

IS A COLLEGE DEGREE RIGHT FOR ME?

The Benefits of Higher Education



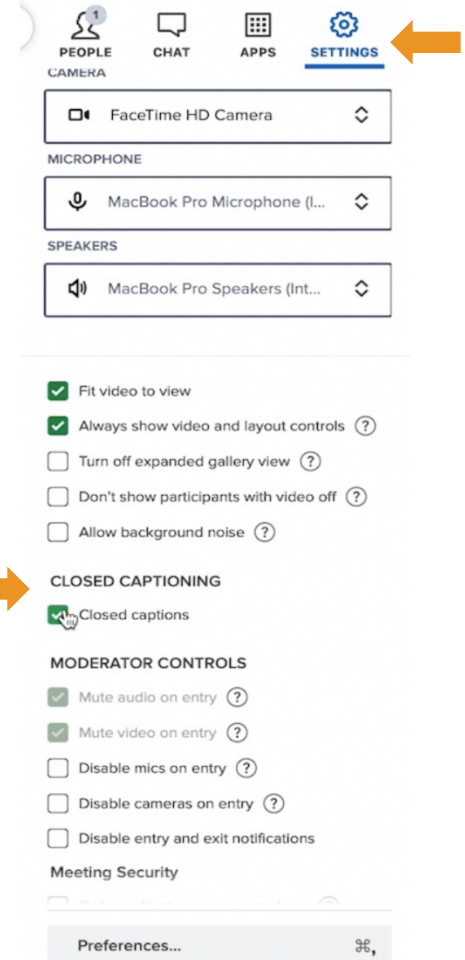
Workshop Guidelines

- Please be courteous and respectful to the host and other participants
- This is an interactive session - we welcome you to ask questions at any time (unmute your microphone or send questions via chat)
- The workshop presentation and other materials will be sent to all participants who provided an email address
- Follow up with your nearest Oakland County Michigan Works! service center for additional assistance

Turning on Closed Captioning

To turn on live closed captioning:

1. Download the BlueJeans app on your desktop or mobile device
2. Select 'Settings' at the top right of your screen
3. Scroll down to the 'Closed Captioning' option and select the option



A little bit about me

- OCC-MSU-Business Analysis, Security +
- FCD (Facilitating Career Development)
- Journalist/ Business Analyst/
Cybersecurity/Workforce Development
- IT education for 10 years
- Volunteers as a Mentor for WOMSA
- Joined the Oakland 80 initiative as a Career and Education Navigator in 2022

Tell Me About You

- Your first name
- What is your current status (Student, employed)
- What do you want out of today's workshop

Today's Focus

- What are the benefits of Higher Education?
- What are things we should consider?
- How to get started?
- What to do if you don't want to go to college?
- How Oakland 80 can help?

What are the benefits of Higher Education?

Job Prospects

- 83% of the population with advanced education is employed.
- More competitive in the market, more career opportunities
- Many employers require a college degree, improved career prospects.

Personal Development

- The output of higher education is not limited to a degree and an entry-level job.
- Individuals gain and strengthen various skills, including written and verbal communication skills.

Quality of Life

- Median earnings of bachelor's degree recipients working full-time year-round in 2008 were \$55,700. \$21,900 more than the median earnings of high school graduates..

What are things we should consider?

- What are my career goals?
- What is my financial situation?
- Will my life circumstances and other priorities support a college commitment?

