

# HOUSE BILL NO. 4123

February 25, 2025, Introduced by Reps. Jenkins-Arno, Wortz, Rigas, Frisbie, Wilson, Pavlov, Wozniak, Outman, Martin, Kelly, Edwards, Markkanen, Breen and BeGole and referred to Committee on Appropriations.

A bill to amend 2020 PA 84, entitled  
"Michigan reconnect grant act,"  
by amending sections 3 and 7 (MCL 390.1703 and 390.1707), section 3  
as amended by 2022 PA 251.

## **THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

- 1       Sec. 3. As used in this act:
- 2       (a) "Center" means the center for educational performance and
- 3       information created in section 94a of the school aid act of 1979,
- 4       1979 PA 94, MCL 388.1694a.
- 5       (b) "Department" means the department of labor and economic

1 opportunity.

2 (c) ~~"Eligible—Subject to subparagraph (ix), "eligible~~  
3 institution" means a postsecondary educational institution that  
4 meets all of the ~~following~~**requirements of subparagraphs (i) to**  
5 **(viii), as follows:**

6 (i) Is an accredited public community college in this state.

7 (ii) Complies with applicable restraints on fee and tuition  
8 rate increases, if any, provided for in article II of the school  
9 aid act of 1979, 1979 PA 94, MCL 388.1801 to 388.1830.

10 (iii) Participates in quality assurance protocols established by  
11 the department for purposes of accurately tracking student outcomes  
12 described in section 5(g) and (h).

13 (iv) Submits a written report of all of the following  
14 information to the department by not later than October 1, 2020 and  
15 each year thereafter by not later than June 30:

16 (A) The institution's goals, expressed numerically, for  
17 student persistence and credential completion.

18 (B) A demonstration of ways in which the institution follows  
19 best practices in providing programs of study and student support  
20 based on national evidence, including partnering with institutions  
21 that grant bachelor's degrees, providing coursework for general  
22 studies students and requirements of associate degrees and  
23 certificates, providing stackable industry-recognized micro  
24 credentials within certificate and associate degree programs,  
25 providing credit for prior learning, providing work-based learning  
26 opportunities, and providing holistic student support services.

27 (C) The institution's current policy for determining a  
28 student's eligibility to enroll directly into freshman-level  
29 courses without remediation.

1 (D) A description of and evidence base for all models of  
2 remediation currently offered by the institution.

3 (v) By not later than August 1, 2023, for all Michigan  
4 reconnect grant students who need academic remediation, provides  
5 appropriate academic support, including all of the following:

6 (A) A corequisite model of academic support for gateway  
7 English and mathematics pathway courses under which a student  
8 concurrently enrolls in a developmental education course and a  
9 freshman-level course in the same or a related subject area for  
10 each subject area needing remediation, to be completed during the  
11 same semester as the freshman-level course. An institution  
12 providing corequisite support as described in this sub-subparagraph  
13 remains eligible whether or not it charges tuition or fees for the  
14 developmental education portions of the program.

15 (B) Any additional remediation programs as the institution  
16 considers appropriate, subject to all of the following:

17 (I) An additional remediation program must serve as a  
18 supplement to, not as an alternative to, the corequisite model  
19 described in sub-subparagraph (A).

20 (II) For each additional remediation program, the institution  
21 must include in its annual report, pursuant to subparagraph (iv) (D),  
22 an evidence-based rationale for the program.

23 (III) An additional remediation program must be offered at no  
24 charge to Michigan reconnect grant students or offered outside of  
25 the institutional tuition and fee structure. For a program offered  
26 outside of its tuition and fee structure, an institution may use  
27 foundation or other local funding sources or refer students to  
28 adult education providers.

29 (vi) Provides reasonable accommodations to Michigan reconnect

1 grant students with disabilities as required by section 504 of  
2 title V of the rehabilitation act of 1973, 29 USC 794, and subtitle  
3 A of title II of the Americans with disabilities act of 1990, 42  
4 USC 12131 to 12134.

5 (vii) Designates an individual employed by the institution as  
6 the institution's primary contact with the department for purposes  
7 of coordinating the administration of the Michigan reconnect grant  
8 program in accordance with this act.

9 (viii) Demonstrates, in a form and manner prescribed by the  
10 department, that the institution does all of the following:

11 (A) Is working to adopt best practices for partnering with  
12 bachelor's degree granting institutions, providing coursework for  
13 general studies and requirements of associate degrees and  
14 certificates, providing stackable industry-recognized micro  
15 credentials within certificate and associate degree programs,  
16 providing credit for prior learning, providing work-based learning  
17 opportunities, providing holistic student support services, and  
18 providing a guided pathways model by which students receive early  
19 advising and career exploration, set a pathway of interest during  
20 their first term, and develop a full program plan within their  
21 first or second term.

22 (B) Informs Michigan reconnect grant students upon admission  
23 of its policies for converting prior learning into community  
24 college credit and any means available to maximize acceleration, as  
25 described in subparagraph (iv) (B) .

26 (C) Supports adult learners by offering competency-based  
27 courses and programs.

28 (D) Awards academic credit to learners scoring the minimum  
29 American Council on Education standard score on college-level

1 credit exams from organizations such as CLEP and DSST.

2 (E) Encourages Michigan reconnect grant students to establish  
3 an account on the institution's employment database.

4 (F) Identifies best practices in student success, reviews  
5 evidence to support best practices, and discusses with relevant  
6 experts emerging opportunities to increase the success of Michigan  
7 reconnect grant students. Subject to section 5a, an institution  
8 must perform the requirements of this sub-subparagraph in  
9 consultation with the Michigan Center for Adult College Success.

10 **(ix) For purposes of section 7(b) only, eligible institution**  
11 **includes an intermediate school district, career-tech facility,**  
12 **technical college, private training provider, apprenticeship**  
13 **program, or other provider that offers a program in this state**  
14 **leading to an industry-recognized certificate or credential,**  
15 **whether or not that program is a Pell-eligible program as that term**  
16 **is defined in section 13 of the Michigan reconnect grant recipient**  
17 **act, 2020 PA 68, MCL 390.1713, and whose program participants are**  
18 **not otherwise eligible for grants under the Michigan reconnect**  
19 **grant recipient act, 2020 PA 68, MCL 390.1711 to 390.1723.**

20 (d) "Industry-recognized certificate or credential" means a  
21 certificate or credential that is portable and is sought or  
22 accepted by multiple employers within an industry for purposes of  
23 recruitment, hiring, or promotion.

24 (e) "Michigan reconnect grant student" means a student  
25 admitted to and enrolled in an eligible institution, regardless of  
26 whether the student is receiving a Michigan reconnect grant under  
27 this act.

28 Sec. 7. Subject to appropriation, the department may expend  
29 Michigan reconnect grant program money to ~~award~~**do all of the**

1 following:

2 (a) Award grants and support its other duties as described in  
3 section 5.

4 (b) Award grants to participants in, and otherwise provide  
5 support to, programs leading to industry-recognized certificates or  
6 credentials offered by eligible institutions described in section  
7 3(c)(ix).