



MONTANA DIGITAL ACADEMY

## 2014-2015 ORIGINAL CREDIT Courses

**MATHEMATICS**

Pre-Algebra  
Algebra I  
Geometry  
Algebra II with Trigonometry  
Pre-Calculus  
AP Calculus AB  
Introduction to Statistics  
Math & Liberal Arts

**SCIENCE**

Earth Science  
Biology  
Chemistry  
Physics  
Environmental Science  
AP Biology  
AP Physics 1  
Oceanography  
Crown of the Continent  
Your Brain on School  
Anatomy  
Astronomy

**CAREER & TECHNICAL ED.**

Health Occupations/Careers  
Microsoft Office Career Tech  
Personal Finance  
Web Design  
Computer Science  
Entrepreneurship  
Sports & Entertainment Marketing

**HEALTH / PE**

Health  
Physical Education I  
Physical Education II

**FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCE**

Fashion & Interior Design  
Now We're Cooking: Intro. to Culinary Arts

**SPECIAL ELECTIVES**

Native American Studies

**ART/MUSIC**

Digital Photography  
Art History/Appreciation  
Music Appreciation  
Music Theory

**ENGLISH / LANGUAGE ARTS**

English 1  
English 2  
English 3  
English 4  
AP English Language and Composition  
AP English Literature and Composition  
Creative Writing  
Mythology & Folklore

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

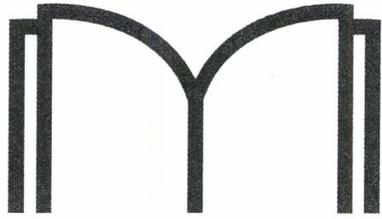
Global Studies  
Montana History  
World History  
U.S. History  
AP U.S. History  
AP Government and Politics  
American Government  
Current Issues in Government  
Psychology  
AP Psychology  
AP Macroeconomics  
Criminology

**WORLD LANGUAGE**

Chinese 1 & 2  
French 1, 2 & 3  
Latin 1 & 2  
Spanish 1, 2 & 3  
German 1 & 2  
Irish Language

**MIDDLE SCHOOL ONLY**

Middle School Multi-Language Sampler  
Stepping Stones to Middle School Algebra 1



**MONTANA** DIGITAL ACADEMY

**2014-2015  
MTDA  
CONNECT  
Credit  
Recovery  
Courses**

**MATHEMATICS**

**Algebra 1 A & B CR  
Algebra 2 A & B CR  
Geometry A & B CR  
Consumer Mathematics CR  
Pre-Algebra A & B CR**

**HEALTH  
Health CR**

**SOCIAL STUDIES**

**American History A & B CR  
Economics A & B CR  
Geography A & B CR  
U.S. Government A & B CR  
World History A & B CR**

**SCIENCE**

**Biology A & B CR  
Earth & Space Science A & B CR  
Chemistry A & B CR  
Physics A & B CR**

**ENGLISH**

**English 9 A & B CR  
English 10 A & B CR  
English 11 A & B CR  
English 12 A & B CR**

**ELECTIVES**

**Art History & Appreciation CR**

Montana Digital Academy | <http://www.montanadigitalacademy.org>

406-203-1812 | For questions please email: [staff@montanadigitalacademy.org](mailto:staff@montanadigitalacademy.org)

# Montana Digital Academy Highlights

## February 18, 2015

### Timeline/History

- **July 2009** – Montana Legislature approves \$2M funding to start Montana Digital Academy.
- **September 2010** – MTDA opens for student enrollment with 45 courses taught by licensed Montana teachers from 29 school districts.
- **April 2011** – Montana Legislature approves the 2011-2013 funding: \$2.3 M
- **June 2013** – Cumulative 3 year enrollment tops 18,000; Legislature approves 2013-15 funding.
- **February 2015** - MTDA offers 84 course titles taught by 104 licensed Montana teachers who have all successfully completed the MTDA online teacher training program. Estimate of cumulative 5 year enrollment will exceed 30,000.

