



MICHIGAN SENATE

Appropriations Requests for Legislatively Directed Spending Items

Date Submitted: 03/27/2026

1. Sponsoring legislator's full name:

Senator Stephanie Chang

2. Cosponsoring legislators' names (if applicable):

Erika Geiss, Sean McCann, Jeremy Moss, Sam Singh

3. Intended legislatively directed spending item recipient:

Global Michigan

4. Physical address of legislatively directed spending item recipient and the intended location of the project or activity:

2050 15th St. Suite 312, Detroit, MI 48216

5. The recipient's employer identification number:

383880502

6. Requested amount of the legislatively directed spending item:

\$3,017,000.00

7. What is the purpose and how does the legislatively directed spending item provide a public benefit that is an appropriate use of taxpayer money?

Funding will support and strengthen existing statewide programming and resources through the Michigan Global Talent Initiative (MGTI). Through seven strategic initiatives, the Michigan Global Talent Initiative was designed to add 100,000 to 125,000 college-educated immigrants to the Michigan workforce by 2030, focusing on: attracting and retaining high-skilled New Americans, international students, and entrepreneurs to Michigan while leveraging their skills, degrees, and experience; training and/or credentialing new residents and those already here; and placing this skilled and credentialed workforce with Michigan employers to fill unmet talent needs, establishing Michigan as a center for prosperity. The Michigan Global Talent Initiative aligns with the State's Sixty by 30 workforce development initiative, set forth by Governor Whitmer in 2019, to solve Michigan's talent needs. The Governor

set an ambitious goal that 60% of the Michigan workforce possess a college degree or professional credential by 2030. To reach that goal, accounting for the skill levels of Michigan residents aging in and out of the workforce, the state would need to add 450,000 skilled workers over the next 11 years. By adding 100,000 to 125,000 college-educated immigrants to the Michigan workforce through MGTI programming, global talent will account for roughly 25% of the talent needed to meet the state's ambitious goal and would nearly double the growth rate of skilled immigrant attraction and retention. Census data from 2024 documents immigration's enormous contribution to meeting Michigan workforce and talent needs. Not only is immigration responsible for all of Michigan's net population growth over the past half decade, but an analysis by Global Detroit of the 2024 Census numbers suggests that Michigan has added 54,674 college educated immigrants to its workforce since 2019. MGTI was premised on the notion that a Do-Nothing Strategy would likely add 65,000 more college educated immigrant workers to the Michigan economy based on 2011-2018 immigration trends. By adding 54,674 college-educated workers to the Michigan economy, MGTI is on pace to add over 120,000 college-educated immigrants by 2030 or more than 25% of the total talent needed. MGTI is supported by the Michigan Global Talent Coalition, a statewide coalition of 25 leading business, industry and economic development organizations including Business Leaders of Michigan, Detroit Regional Chamber, Grand Rapids Chamber, Traverse Connect, Invest UP, Midland Business Alliance, Small Business Association of Michigan and several other similar organizations. MGTI is staffed by Global Detroit and works with more than 50 university, community college, workforce development, national nonprofit, chamber of commerce, local economic development and private sector partners. MGTI includes the nation's largest international student retention program, investment in community colleges, skilled immigrant integration programs, contextualized ESL programs, as well as innovative programs to support immigrant-led high-tech startup programs.

8. Has the legislatively directed spending item previously received or been awarded any of the following types of funding in the past 5 years? If so, how much? Check all that apply:

State

Amount

\$10,000,000.00

9. Estimated time frame for completion of the legislatively directed spending item project:

October 1, 2026 - September 30, 2027

10. Is the recipient a nonprofit corporation?

Yes

Additional Information for Nonprofit Corporations (if applicable)

The answer to questions 1 to 3 must be "Yes" for the nonprofit corporation to qualify for a legislatively directed spending item.

1. Has the nonprofit corporation continuously operated in this state for the preceding 36 months?

Yes

2. Has the nonprofit corporation had a physical office in this state for not less than the preceding 12 consecutive months?

Yes

3. Does the organization have a board of directors?

Yes

4. List all of the officers and active members on the board of directors:

Tati Amare Jim Becker (Board Chair) Bashar Cholagh Omar Cuevas Rami Fakhoury
Greg Handel Grace Lee (Treasurer) Luz Viviana Meza Eva Millona Karen Phillippi
Gracie Xavier

Certification By Sponsoring Legislator

"I certify that my immediate family members, legislative staff members, and I have no direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the requested legislatively directed spending item."

"I certify that the intended recipient of this legislatively directed spending item is not a for-profit entity."

"I certify that the information in this form is true to the best of my knowledge."

Senator Stephanie Chang