

Wayne State University Policy Priorities 2021

1. **Preserving and Expanding Investments in Higher Education.** Investing in public institutes of higher education benefits our state's residents, our workforce development, and ultimately produces positive economic benefit. However, deep and continual budget cuts have resulted in significant losses to all of our state's public institutions, most sincerely to WSU which is the only public university that has yet to recover from the Fiscal Year 2011 reductions. WSU prioritizes and supports broad state investments in public higher education, which allows for enhanced education affordability and growth of opportunities for our state's students.
2. **Supporting Community Police Relationships through Access to Training.** The National De-Escalation Training Center, headquartered at Wayne State University, is a national center of excellence offering comprehensive training to law enforcement officers. This training, which is law enforcement driven and informed, presents an opportunity to partner with the state to offer an important opportunity to local law enforcement agencies free of cost. Investing in the NDTC allows for free training of interested agencies without putting stress on their individual budgets, meets the expectations of MCOLES and state legislation proposing to require de-escalation training, and will ultimately serve as an opportunity for Michigan to lead the nation in comprehensive training opportunities.
3. **Funding Opportunities for Medical Students.** MiDOCS, the collaborative effort between the state, Wayne State University, Central Michigan University, Western Michigan University, and Michigan State University encouraging medical students to consider careers in certain specialties through educational debt relief and service in a medically underserved area, continues to be a success we are proud of and excited to grow. The program growth is dependent on ongoing state funding, university funding, and federal match dollars. WSU strongly supports growth of and investment in MiDOCS.
4. **Advancing Policies That Support and Foster Research.** As a member of the University Research Corridor (URC), which includes Wayne State University, Michigan State University and the University of Michigan, we believe in the incredible value of research. Whether it's being the primary resource for policy development and creation or translating research into business spin offs and actual jobs, we know that the work we do individually and through the URC collaborative is positively impacting Michigan's economy.
5. **Ensuring We're Able to Achieve our Mission, Vision, and Values.** Public 4-year institutions of higher education create opportunities for our state's residents across an incredible breadth of sectors. Our ability to create and advance knowledge, prepare a diverse student body to thrive, and positively impact local and global communities is directly impacted by state policies. WSU supports policies that foster access to 4-year degrees for all types of students, collaborative opportunities with educational entities allowing the enhancement of 4-year degree programs, and innovative approaches to education.