### MTDA high school programs:

Original Credit & Credit Recovery

#### Original Credit:

**Purpose:** *For students taking a class for the first time to expand or extend their learning.*

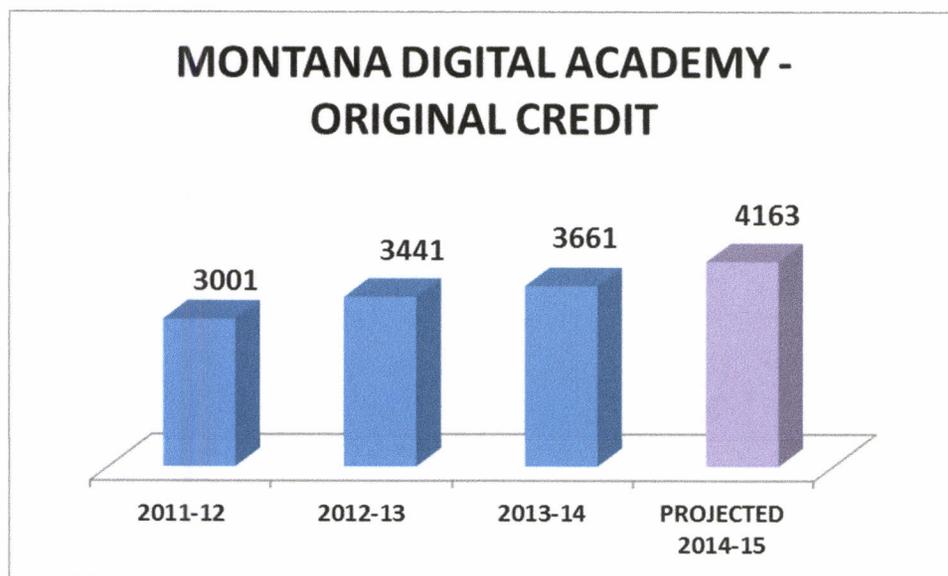
**Courses:** 59 Course titles in mathematics, science, English and social studies including: 8 AP™ advanced placement classes, 6 world languages and unique electives.

