



The Michigan Center
for Adult College Success
Collaborate. Innovate. Transform.

Michigan Regional Adult Initiative for Skills and Education (MI-RAISE) Design Lab

Convening
March 21, 2024





Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- MI Grants
- Holistic Student Supports and the Culture of Care
- Lunch
- Credit Mobility in Pathways for Adult Learners: National Trends and Michigan Opportunities
- Breakouts
 - Student Parents
 - Credit for Prior Learning
- Next Steps



**“We cannot direct the wind, but we
can adjust the sails.”**

~Dolly Parton, Singer, Songwriter, Actress

—

Special Thanks to
Lansing Community College
for hosting!!



MI-RAISE Design Lab





MI-RAISE Design Lab Key Partners

- [Michigan Center for Adult College Success](#) - Project lead
- [Education Strategy Group](#) - Technical assistance, labor market data, convening support
- [Sova](#) - Design process lead, coaching, technical assistance
- [CollegeAPP](#) - Adult Prospect Pipeline data mining and modeling
- [TalentFirst](#) - Landscape analysis and Labor market data



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TALENTFIRST
Vision. Insights. Solutions.



ACHIEVING GREATER IMPACT



MI-RAISE Design Lab



Innovation Investment Awards (IIA)

- **MI-RAISE Goal**
 - Draft a high-quality and competitive proposal to implement systems changes that ensure increased and equitable access and success for adult learners in postsecondary education and the workforce.
 - To demonstrate a meaningful system change, the proposal should describe how the system change will be integrated into the regular activities of the institution as part of its culture in a sustainable fashion.
- **Innovation Investment Award (IIA) Goal**
 - The Innovation Investment Awards will fund the implementation of system changes that are sustainably integrated into the regular activities of the institution to ensure increased equitable access and success for adult learners in postsecondary education and the workforce.



MI Grants

Jeremy Hendges, MCACS

Alisha Cederberg, MI Office of Sixty by 30

Innovation Investment Award Overview

March 21, 2024



The Michigan
Center for
Adult College
Success

We collaborate to drive postsecondary innovation, transforming Michigan into a place where more adult learners enroll, complete and thrive.

Collaborate. Innovate. **Transform.**

An initiative of
 **TALENTFIRST**



Award Highlights

- ✓ Up to \$1M for implementing system changes based on promising practices to increase adult completion rates.
- ✓ Public & tribal community colleges and public universities serving the adult learner population, defined as adults over the age of 25.
- ✓ Independent colleges may partner with a public institution on a joint application but cannot be the lead applicant.
- ✓ Grants run through the end of August, 2026.





Guiding Principles



1. Adult-learner focused

1. Equitable access and service to adult learners

1. Collaborative nature



Promising Practices

- ❖ There is no silver bullet to improving adult completion rates.
- ❖ It's a combination of effective strategies that begins with a commitment to continually engaging adults to learn how to best meet their needs.
 - Proactive, comprehensive advising
 - Prior learning assessments
 - Credit for prior learning
 - Competency-based education
 - Flexible scheduling
 - Eliminating barriers to transfer
 - Work based learning opportunities
 - Holistic basic needs support
 - Career-aligned, guided pathways
 - Corequisite learning
 - Systematic approach to basic needs



Important Dates

March 18, 2024 – Application Form Available

April 23, 2024 – Informational Webinar for Applicants

May 1, 2024 – Application Portal Opens

June 7, 2024 – Last date to submit drafts via email for pre-review.

July 15, 2024 – Submission deadline through Application Portal (11:59 pm ET)

August 8, 2024 – Innovation Awards Announced

Sept. 1, 2024-Aug. 31, 2026 – Funded Project Dates



Ineligible Expenses

- Direct aid to students (emergency loans, textbook fund, etc.)
- Food and beverage
- Indirect costs (see SLFRF guidance)

Strongly encourage utilizing office hours and early review process to discuss expense proposals.



Awardee Commitments

- ✓ In addition to demonstrating sustainability and scalability of the proposed project, recipients will be required to provide 10% of matching funding or in-kind support from other sources.
- ✓ Minimum of monthly meeting between the President and project team to discuss progress, assist with challenges on implementation and ensure support of institutional leadership.
- ✓ Recipients must commit to mentoring other institutions that seek to implement similar system changes on their campuses.
- ✓ Quarterly meetings with The Center to discuss progress options to accelerate the implementation.
- ✓ Periodic engagement with The Center or individual contracted by The Center for the purpose of documenting the implementation process.
- ✓ Recipients will be expected to participate in The Center's external evaluation process. Recipients will need to sign a data sharing agreement and agree to share the required data such as de-identified transcript data of participants and non-participants to understand the impact of the project.



