

Michigan Highlights 2016-2017

Michigan Key to Shaping the Compact's Direction

1. As one of the first states to pass authorizing legislation, Michigan is a founding member state of the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC), which was created in 1991.
2. Michigan legislators, members of the Midwestern Legislative Conference of The Council of State Governments, were instrumental in the formation of the compact.
3. Dr. David Murphy served as the compact's founding president from 1991-2002. He was a former Michigan state and higher education leader and former director of the Senate Fiscal Agency of the Michigan Legislature.
4. Dr. William Sederburg, former Michigan state senator, was the founding commission chair from 1991-1994. He later went on to be president of Ferris State University in Michigan.
5. Former Michigan State Representative Pam Byrnes served as commission chair from 2009-2010.
6. Over 30 Michigan individuals, including commissioners, commissioner alternates, and members of advisory program committees, provide significant direction for MHEC programs and services.

Michigan Benefits from Participation in MHEC Programs and Contracts

1. Through use of MHEC's contracts and programs, Michigan higher education institutions (including public and private not-for-profit), school districts, state and local governments, and students have achieved cost savings of over \$157.9 million since 1991. In FY17, they achieved savings of over \$11.4 million.
2. Michigan received a 99-fold return on its MHEC investment for FY17 when comparing total savings to the state's annual commitment (dues).
3. Technology Contracts: In FY17, Michigan entities realized over \$4.3 million in cost savings by purchasing over \$31.8 million in technology hardware, software, and services. Cumulatively, they have saved over \$52.4 million. Serving on the Technologies Committee that determines which hardware, software, and services MHEC will pursue are: Kristen Gregoire, Eastern Michigan University; David Hopper, Spring Arbor University; and Aric Kirkland, Eastern Michigan University. Mr. Kirkland also serves on the Technologies Executive Committee.
4. State Authorization: Michigan became the tenth state to become a member of the Midwestern-State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (M-SARA). Shellie Haut-Root, Central Michigan University, serves on the M-SARA Regional Steering Committee. MHEC has estimated Michigan's FY17 M-SARA savings to be over \$1.1 million.

Commissioners



David L. Eisler
President
Ferris State University



Kim LaSata
Chair, Higher Education
Appropriations Subcommittee
Michigan Legislature



Bill Pink
President
Grand Rapids Community
College



Tyler Sawher
Sr. Strategy Advisor for
Education and Career
Connections, MI Office of
the Governor



Tonya Schuitmaker
President Pro Tempore
Michigan Legislature



Daniel J. Hurley
Chief Executive Officer
Michigan Association of
State Universities
(Alternate)



Brian J. Whiston
Superintendent
MI Department of
Education
(Alternate)

Michigan Benefits from Participation in MHEC Programs and Contracts (continued)

5. Midwest Student Exchange Program: Michigan students and families have saved over \$44.3 million in tuition through the Midwest Student Exchange Program (MSEP) since joining the program. In FY17, there were 427 persons from other MHEC states who came to Michigan through this program, and Michigan residents saved over \$5.3 million by using the program. Daniel Hurley, Michigan Association of State Universities, serves on the MSEP Council.
6. Property Insurance: MHEC's Master Property Program (MPP) insures over 170 campuses nationwide with property values exceeding \$94.8 billion dollars, saving participating MHEC member states over \$7.7 million in FY17. The MHEC property insurance program insures some institutions from the Michigan University Self-Insurance Corporation (M.U.S.I.C.). Their total property values are over \$4.3 billion, saving over \$507,000 in FY17 and over \$16.6 million since joining the program. Mick Doxey, Grand Valley State University, serves on the MPP Leadership Committee.
7. Student Insurance Solutions: MHECare, the student health collaborative, provides member institutions with sustainable student health insurance solutions and helps institutions support the student learning experience by providing over 30,000 students protection from unexpected medical expenses. Calvin Theological Seminary, Grand Valley State University, Oakland University, Western Michigan University, and Western Michigan University Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine participates in the collaborative, covering 675 students.

