

## Statement from MASU CEO Daniel Hurley on the FY 2024 State Higher Education Budget

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Investing in higher education is the surest path to prosperity for Michigan—and for future generations of young people who will become the leaders and innovators of tomorrow. On behalf of Michigan’s 15 public universities, we commend Governor Whitmer and state legislators for making a significant commitment to higher education as reflected in the FY 2024 state budget, which includes a year-over-year increase of 5% for university operations.

The addition of \$50 million for the continued build-out of the Michigan Achievement Scholarship will improve and sustain the path to enhanced college affordability for state residents. The budget wisely includes an authorization of \$10 million to market the Michigan Achievement Scholarship, developing much needed awareness of the program and contributing significantly to driving student enrollment.

The budget also includes \$79 million for campus enhancements to technology, equipment, maintenance, and safety. For the first time in more than 20 years, the state will provide much-needed dollars to help maintain these great public assets. Restoring these payments has been a major priority for MASU for many years, and we are grateful to the administration and Legislature for their leadership. Surrounding states continued to invest in higher education infrastructure even while Michigan stopped, so this marks another turnaround in Michigan’s competitiveness for talent attraction.

In its entirety, the FY 2024 state budget for higher education marks another major step forward in improving college affordability, maintaining high academic quality, and strengthening the state’s future talent pipeline.