Award Recipient Supports

- ✓ Co-develop evaluation criteria
- ✓ Logic-model development assistance
- ✓ Center data and research support
- ✓ Access to coaches or subject matter experts from The Center
- ✓ Access to Center's resources to help identify additional partners or supports

**GUIDE TO SIXTY BY 30
STUDENT SUCCESS
COMPETITIVE GRANT
OPPORTUNITIES
2024**



NEW COMPETITIVE GRANTS



Quick Start

Self-assessment, planning, elevation of student voice. Helping colleges hone their strategy for student success.

subset of other categorie



College Success

Three levels of grants that help colleges scale student success reforms and increase graduation rates.

\$12 million



Barrier Removal – Direct to Students

Emergency grants and other direct aid to students to eliminate financial barriers to completion.

\$7 million



Barrier Removal – Growing Institutional Capacity

Developing supportive policies and practices for students struggling to meet basic needs.

\$5 million



Reconnect Community Action Grants

Growing community support and partnership for post-secondary learning pathways.

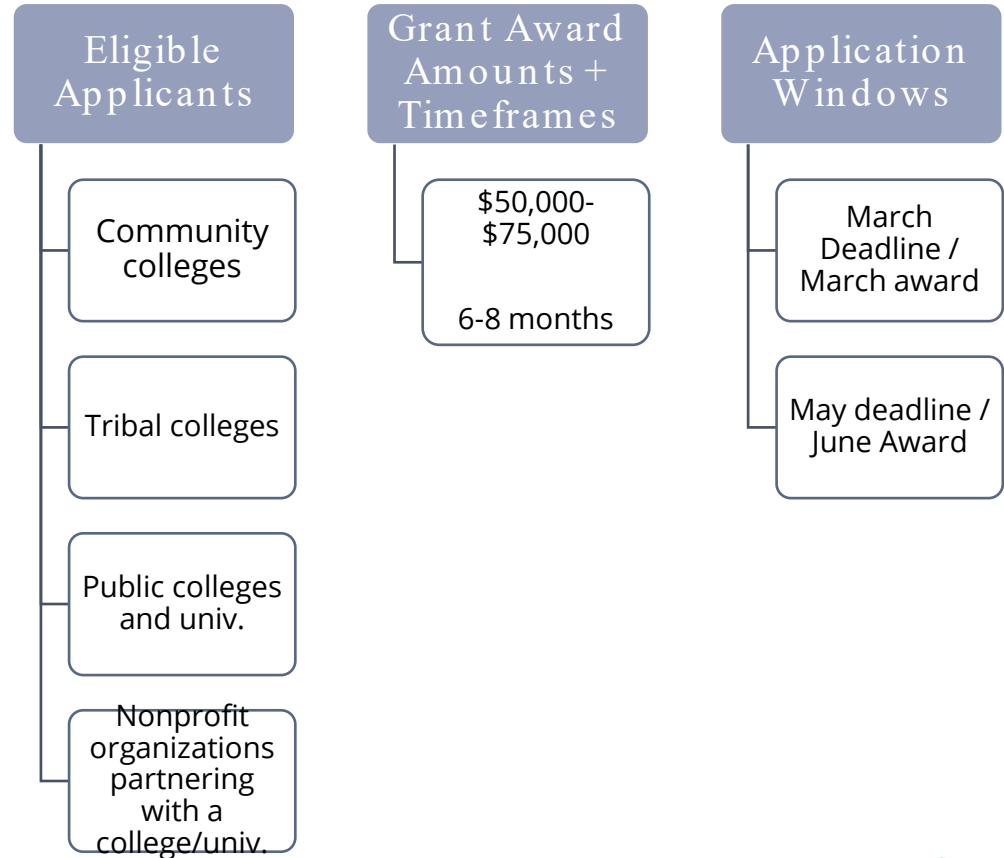
\$10 million

These amounts represent goals to award in 2024. Some funds will remain for awarding in 2025. There is flexibility to shift award amounts across the first four categories, based on needs identified by institutions.



QUICK START GRANTS

Funding to undergo an action-oriented assessment process to strengthen grounding in student experience and/or develop a coherent and strategic approach for removing institutional barriers to student success. Can also help prepare IHEs to apply for a larger grant in the College Success or Barrier Removal – Growing Institutional Capacity category in a later window.





