.

AFFORDABILITY

Academic Readiness



Affordability



Enrollment



Persistence



Completion



Attainment

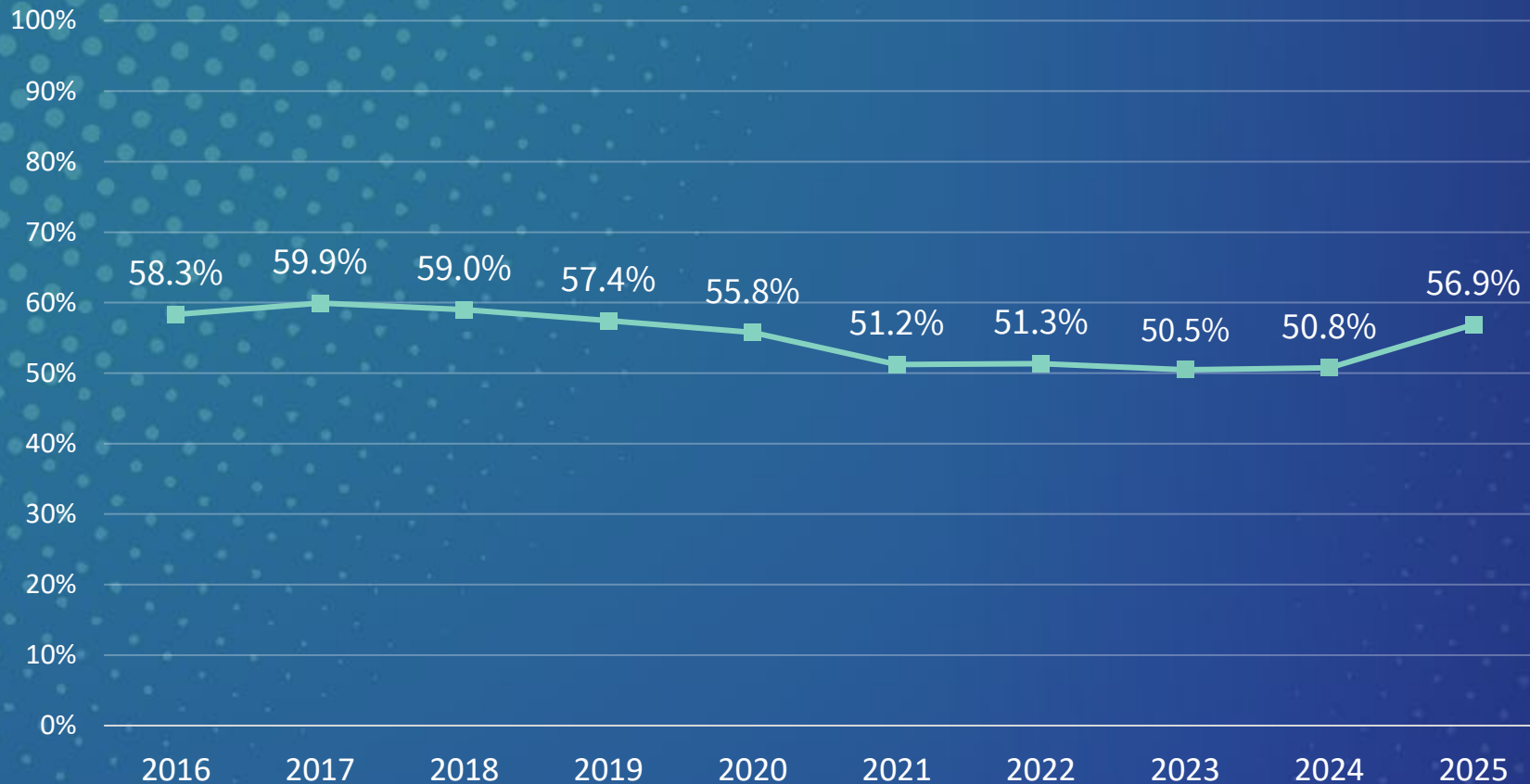


Culture



Metric 2: Affordability

Increase the percentage of students utilizing federal financial aid



56.9%

of Michigan Class of 2025 seniors from PUBLIC and PRIVATE schools completed the FAFSA by September 30, 2025 (67,365 FAFSAs total).