**Delivery:** 93 licensed Montana Teachers.

**Style:** Pacing is set up by the teacher. Students are in a cohort group.

**Academic Calendar:** All students start and end at the same time. Similar to face-to-face classroom.

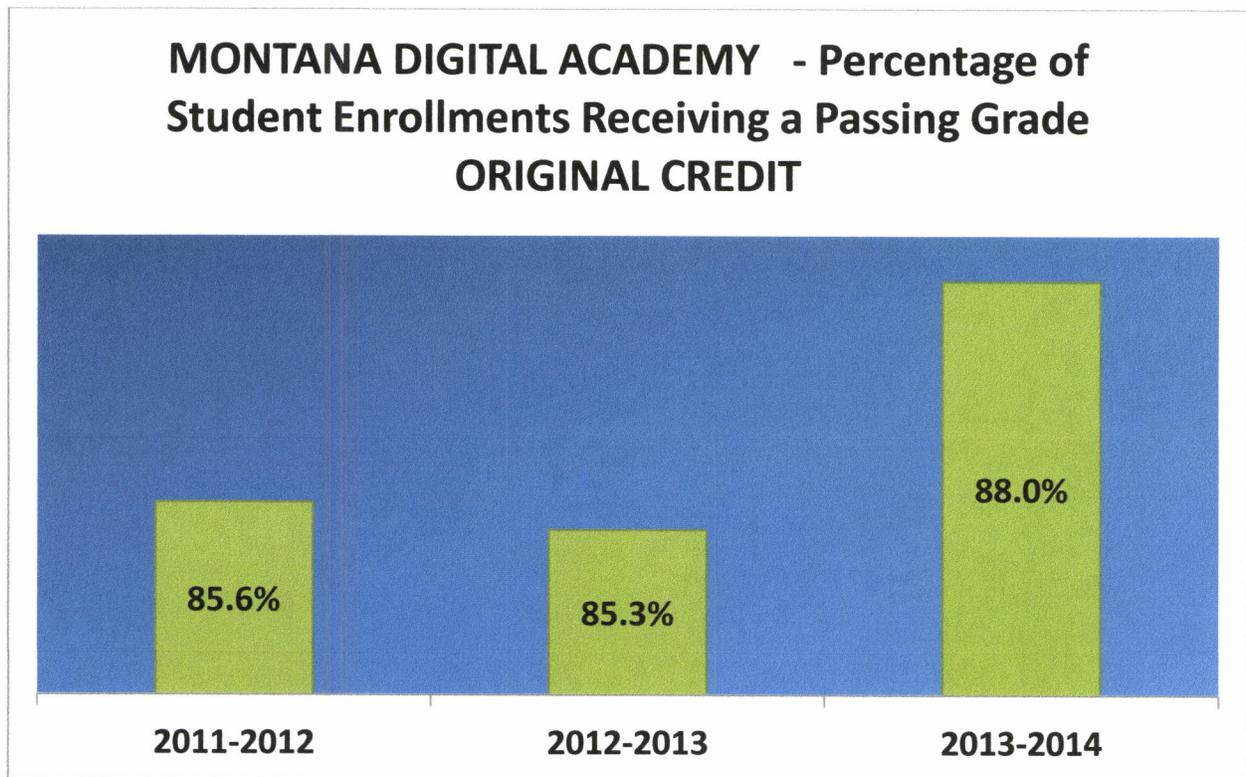
**Available:** 24/7



MTDA opened for Montana students in the fall of 2010 and offering original credit courses utilizing the services of teachers from Montana's public schools. The teachers all completed an online teaching training in preparation for the first semester. The title, original credit, was selected to denote that

these were classes designed for students taking the class for the first time to extend or expand their learning. In the 2010-11 school year many schools enrolled students in need of credit recovery in the original credit classes and for the most part they found that this do not meet the needs of these students. This trial during the first year led to the eventual development of the credit recovery program.

While the students who enroll in original credit classes are from high schools of all sizes across the state it does provide great academic access and equity for the very small class C and B high schools. The six world language classes are very popular in these schools as many have only one world language course offering. Also students from these schools enroll in upper level mathematics and science as well as advanced placement courses which again are not available to them in their small high schools.



This chart represents the percentage of student enrollments who have earned a passing grade in the original credit courses for the past three years. Most students take one or two classes annually however some enroll in more than that.

**Credit Recovery:**

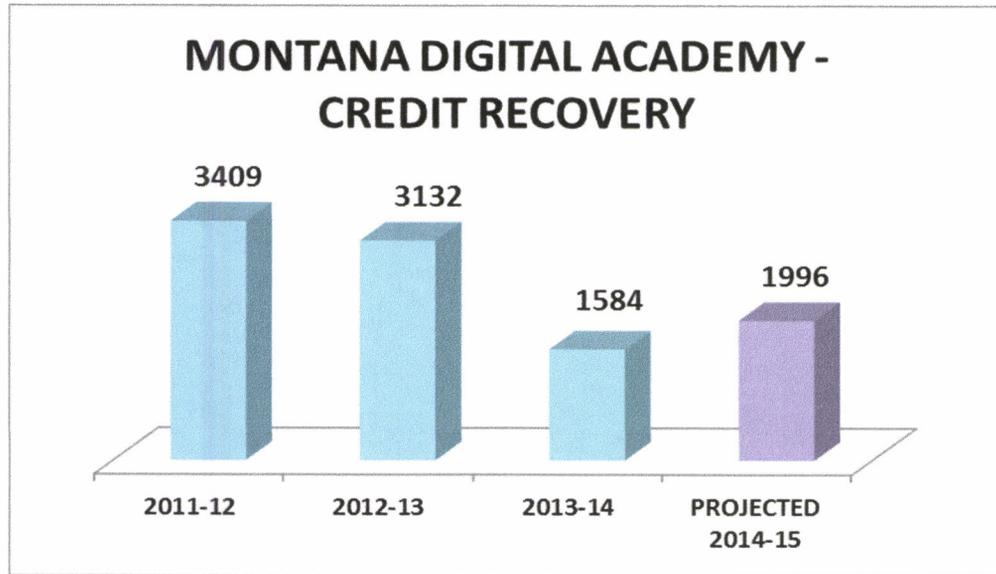
**Purpose:** *For students needing to make up a class they have failed.*

