



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 disadvantaged backgrounds who complete high school and enroll in post-secondary institutions. Programs also provide follow up support to underrepresented students who enroll in post-secondary institutions. 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 (reading 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 (Underrepresented Students at MSU)

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 underrepresented 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, first generation, underrepresented high school youth 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/GEAR-UP

KCP/GEAR-UP provides early intervention services starting in seventh grade and follows students for 7 years. The program is designed to increase the number of low-income students entering college and prepare them for post-secondary education.

For whom? KCP/GEAR-UP serves Lansing area middle and high school students (7th grade through first year college) and their families from schools in which 50% or more of the students are eligible for free or reduced lunch programs.



ocai.engage.msu.edu



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