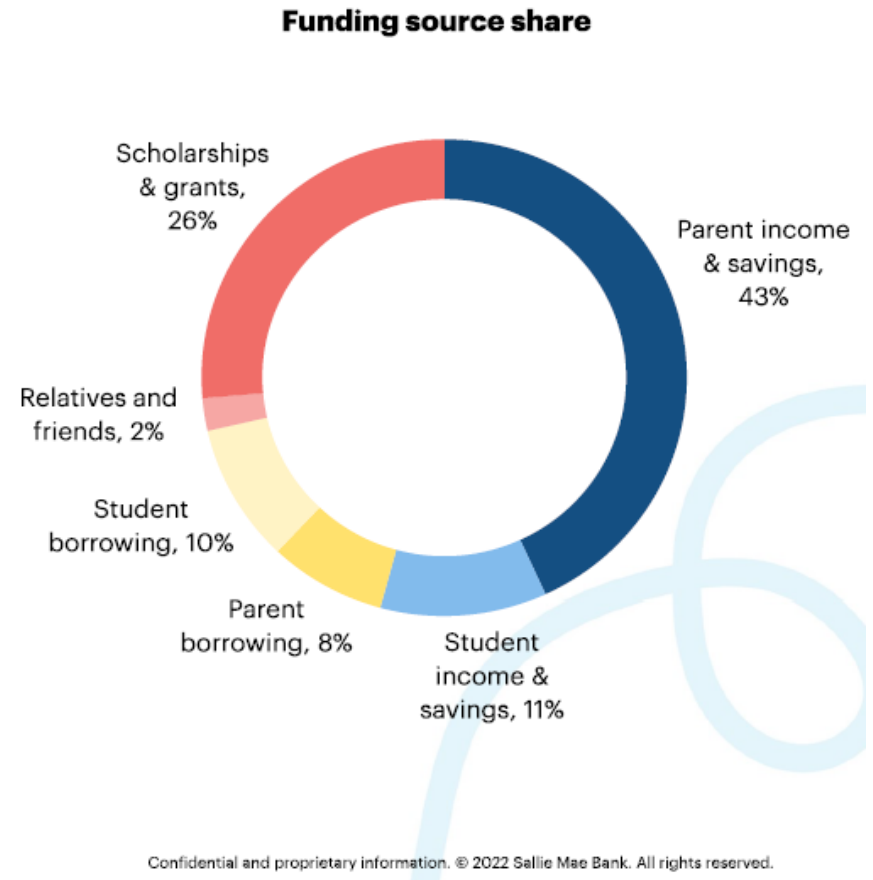
What are my career goals?

- What do I want to do for a living?
- Using the O*Net Interest Profiler
 - The **O*NET Interest Profiler** can help you find out what your interests are and how they relate to the world of work. You can find out what you like to do.
 - The **O*NET Interest Profiler** helps you decide what kinds of careers you might want to explore.

<https://www.mynextmove.org/>

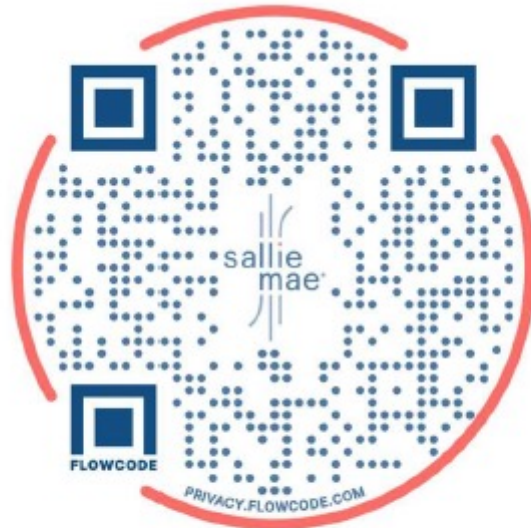
What are my financial resources?

- Federal Pell Grant
- Employer Reimbursement
- Michigan Reconnect Scholarship
- Michigan Achievement Scholarship
- Michigan Learning & Education Advancement Program (MiLEAP)
- Other Private Scholarships
- Subsidized Loans
- Non-Subsidized Loans



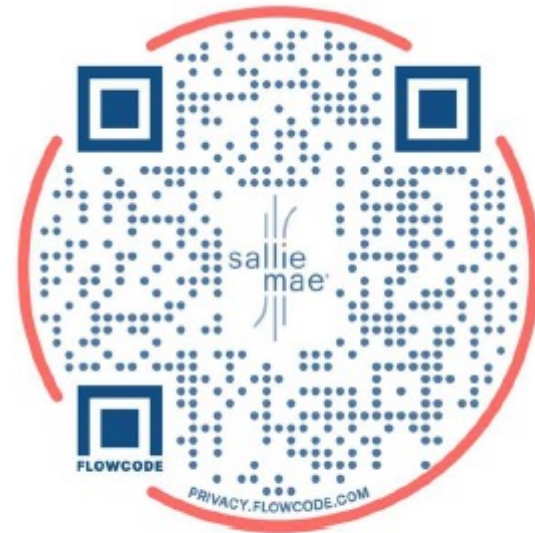
What are my financial resources?

Scholarship Search



salliemae.com/scholarshipsearch

Get started with the FAFSA®



salliemae.com/fafsa

What should I do if I don't want to go to college?

