



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Nearly 1,500 MPS Students Apply to College Before They Start Senior Year**

*Juniors still have until June 1; M-Cubed Milwaukee Direct Admit  
has already exceeded 35% participation target*

**MILWAUKEE (May 27, 2025)** – High school juniors at Milwaukee Public Schools have a few days left to join nearly 1,500 of their classmates in applying early to college.

The deadline is June 1 for juniors to complete the free, simple M-Cubed Milwaukee Direct Admit form. In less than five minutes, students can apply to Milwaukee Area Technical College, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, or both. Students can go to [mpsmke.com/directadmit](https://mpsmke.com/directadmit) to get started.

Milwaukee Direct Admit effort is part of M-Cubed, a partnership connecting MPS, MATC and UWM to build bridges from K-12 to higher education and transform Milwaukee through education. As one initiative in the partnership, M-Cubed Milwaukee Direct Admit is specifically designed to simplify the college application process. There are no essays, no letters of recommendation, and no test scores, attachments, or transcripts for the students to send. MPS provides UWM and MATC with transcripts and other needed information directly. And by starting the process early — during junior year instead of senior year — students can focus their senior year on finishing strong, completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and getting registered for college classes.

### **Students and families are already responding in increasing numbers.**

The 1,467 MPS juniors who have already applied represent 39% of the class -- exceeding M-Cubed's goal of 35% and nearly doubling the 21% who applied last year.

Last year's applicants are now high school seniors and nearly 900 began their senior year with a college acceptance in hand. Through another M-Cubed initiative — Smart

Start — they spent their senior year getting to know one another, registering for classes and getting oriented to college. They can participate in a summer program, and the support continues into their first year at UWM or MATC. Together, these efforts are aimed at increasing the number of Milwaukee high school students who go on to and succeed in higher education, lifting up the individuals, their families, our community — and building a skilled, diverse workforce.

### **About M<sup>3</sup> (M-Cubed)**

M<sup>3</sup> seeks to transform the future of Milwaukee through education. Through collaboration, coordination and partnership, MPS, MATC and UWM will increase the retention, graduation and career success of our students and provide a prepared workforce and citizenry for the Wisconsin economy. M<sup>3</sup> will also provide the education and resources to help drive an entrepreneurial mindset for all students to increase choices and opportunities for growth.

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