



July 1, 2022

For immediate release

For more information contact Daniel Hurley 517-243-2520

Michigan Association of State Universities applauds 2022-23 budget *Looks forward to additional discussion on Michigan Achievement Scholarship proposal*

The following can be attributed to Daniel Hurley, CEO, Michigan Association of State Universities:

“Michigan’s public universities are pleased with the passage today of the Fiscal Year 2022-23 higher education budget, which allocated \$55 million in additional support toward university operations. The 3.7% increase will enhance college affordability, encourage greater postsecondary enrollment, and help Michigan employers meet their needs for more workers with bachelor’s degrees. Importantly, additional investments were made to universities with historically lower per-student funding and to the significant reduction of unfunded pension liabilities for several universities that previously participated in the Michigan Public School Employees’ Retirement System, both of which have been longstanding funding priorities for the affected institutions.

The final budget negotiated by legislative leaders and Gov. Gretchen Whitmer marks a significant and much-needed state reinvestment in college affordability at Michigan’s 15 public universities, which have been challenged by a more than \$1 billion inflation-adjusted state disinvestment in higher education during the past 20 years. This budget sends a clear message that state lawmakers have made it a priority to provide Michiganders with the opportunity to achieve their college and career aspirations and that Michigan is committed to educating the workforce required to attract and retain the employers necessary to propel the state’s economy forward.

We look forward to continuing discussion on the \$250 million assigned to the new Postsecondary Scholarship Fund that was also included in the budget. The Senate-passed Michigan Achievement Scholarship, which would significantly increase college affordability for most new middle- and lower-income students enrolling at Michigan’s colleges and universities, would serve as an excellent template for these dollars.”