



## OFFICE OF COLLEGE ACCESS INITIATIVES

### ***Building youth's capacity for success***

The Office of College Access Initiatives (OCAI) provides academic enrichment programs to increase the number of students from low-income backgrounds who complete high school and enroll in post-secondary institutions. Programs provide ongoing support to low-income and first-generation students (families where neither parent has a bachelor's degree) who enroll in college.

OCAI serves students primarily in the Lansing area, and starting in 2021, has expanded to include Flint, Detroit, and Muskegon. OCAI also serves individuals who have dropped out of high school, to age 27, by encouraging them to complete their education.

Opportunities and services offered through OCAI programs include:

- Academic preparedness (literacy, critical thinking skills, study techniques, and test-taking)
- College application and financial aid
- College preparation courses
- Counseling and guidance
- College scholarships
- College visitations and tours
- Mentoring
- Career exploration and aptitude assessment
- Support to families

### **US@MSU Newsletter**

If you are an MSU student who wants to learn about resources to support your education, or if you are an MSU faculty member who wants information and resources on how best to support low-income and first-generation students, visit the Office of College Access Initiatives website and sign up for the *US@MSU Newsletter*.

## Youth Programs

### Upward Bound

Upward Bound (UB) is an intensive program serving highly motivated students' successful transition to post-secondary institutions. UB builds a support system that enhances students' academic and social experiences.

**For whom?** UB serves highly motivated, low-income and first-generation high school youths in Grades 9-12 in the Lansing area. Its Summer Academy serves high school students from Flint, Detroit, and Muskegon, in addition to Lansing students. UB also offers a Summer Bridge program for rising college freshmen.

### KCP/MI GEAR UP

KCP/MI GEAR UP provides early intervention for students in seventh grade through their first year of college to increase awareness and readiness for college.

**For whom?** KCP/MI GEAR UP serves Lansing-area middle and high school students (seventh grade through first year of college) and their families from schools in which 50% or more of the students are eligible for free or reduced lunch.



[ocai.engage.msu.edu](https://ocai.engage.msu.edu)



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