Let MI Kids Learn

Giving Parents Control – Expanding Opportunities for Michigan Students

All children deserve an exceptional education. Let's trust parents, not bureaucrats, to make the best decisions for their kids.

<u>The pandemic took a heavy toll on Michigan students</u>. Now's the time to support Michigan's students, to give parents more control, and to <u>expand opportunities for every student</u>.

Every student in every community deserves the chance for success.

Michigan Student Opportunity Accounts will equip families with grants and benefits <u>they can</u> <u>use for any education or learning expense – both inside and outside the classroom.</u>

We have a solemn responsibility to the next generation. Giving students the problem-solving and critical thinking skills they need for the *real world* tomorrow means providing them more opportunities today.

Catching Up After Pandemic Learning Loss

According to <u>Governor Gretchen Whitmer</u>, <u>parents</u>, and newly released <u>M-STEP assessment scores</u>, the pandemic took a real toll on Michigan students both in-and-outside the classroom.

Every child deserves a fair shot to succeed, no matter their background, their family's income, or their learning challenges. **Michigan Student Opportunity Accounts**, will allow students to access the school, services, and tools they need to meet their individual learning needs.

Every Student Deserves Access to Dynamic New Learning Opportunities

Michigan Student Opportunity Accounts can be used by families all over Michigan who qualify for free-and-reduced school lunch, families at/below 200% of the free-and-reduced lunch eligibility and students with disabilities to help improve student achievement. Children right now need instruction tailored to their needs so they can earn an education that allows them to stay on track during pandemic disruptions. **Giving parents flexibility and control will help drive that improvement**.

Parents can use Student Opportunity Accounts to provide their kids new learning opportunities, including:

- Online classes
- Wi-Fi and laptops
- Tutoring and tuition
- Transportation
- Skilled training and CTE expenses
- Text books and curriculum materials
- Summer school and after school programs
- Occupational, behavioral, and speech therapies that help their children succeed in school
- Mental health services, and more

Empowering Taxpayers to Invest More - Directly in Our Kids

Taxpayers are ready to invest in our kids.

Michigan Student Opportunity Accounts will be awarded to families from a qualified, state-approved nonprofit scholarship granting organization (SGO), with a maximum contribution capped at 90% of the state's school foundation allowance.

SGOs will be **funded through donations from Michigan taxpayers** who get approval from the Treasury Department and opt to contribute portions of their state Individual Income Tax or Corporate Income Tax to the SGO. Parents can apply to any SGO to help give their kids new education opportunities.

21 other states – including "blue" states – have already enacted educational opportunity programs to give families greater access to high quality education options. Every child in Michigan deserves an equal opportunity to succeed, too.

Our students' future won't wait.

Let Kids Learn.

Every student. Every background. Every community.