Sources: Federal Student Aid, MILEAP, WICHE





How We Organize Our Work: Systems Change

- Advising & Coaching
- Advocacy & Policy
- Community Mobilization
- Educated Workforce
- High School Innovation
- Higher Education Innovation



Our Strategic Levers

- Advocate
- Build Capacity
- Build Infrastructure
- Convene
- Develop Partnerships
- Disseminate Data and Research
- Invest

Advocate





Advocacy and Policy

- Legislator engagement
- Impact Map: Data by legislative district
- State budget process
- Continuous Improvement of financial aid programs
- Proposing new legislation
- Tracking legislation
- College Access Advocacy Day

LESSON LEARNED: Students and families do not often have a voice in decision-making nor a seat at the table in influencing. A statewide organization who represents what's best for students is necessary.

Build Capacity



Build Capacity

- Retired Educator FAFSA Specialists (REFS)
- Completion Corps
- AdviseMI
- FAFSA Specialists

LESSON LEARNED: Our civic infrastructure is in shambles after the pandemic and the disinvestment of the federal government. Capacity to build capacity is needed.



Certified FAFSA Specialist Training Series

- Partnership with uAspire
- Series of six sessions to equip practitioners to respond to the financial aid landscape in Michigan
- Support community-based partners, high school staff and higher education staff with training on new FAFSA form.
- Provide a community of practice idea generation and problem solving.
- Completers will receive collateral for social media and email signature along with certificate of completion
- Curate a list of statewide specialists to leverage and deploy for added capacity.

Build Infrastructure





Build Infrastructure

- Adult Education CLEP Testing
- Community Foundation Scholarship Transitions
- Promise Zones
- Promise Programs
- Statewide Association Support
- College Bound Michigan

LESSON LEARNED: We are program-strong and systems-poor. Permanent infrastructure is required to support systems change in all sectors.

College Bound Michigan

MCAN supports and maintains statewide initiatives in order to increase the number of students completing the key steps toward college during their senior year.

- Michigan College Month (October)
- College Cash Campaign (November-March)
- College Decision Day (April/May)

Convene





Convene

- Annual Conference
- Trainings
- Summits
- Professional Development
- Coalitions

LESSON LEARNED: Humans genuinely need community – to create, to learn and for spirit. Providing the venue and the framework make all the difference.

Develop Partnerships





Develop Partnerships

- Basic Needs Support
- Early Credit Taking
- MiLEAP State Agency
- MSFAA

LESSON LEARNED: Network weaving - the process of tying together the loose threads within the field to create a more comprehensive blanket of coverage for college access – requires people to build and nurture relationships.

Disseminate Data & Research

FAFSA Tracker

Statewide View

Current FAFSA Completion Rates by School

[Download](#)

Mt. Pleasant Senior High School

[View School Profile](#)