EVALUATION CRITERIA: QUICK START GRANTS

For proposals requesting funds for efforts to elevate student voice and experience and/or engage in an action-oriented self-assessment process:

1. An understanding of the role of student experience data in building institution-wide awareness and urgency around the need for a grounded student success strategy.
2. If applicable, the quality of self-assessment tool or process selected
3. A plan for disseminating and using the information gleaned through quantitative and qualitative research to engage faculty, staff, and administrators around key improvement opportunities.

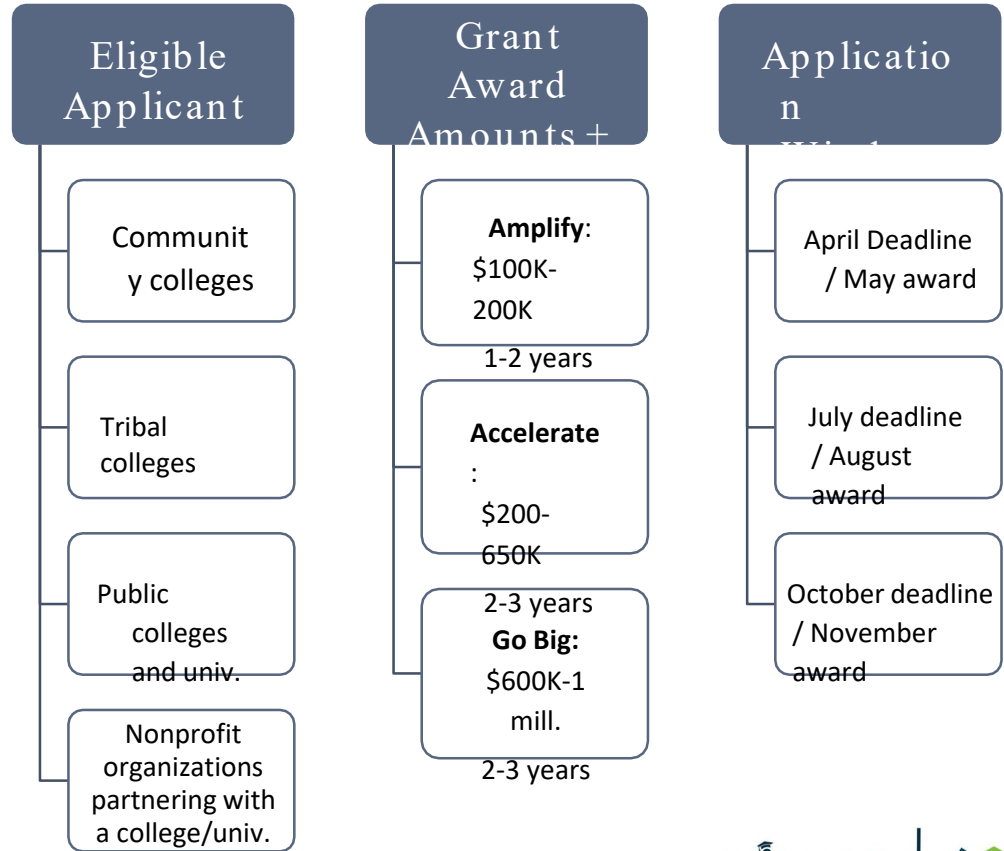
For proposals requesting funds to engage in a planning phase for larger College Success or Barrier Removal grants:

1. A clear plan for developing a strong and strategic proposal grounded in data and evidence.
2. The presence of a logical design, including a core team that includes both front-line faculty/staff and senior administrators with decision-making authority.



COLLEGE SUCCESS GRANTS

Implementing, improving on, and scaling implementation of promising reforms of policy and practice associated with decreased time to credential, increased student persistence, improved completion rates for all learners, and the elimination of equity gaps.



COLLEGE SUCCESS GRANT SUBCATEGORIES

Amplify

- To strengthen an already successfully implemented intervention that would benefit from a rapid infusion of funds or to sustainably scale up an intervention or improvement approach that has proven successful
- *Examples:* targeted PD for faculty to implement corequisite supports, appreciative advising certification for advisors

Accelerate

- To implement, improve, or expand promising practices and evidence -based reforms that build on or align to a broader institutional student success strategy
- *Example:* gateway/critical course success and institution -wide end to prerequisite developmental ed, coupled with scheduling reform in high -volume pathways

Go Big

- To scale evidence -based improvements aligned to a coherent institution student success strategy and theory of change
- *Example:* To “Accelerate” example, add broader implementation across all programs, and work with major employers from a key sector to align curriculum with in -demand, high -wage careers

APPLICATION Processes

Quick Start

Light application that helps institutions plan or self-assess for larger grants.