- **Take a gap year**
 - Travel to another country
 - Volunteer
 - Find a unique job
 - Learn a language
 - Start a business
- **Attend a trade school or obtain a certification**
 - Welder
 - Contractor
 - Electrician
 - Plumber
 - Hairstylist
 - Paralegal/Legal Assistant
 - Pilot

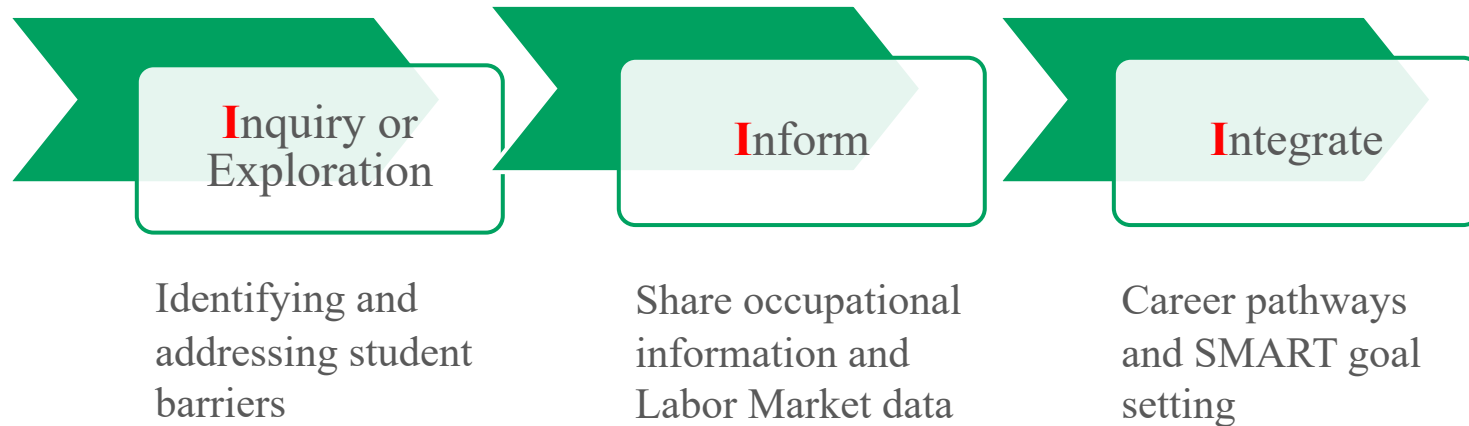
Addressing Life's Circumstances and Barriers

- The most common barriers for Adult Learners (25 years of age and older)
 - The number of hours they work
 - Being in the working poor demographic
 - Not being able to afford- college-relate expenses, such as books, supplies, tuition, and childcare
 - Have more responsibilities than traditional students, such as taking care of their children or older family members
 - <https://study.com/resources/college-barriers>

Ways Can Oakland80 Help

- Recommend education paths or certificate programs
- Complete the student aid process and FAFSA application
- Register for classes
- Locate scholarships
- Help find additional financial support to potentially pay for books, supplies, child care, and/or transportation

3-I Process of Career Navigation



Examples of Referral Sources

Resource	Services Provided
<u>Michigan Reconnect</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be at least 25 years old when you apply.• Have lived in Michigan for a year or more.• Have a high school diploma or equivalent.• Have not yet completed a college degree (associate or bachelor's)
<u>Oakland County Michigan Works</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Job Search Assistance• Tuition Assistance for Education/Training• Career Coaching• Workshops – Interviewing, Resume Development and Job Searches• Job Trend Information• Job Fairs and Events
<u>Oakland County Childcare Scholarship</u>	<p>Childcare is a challenge for many Oakland County families impacted by COVID-19. Eligible workers or those enrolled in qualified post-secondary education or credential programs are invited to apply for a special childcare scholarship from Oakland County, made possible through the American Rescue Plan.</p> <p>Each scholarship is worth \$1,200. The scholarships are available to the first 1,000 eligible families that apply.</p> <p>Services must be provided by a licensed childcare facility.</p>

Examples of Referral Sources

Resource	Services Provided
<u>Oakland County Clean Slate Program</u>	<p>Persons with select criminal convictions may be eligible to have them removed from public records at no cost to them through the Oakland County Clean Slate Program, administered by Oakland County Michigan Works!</p> <p>Expungement opens the doors to better jobs, better housing choices, and educational opportunities – a better quality of life. The process can take up to six months to complete. You must be a current Oakland County resident to qualify for expungement assistance.</p>
<u>Oakland County Veteran Services</u>	<p>As a U.S. veteran, part of your life’s journey was serving our country, and Oakland County is dedicated to honoring your service and helping you to map out all the veteran benefits you have earned. We have highly trained and accredited Veteran Benefits Counselors to guide you and your family members and advocate on your behalf.</p> <p>The professional counselors in our Veterans’ Services Division will help you to understand and simplify the application process for obtaining your veteran benefits. We are on your side, and our services are available at no charge.</p>