FAFSA Stats

Completion Rate **71.8%**

Completed Apps **↑ 158**
Year Ago: 143

Submitted Apps **↑ 160**
Year Ago: 145

Gr 12 Enrollment **220**

682 Schools

School - *Highlight*

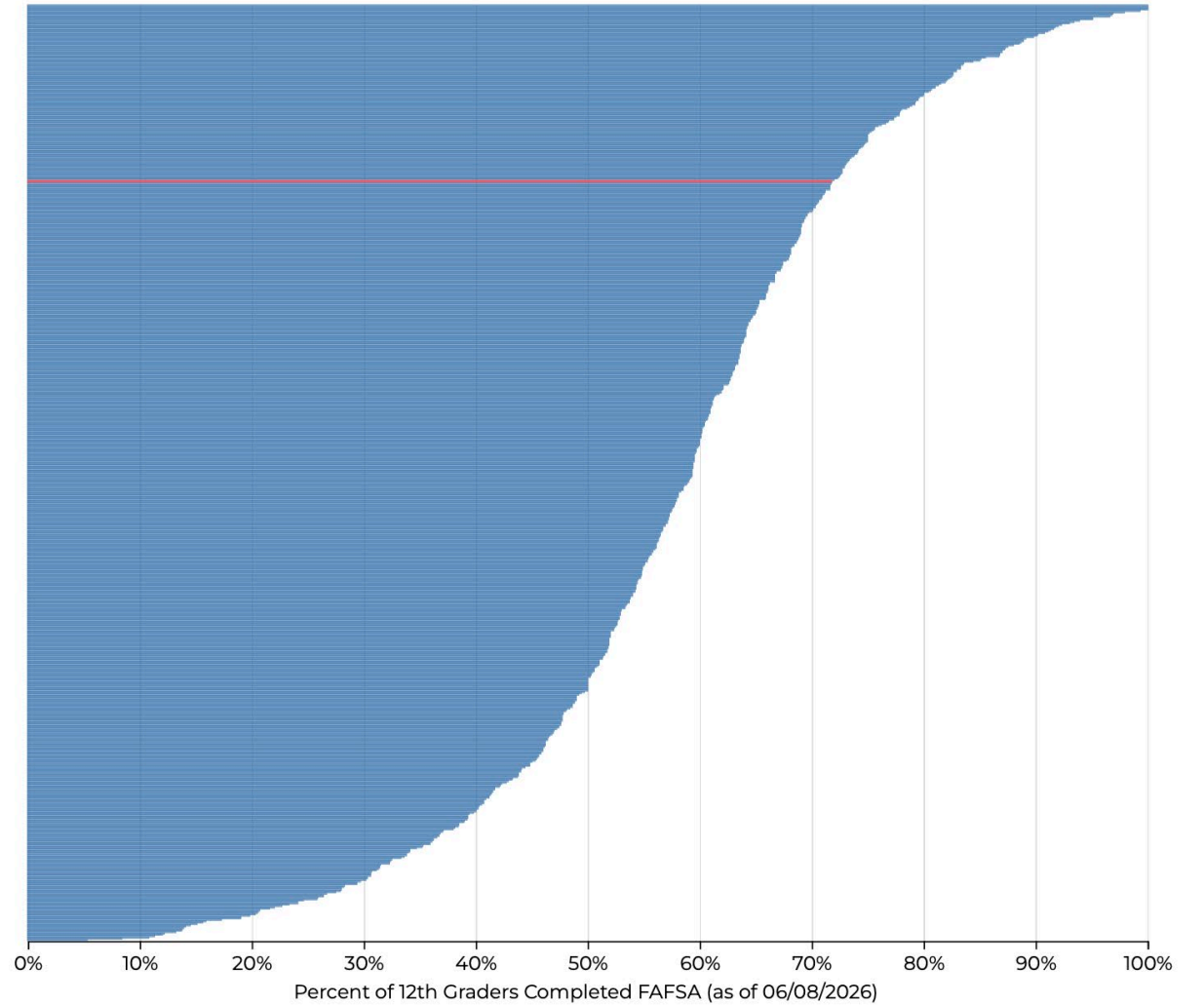
Select School

Gr 12 Enrollment - *Highlight*

All Sizes

Region - *Filter*

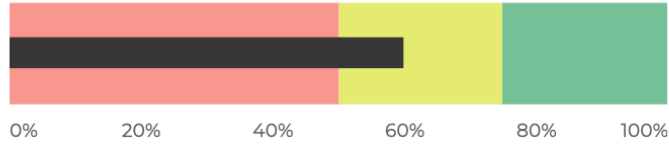
All Regions



FAFSA Tracker

School View

Bath High School

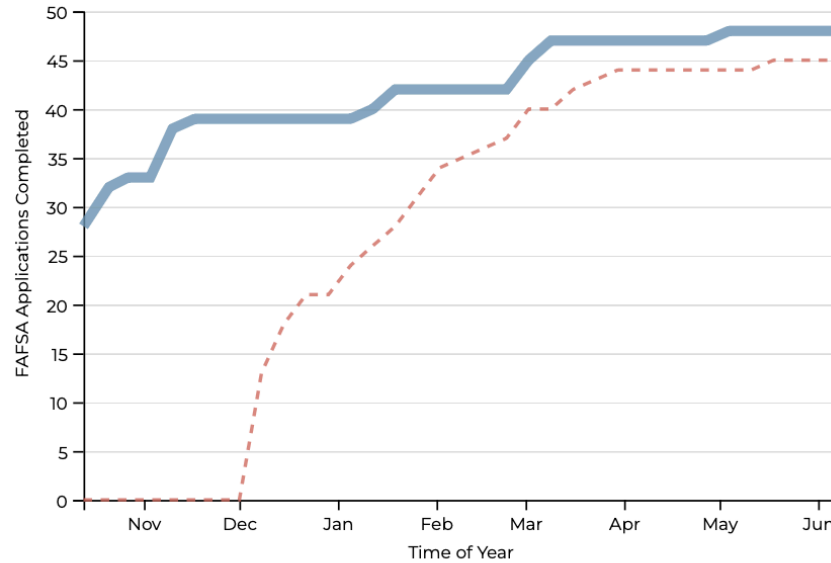


Completion Rate:	60.00%
FAFSA Completions Jun 08, 2026:	48
12 th Gr Enrollment 2025-2026:	80

To update 12th Grade Enrollment, submit the [Senior Count Form](#).