**Courses:** 20 Course titles in mathematics, science, English and social studies.

**Delivery:** 11 licensed Montana teachers that serve in the role of academic coach.

**Style:** Students work at their own pace.

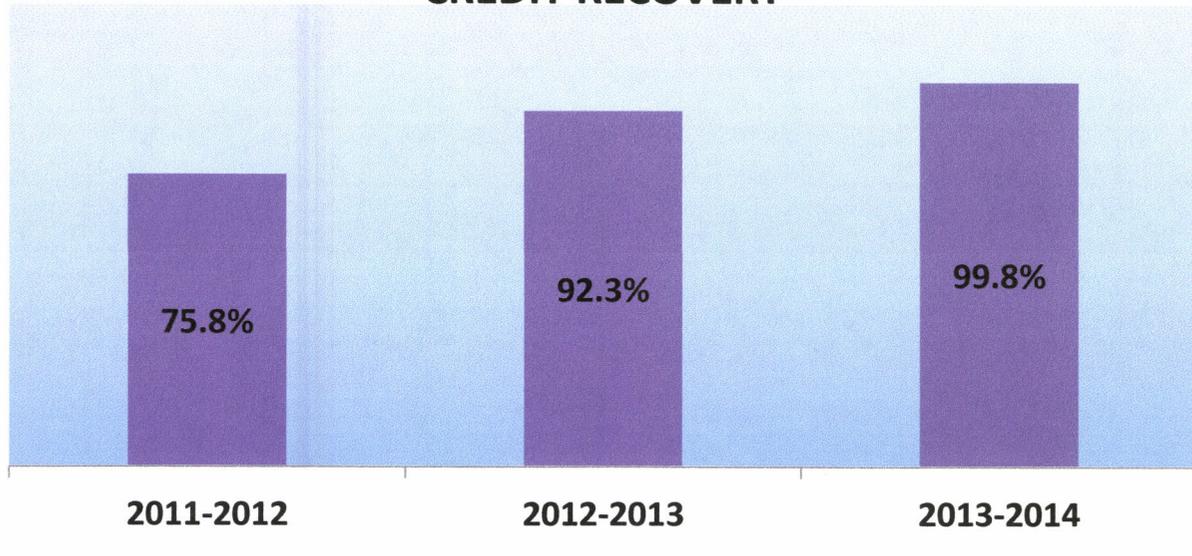
**Academic Calendar:** Open enrollment: Students are limited to one course; they can start a new course when finished but must finish course by the end of the semester.