App. available: mid-Feb., 2024

College Success

Amplify, Accelerate, & Go Big will use same application for all three grant windows.

Interviews and presentations may be required from applicants.

App. available: early Mar., 2024

Barrier Removal – Direct to Students

All public and tribal colleges encouraged to apply. Application will focus on ability to target aid to students with greatest need.

App. available: mid-Feb., 2024

Barrier Removal – Growing Inst. Capacity

Application will be similar to College Success application, with focus on college systems that support students' basic needs.

App. available: late Mar., 2024

Reconnect Community Action

Single application process will cover both Entry Point and Navigator aspects, and will require participation of partners.

Interviews will be required.

App. Available: early Mar., 2024

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Application deadlines for each grant's multiple cycles are below. Please visit the website and sign up for the grants email list (*see slide 29*) to make sure you don't miss any updates.

	2024 Q1	2024 Q2	2024 Q3	2024 Q4
Quick Start	March 22	May 3	-	-
College Success	-	April 12	July 12	October 18
Barrier Removal – Direct to Students	March 22	June 7	August 16	November 8
Barrier Removal – Growing Institutional Capacity	-	June 7	August 16	November 8
Reconnect Community Action	-	May 17	-	September 13



Center & Sixty by 30 Coordination

- ✓ The Michigan Center for Adult College Success & the Sixty by 30 Office are coordinating on the grant opportunities.
- ✓ The IIA grants are intentionally aligned to the Accelerate and Go Big Sixty by 30 grants.
- ✓ Institutions can apply for both the IIA grants and the Sixty by 30 grants.
- ✓ If the identical proposal is submitted to both entities The Center and Sixty by 30 will coordinate on the award.
- ✓ If institutions apply for both with different proposals, The Center and Sixty by 30 will seek a conversation with the institution to ensure there is capacity to execute both programs simultaneously.



Effective Implementation

- ✓ Be clear on the 'why'
- ✓ Ensure commitment across institution
 - ✓ Leadership, faculty, staff, students
 - ✓ Find your champions!
- ✓ Engage your adults & learn from them
- ✓ Map your assets and build partnerships
 - ✓ Employers, nonprofits, etc.
- ✓ Design system changes with partners based on learnings and best practices
- ✓ Engage opponents to change
 - ✓ Make sure they know you are listening
 - ✓ Be willing to learn and adapt
- ✓ Constantly communicate
- ✓ Be willing to start small
- ✓ Plan long-term:
 - ✓ Evaluations
 - ✓ Program Improvement
 - ✓ Sustainability & Growth

Questions?

<https://info.talentfirst.net/mcacs-ia>

Michelle Burke

Director of Postsecondary Programs and
Partnerships

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The Michigan Center
for Adult College Success

info.talentfirst.net/mcacs

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Holistic Student Supports and the Culture of Care:

*Standing at the Intersection of
Systems Thinking & Design Thinking*
Cara Crowley, Austin Community College

Lunch

Office Hours 12n - 3:20pm

- Labor Market Info - President's Dining
- CollegeAPP - GB 1242

Credit Mobility in Pathways for Adult Learners: National Trends and Michigan Opportunities

Alison Kadlec, Sova Solutions

Bruce Vandal, Sova Solutions

Jennifer Johnson, Sova Solutions

Breakout Sessions and Office Hours

- 2:20-3:20 pm Breakout Session:
 - **Student-Parents in Grand River Room**
 - *Caroline Sanders, Eastern Michigan University*
 - *Crystal Lyte, Washtenaw County*
 - **Credit for Prior Learning in Michigan Room**
 - *Jenny Schanker, MI Community College Association*
 - *Amber Neher, Detroit Regional Chamber*
- 2:20-3:20 pm Office Hours:
 - **Labor Market Info in President's Dining**
 - **CollegeAPP in GB 1242**



Breakout Sessions



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Next Steps

Share your feedback via the Exit Survey (QR code)



Complete your travel reimbursement documentation

Schedule your March/April coaching sessions with Sova

Hold April 18th 12n-1:30pm for virtual convening for your team (you should have calendar invites)

FYI April 23rd @ 12n Webinar on IIA Grants





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for Adult College Success
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THANK YOU!!

Contact us:

TheCenter@talentfirst.net

