



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Great Lakes Offers Grants to Help Future College Students Avoid the Remediation Trap** *Up to \$300,000 for Programs Preparing Students to Pass College-Level Math and English*

Madison, Wis. – A college degree represents a proven way up for students from low-income backgrounds. But startling statistics show that when such students are severely unprepared for college-level math and English and forced into remedial classes, few finish their programs and see the benefits of higher education.

That's why [Great Lakes Higher Education Guaranty Corporation](#) is inviting programs with solutions to this significant problem to apply for our 2014-2015 *College Ready* grants. Grants of up to \$300,000 each will be awarded to programs that serve students who, given appropriate attention, tutoring, and skill-building activities, can become prepared to succeed in college-level math and English classes.

“Too many students from traditionally underserved backgrounds become trapped in several semesters of remedial courses, depleting their financial aid to essentially take high school-level classes at college prices,” said Richard D. George, Great Lakes’ President and Chief Executive Officer. “More often than not, these students leave college without ever earning the degrees that have the power to transform their lives.”

According to Complete College America’s report, [Remediation: Higher Education’s Bridge to Nowhere](#), “Graduation rates for students who started in remediation are deplorable: Fewer than 1 in 10 graduate from community colleges within three years and little more than a third complete a Bachelor’s degree in six years.”

Learning from the results attained by previous grantees and information from experts in the field, Great Lakes is focusing its third *College Ready* grant on preparing high school juniors and seniors and adult learners to pass college-level math and English courses. Grants will fund programs serving students from traditionally underserved backgrounds—those from low-income families, students of color, and those who are first in their families to attend college.

Organizations eligible to apply for grants include community-based organizations and nonprofit colleges and universities in Iowa, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

Applications, due October 17, 2013, can be accessed online at [mygreatlakes.org/community](http://mygreatlakes.org/community).

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***About Great Lakes and Community Investments***

*Knowing that education has the power to change lives for the better, Great Lakes Higher Education Corporation & Affiliates helps millions of students pay for college and repay their student loans. Through Community Investments, Great Lakes leads initiatives and funds programs that help students from traditionally underserved backgrounds start and complete a two- or four-year degree or other credential. Since 2006, Great Lakes has committed more than \$88 million in funding to programs that share these goals. For additional information, visit [mygreatlakes.org/community](http://mygreatlakes.org/community).*