Potential Savings or Benefits of Program and Contract Participation for Michigan

1. Entities in MHEC member states have saved over \$984 million since the Compact was founded in 1991, by using MHEC contracts and programs.
2. MHEC is a statutorily created entity in each member state. The Compact conducts competitive sourcing events and negotiates contract terms and conditions, thereby allowing flexibility for state and local entities to tailor MHEC contracts to their needs without having to incur the cost of rebidding for the products or services covered in MHEC contracts.
3. Since the membership is a state membership, not only can higher education institutions use MHEC's technology contracts, but school districts, state and local governments, and not-for-profit entities can also use most of the MHEC technology contracts.

Research Keeps Michigan Informed

1. MHEC provides reliable and objective evaluations of the PK-16 system in Michigan.
 - » **Higher Education in Focus: Selected Performance Indicators.** This biennial report provides key performance indicators for Michigan relevant to the goal of increasing educational attainment. Performance indicators are categorized within six dimensions: Preparation, Participation, Affordability, Completion, Equity, and Finance.
 - » **The Effectiveness and Efficiency of Postsecondary Institutions in the United States: 2010-2012 Baseline Results.** This brief evaluates the extent to which postsecondary institutions in Michigan are effective and efficient. Institutions are deemed effective if their graduation rates exceed what would be expected given the types of students served and other attributes. Institutional efficiency is estimated as the difference between actual educational expenditures and the expenditures that would be predicted from degree production levels, faculty attributes, and location. The report helps policymakers in Michigan identify highly effective institutions that make efficient use of taxpayer dollars and promote closer examination of the policies and practices that constitute their highly effective campuses.
2. MHEC informs policymaking on college readiness and teacher preparation in Michigan.
 - » **Faculty Qualification Policies and Strategies Relevant to Dual Enrollment Programs: An Analysis of States and Regional Accreditation Agencies.** This report examines state and regional accreditation policies relevant to faculty qualifications for dual enrollment programs. The report informs policymaking in Michigan by identifying the key attributes of policies across the nation and describing some of the state strategies for increasing the number of in-service teachers qualified to teach dual enrollment courses.
 - » **Blueprint for College Readiness.** This report helps K-12 and higher education leaders in Michigan determine which policies should be adopted to promote college readiness. Policy recommendations are made in relation to college and career readiness definitions, college readiness standards and assessments, graduation requirements, accountability, admissions standards, statewide remedial and placement policies, transfer, and a data pipeline and process for reporting.

Research Keeps Michigan Informed (continued)

