MASU.ORG 101 S. WASHINGTON SQUARE, STE 600

517.482.1563 LANSING, MI 48933

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For More Information Contact Daniel Hurley 517-482-1563

## New state metric affirms high rates of student success at Michigan public universities

LANSING, MI— The Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI), the Michigan education data reporting agency, released a report today showing an increase in the six-year Michigan public university sector graduation rate to 66.6 percent, meaning two of every three students at a public university is graduating within six years.

This new metric by CEPI includes part-time and transfer students, depicting a more accurate graduation rate than the federal government's rate as reported by the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), which does not include part-time and transfer students. IPEDS' six-year Michigan public university sector graduation rate is reported at 58.2 percent, above the national average of 54.4 percent.

"It's important to include part-time and transfer students because it represents a fast-growing number of non-traditional students who are successfully completing their studies at one of our state's public universities," said Daniel J. Hurley, CEO of the Michigan Association of State Universities. "We commend the efforts of CEPI to develop a new graduation rate system that better demonstrates the success our state universities are having in facilitating the educational goals of students and in meeting the needs of Michigan's employers."

The data reported by CEPI also shows that the statewide four-year success rate for universities has increased in each of the last three years. "This new Michigan postsecondary student success metric is further evidence of the accountability being displayed by the state's universities," said Hurley.

This new graduation rate/student success metric will serve as a more transparent and meaningful tool for all higher education stakeholders in the state. For more information on CEPI's Postsecondary Success Rates Report, visit www.mischooldata.org.