 **7%**

Completion rate compared to the same time last year



Impact Map

LESSON LEARNED: Simplifying and visualizing available data saves overwhelmed humans from one more task they can't get to - and ultimately improves practice.

MCAN Impact Map

Michigan Overview | Data by Geography | High Schools/Colleges/LCANS/Promise Zones | Legislative Briefs | About | MCAN Home

Legislative Brief
 Carol Glanville (House District 84)

Legislative District
 HD 84 - Carol Glanville

MCAN Trained School Counselors and Other School Leaders
 Teri Berg (Innovation Central High School), Jessica Brown (Innovation Central High School), Deanna DiPonio (CA Frost Environmental Science Academy), Marlice Moffett (Innovation Central High School), Becca Quinn (Grand Rapids Montessori High School)

MCAN Grantees & Awards
 Innovation Central High School: CBM Mini Grant (2023-24); Union High School (Grand Rapids): CBM Mini Grant (2023-24); CBM Mini Grant (2023-24)

Local College Access Networks
 None

Promise Zones
 Grand Rapids Promise Zone

AmeriCorps Programs
 None

Community Ambassadors
 None

Academic Readiness

944.13
 Mean SAT Score
Mean 11th Grade SAT score for the graduating class of 2024
State Average: 945
House District Rank: 50 of 110

23.6%
 SAT College Readiness Rate
Percent of students in the class of 2024 who met all the SAT college readiness benchmarks
State Average: 25.10%
House District Rank: 49 of 110

76.9%
 College Non-Remediation Rate
Percent of college students from the high school class of 2023 that did not require remediation courses
State Average: 88.3%
House District Rank: 79 of 110

Affordability

61.3%
 2025 FAFSA Completion Rate As Of 9/29/2025
Percent of students in the class of 2025 who have completed a FAFSA as of 9/29/2025.

Enrollment

57.6%
 College Enrollment Rate
Percent of students from the high school graduating class of 2023 enrolled in college within 12 months.
State Average: 58.7%
House District Rank: 82 of 110

Persistence

57.4%
 Earned 24 Credits Within 16 Months Rate
Percent of college-enrolled students from the class of 2022 who have earned 24 credits within 16 months of high school graduation.
State Average: 64.7%
House District Rank: 77 of 110

Completion

31.0%
 Postsecondary Completion Rate
Percent of graduates from the class of 2018 who completed a postsecondary certificate or degree within 9 years.
State Average: 30%
House District Rank: 76 of 110

Attainment

52.5%
 Kent County Attainment Rate
Percent of residents ages 25-64 who have earned at least an associates degree
State Average: 49.3%

House District - 84 - High Schools

School Name	ISD Name	District Name	County Name
Grand Rapids Learning Center	Kent ISD	Grand Rapids Public Schools	Kent County
NexTech High School	Kent ISD	NexTech High School	Kent County
Grandville High School	Kent ISD	Grandville Public Schools	Kent County
Innovation Central High School	Kent ISD	Grand Rapids Public Schools	Kent County
Grand Rapids Montessori Middle High School	Kent ISD	Grand Rapids Public Schools	Kent County
Union High School (Grand Rapids)	Kent ISD	Grand Rapids Public Schools	Kent County
West Michigan Academy of Environmental Science	Kent ISD	West MI Academy of Environmental Science	Kent County
CA Frost Environmental Science Middle High School	Kent ISD	Grand Rapids Public Schools	Kent County

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Invest



Invest

- Ticket to Tuition
- Grantmaking

LESSON LEARNED:
Sometimes money doesn't actually matter – it's the “officialness” and attention that it brings that validates work and people that shouldn't need validation.



Statewide and regional CANs are capacity compounders.

Ensuring sustainable infrastructure to help facilitate and implement affordability-focused activity is critical.

Thank you.

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Michigan College Access Network

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