- » ***The Impact of Graduate Education on Teacher Effectiveness: Does a Master’s Degree Matter?*** This brief examines the prevalence of graduate degrees among teachers in the United States and summarizes research on the relationship between teacher educational attainment and student achievement.
- 3. MHEC helps policymakers in Michigan evaluate options for improving college affordability.
 - » ***State Higher Education Financing Models.*** This brief addresses four areas in which state policy makers can learn from practices in other states and from principles of sound public policy design to strengthen their higher education financing systems. The year-to-year stability of funding, the balance between appropriations for institutions and student aid, the growing interest in tuition-free community colleges, and the allocation of funds across public colleges and universities are all areas in which states take a variety of approaches, with quite different implications for educational opportunity.
 - » ***A Review of College Promise Programs: Evidence from the Midwest.*** College promise or tuition-free college programs are becoming increasingly popular, and there is evidence that these programs can be effective under the right conditions. In this brief, the body of research is detailed on the effects of three well-known college promise programs in the Midwest before discussing some of the key questions that policymakers and funders must consider when designing promise programs.
 - » ***Tuition Control Policies: A Challenging Approach to College Affordability.*** This brief details how often tuition and fee controls are used and the body of research on whether they are effective in achieving their ultimate goal. Case examples are provided for three Midwestern states’ tuition and fee policies before offering recommendations for policymakers to consider when adopting tuition controls.
- 4. MHEC provides summaries of the latest research for institutional leaders and analysts in Michigan to identify best practices in improving student success.
 - » ***Financial Aid*** summarizes key findings from research to inform institutional policy regarding institutional grant aid and work-study programs.
 - » ***Faculty Policy*** examines key issues that confront institutional leaders in creating faculty policies conducive to student success, including employment status, faculty roles and reward systems, and faculty development.
 - » ***Developmental Education*** provides a summary of research on policy and program reforms that may improve developmental education and the outcomes of underprepared students, including establishing appropriate program requirements, refining the student placement process, improving the quality of developmental curricula, and incorporating support services.
 - » ***Software Solutions*** provides an overview of student success software and summarizes findings from the nascent body of student outcomes research. Three types of software solutions are examined: academic planning systems, task engagement systems, and early alert systems. Several campus practices are then identified that may facilitate software adoption.
- 5. MHEC informs policy and practice on the preparation of college graduates for gainful employment.
 - » ***The Occupational Relevance of a College Education: An Examination of Education-Job Match among Bachelor’s Degree Recipients.*** This research brief provides a national account of whether recent college alumni attain employment congruent with their academic major, reasons for working outside of one’s major field, and possible consequences for job satisfaction. The brief encourages policymakers in Michigan and elsewhere to develop indicators of education-job match that reflect the relevance of a college education for formal employment; implement “Tuning” programs when necessary; raise admissions standards for majors with projected market saturation; and increase student intentionality in the major selection process.
 - » ***Transparent Pathways, Clear Outcomes: Using Disciplinary Tuning to Improve Teaching, Learning, and Student Success.*** “Tuning” is a process through which faculty members create shared understandings of the knowledge and transferable skills students in specific academic disciplines and professional fields must demonstrate upon completion of their degrees. The process helps to clarify to students, parents, and policymakers what degree holders know, understand, and are able to do.

Opportunity to Discuss the Issues in Michigan and Convene with Peers

1. **Military Credit:** The Multi-State Collaborative on Military Credit (MCMC) is a forum for states to exchange information and best practices around translating competencies acquired through military training and experiences into milestones toward completing a college degree or earning a certificate or license. The MCMC has provided grant funds of \$30,000 to Michigan to support their state efforts in these areas. The 5th Annual Consortium of Michigan Veterans Education (CMVE) Conference was held and attendees participated in a workshop on course-matching to the Joint Services Transcript (JST) credit recommendation with assistance from the American Council on Education staff among other sessions related to military connected students. Katie Giardello, Michigan Community College Association, serves on the MCMC Steering Committee. Additional persons from Michigan participate in knowledge communities.
2. Based on the many ideas that MHEC Commissioners and Commissioner Alternates submitted in late August of 2015, a survey was created with potential policy topics for MHEC research, program initiatives, and professional development. Survey respondents evaluated the need for additional knowledge on various topics, identified the top three topics of interest, and selected the most helpful resource formats. The collective results were used to determine which policy topics MHEC should prioritize. Commissioners at the MHEC annual commission meeting voted to focus on affordability initiatives.
3. MHEC convenes institutional leaders and policymakers to discuss critical issues confronting Michigan, the region, and the nation.
 - » MHEC Commissioners were active in discussions in 2015 about the new Higher Learning Commission (HLC) faculty qualifications revised policy which was to take effect in July 2016. This policy especially impacted smaller and rural school districts. Considering MHEC's efforts, the HLC allowed for institutions with dual credit programs to apply for an extension to implement the new policy by 2022.
4. During the legislative session MHEC convenes a group of state leaders including MHEC commissioners, legislative leaders, higher education leaders, K-12 representatives, and executive branch officials to discuss MHEC programs and also to receive input about MHEC services and state issues.
5. The locations of MHEC commission meetings rotate among the member states, showcasing each state's education initiatives to an audience comprised of Midwestern legislators and education leaders. The Annual Commission Meeting was held in Detroit in November 2010. The MHEC Executive Committee met in Lansing in June 2017.
6. All travel and lodging expenses for commissioners who attend Compact meetings are paid by the Midwestern Higher Education Compact.

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