**Available:** 24/7

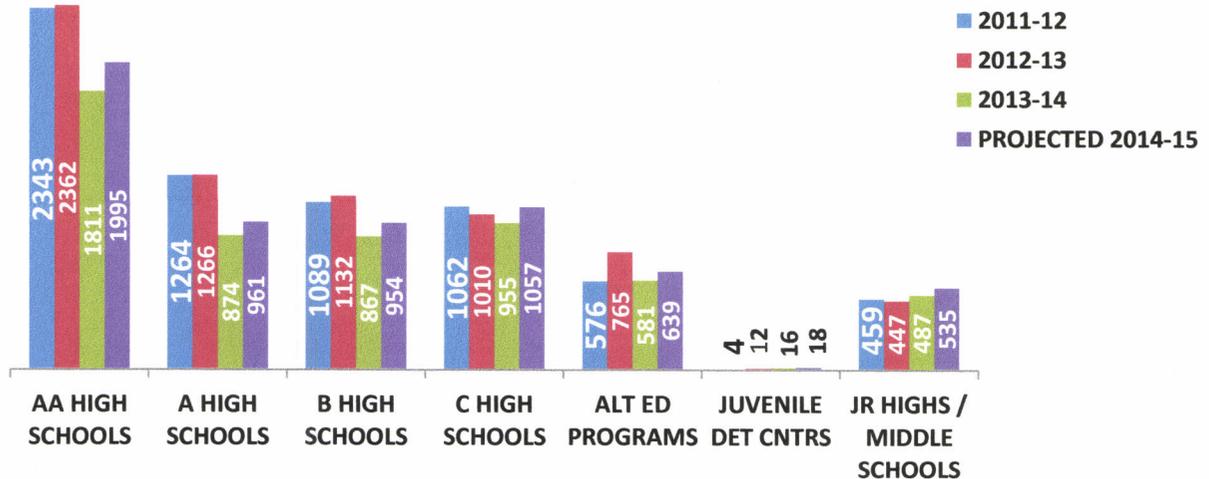
The credit recovery portion of the MTDA academic program was developed in response to the need identified and expressed by Montana educators, in particular superintendents, principals and counselors for a more flexible, student self-paced instructional model. Based on a mastery learning model which is designed to provide more student- paced, learning activities targeted, more appropriately, to reinforce or fill in the gaps in learning that occurred when students failed the course the first time. The MTDA credit recovery program has assisted thousands of Montana students in retrieving previously failed credits enabling them to get back on track for graduation with their peers. In 2013-14 MTDA instituted a major revision in the program designed to increase student opportunity for success. Beginning that year, in an effort to help students be more successful, they were limited to one enrollment at a time and then due to the flexible self- paced nature of the program they could complete the class as rapidly as they chose and immediately enroll in the next course. Prior to this modification students were enrolling in multiple courses at a time and many were not successfully completing them. While this has led to a noticeable decline in overall enrollments it has helped students to better manage their course load and it has provided them with a more realistic approach to getting back on track for graduation and has increased the rate of successful course completion.

## MONTANA DIGITAL ACADEMY - Percentage of Student Enrollments Receiving a Passing Grade CREDIT RECOVERY



The chart above represents the percentage of student enrollments who have earned a passing grade in credit recovery classes for the past three years. MTDA began experimenting with the process of limiting enrollments in 2012-13 and fully implemented this procedure in 2013-14.