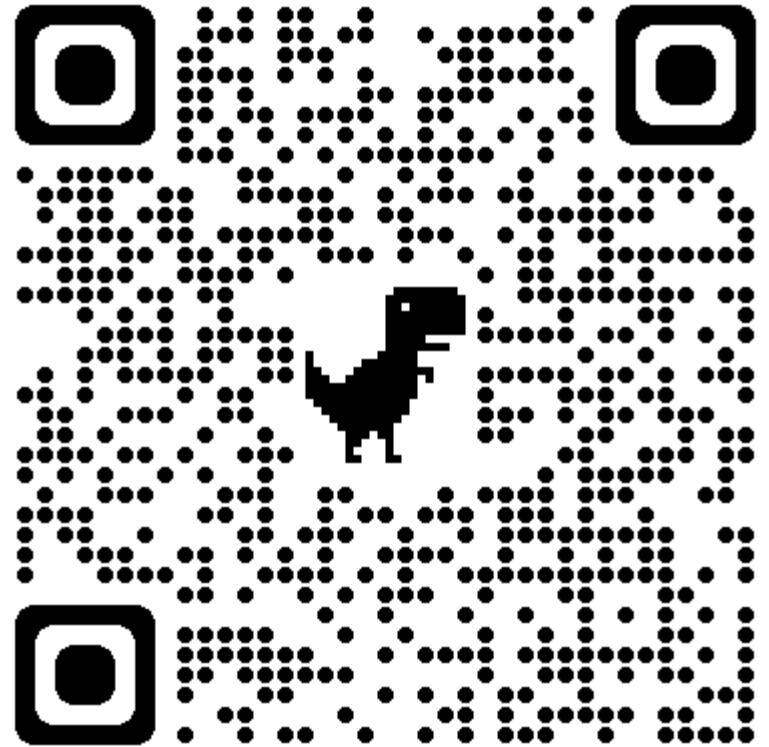
Examples of Referral Sources

Resource	Services Provided
<p>Michigan College Assess Network (MCAN)</p> <p>https://micollegeaccess.org/</p>	<p>At MCAN, we have one main goal: Increasing the percentage of Michigan residents with degrees or postsecondary certificates to 60% by the year 2030. By supporting increased access to postsecondary opportunities for low-income students, students of color, and first-generation college-going students, we address systemic inequities head-on. This way, we can empower students and communities in Michigan for generations to come.</p>
<p>Oakland Literacy Council</p> <p>https://www.oaklandliteracy.com/</p>	<p>For over 37 years, the Oakland Literacy Council (OLC) has enabled adult students to achieve individual literacy goals through a partnership with trained volunteer tutors. OLC serves native-English-speaking adults who need basic reading, writing, and math skills (adult basic education — ABE), and foreign-born adults who need English reading, writing, or conversation skills (English Language Learners — ESL)</p>
<p>Parent Empowerment Center</p> <p>Located in: Colony Square Address: 953 W Huron St, Waterford Twp, MI 48328 Hours: Open · Closes 3PM Phone: (248) 622-4334</p>	<p>Our mission is to improve the quality of life of our families in the community by increasing the community and civic engagement of parents. We do this by bringing awareness of their concerns to the broader community and serving as a vital support system to help fulfill their basic needs. In addition, we focus on outcomes that impact their everyday reality, such as housing stability, education, and employment.</p>

How to Get Started?

888-559-4360

www.oakgov.com/workforce/Oakland80



At Your Service

Monday-Friday, except state holidays

Telephone and Virtual Appointments Only

NOVI

31186 Beck Road
Novi, MI 48377

(248) 926-1820

OAK PARK

22180 Parklawn Street
Oak Park, MI 48237

(248) 691-8437

PONTIAC

1850 N. Perry Street
Pontiac, MI 48340

(248) 276-1777

SOUTHFIELD

21415 Civic Center Drive, Suite 116
Southfield, MI 48076

(248) 796-4580

TROY

550 Stephenson Highway, Suite 400
Troy, MI 48083

(248) 823-5101

WATERFORD

7500 Highland Road
Waterford, MI 48327

(248) 617-3600

A Proud Partner of the American Job Center Network

Equal Opportunity Employer: Program auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities | Michigan Relay Center or 711

Funded by: David Coulter, Oakland County Executive, Oakland County Workforce Development Board, Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity



DAVID COULTER
OAKLAND COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Questions



References

- <https://www.csuohio.edu/sites/default/files/The%20Benefits%20Of%20Higher%20Education.pdf>
- <https://data.oecd.org/eduatt/population-with-tertiary-education.html>
- <https://www.highpoint.edu/admissions/3-simple-ways-to-know-if-college-is-right-for-you/>
- <https://miwdi.org/accessforall/#:~:text=Access%20for%20All%20is%20a,for%20expenses%20during%20the%20training>