## MONTANA DIGITAL ACADEMY - ENROLLMENTS BY MHSA HIGH SCHOOL SIZE & OTHER SCHOOLS/PROGRAMS



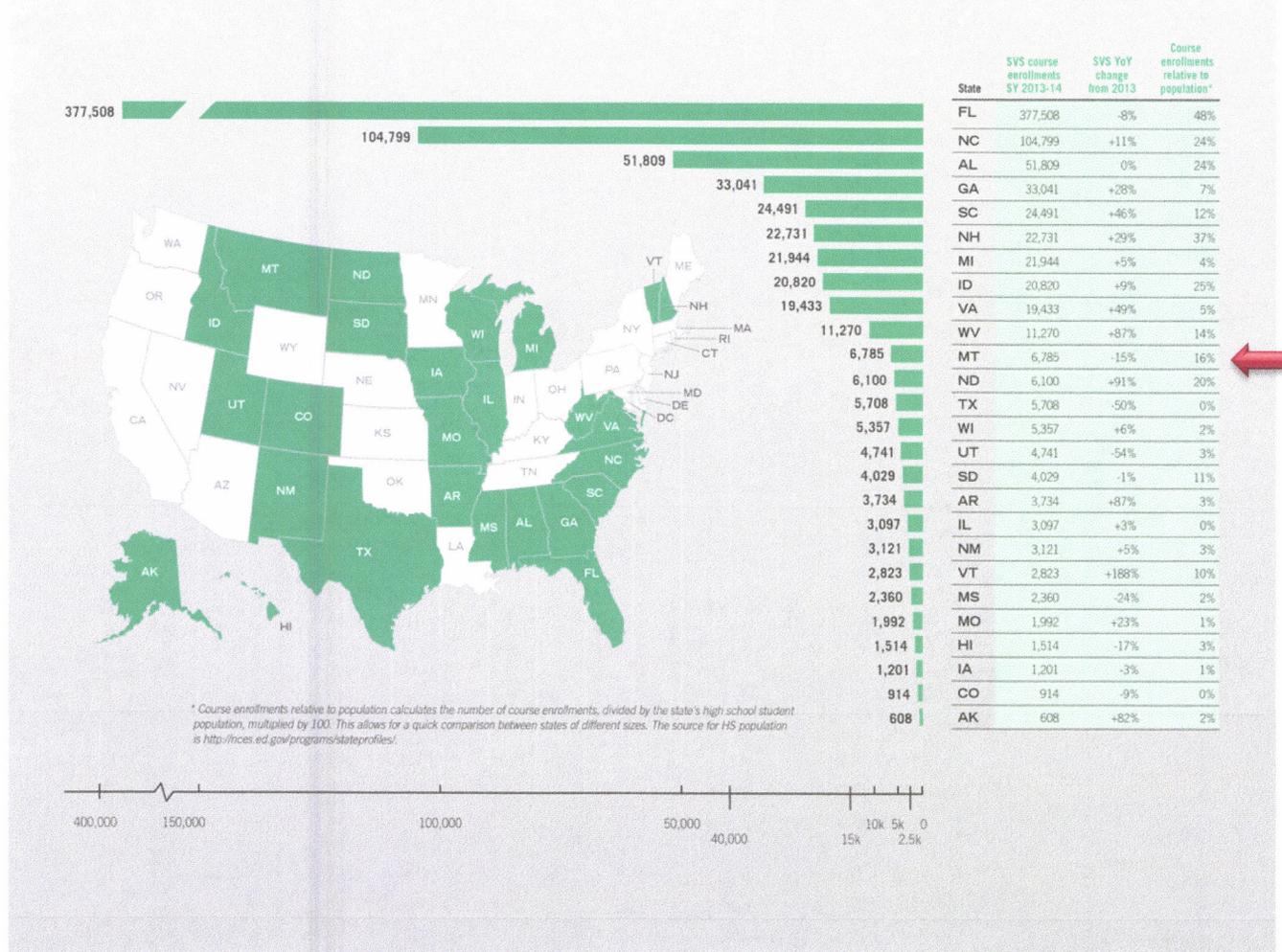
The chart above provides a three year overview of the usage by the high schools in Montana. For easy reference they are categorized using their Montana High School Association designation. The chart reflects the comprehensive use of MTDA by schools of all sizes across Montana.

## A Comparison of Montana Digital Academy with the other state virtual schools.

2014

### States with State Virtual Schools

FIGURE 1: COURSE ENROLLMENTS IN STATE VIRTUAL SCHOOLS



MTDA is in its fifth year of existence however it continues to have a strong presence with regard to the other 26 statewide virtual school programs. While the change in credit recovery program caused a decline in enrollments MTDA still had the **7<sup>th</sup> best course enrollment percentage** relative to the state high school population meaning MTDA is serving a very high number of Montana high school students when compared to other state virtual schools.

Source: *Keeping Pace with K-12 Digital Learning: An Annual Review of Policy and Practice (2014)*

<http://www.kpk12.com/>