



Education Interim Committee

65th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

EDIE MCCLAFFERTY--Chair
TOM FACEY
DANIEL SALOMON
RUSSEL TEMPEL

HOUSE MEMBERS

FRED ANDERSON--Vice Chair
JACOB BACHMEIER
MOFFIE FUNK
DONALD JONES

COMMITTEE STAFF

PAD MCCRACKEN, Lead Staff
LAURA SANKEY KEIP, Staff Attorney
JENNI CARR, Secretary

MINUTES LOG

April 25, 2018
Room 137, Capitol Building
Helena, Montana

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides a notation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video record of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

Access to an electronic copy of these minutes and the audio or video recording is provided from the Legislative Branch home page at <http://leg.mt.gov>. On the left-side menu of the home page, select Committees, then Interim. Once on the page for Interim Committees, scroll down to the appropriate committee. The written Minutes Log, along with the audio and video recordings, is listed by meeting date on the interim committee's web page. Each of the Exhibits is linked and can be viewed by clicking on the Exhibit of interest. All Exhibits are public information and may be printed.

Please contact the Legislative Services Division at 406-444-3064 for more information.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

SEN. TOM FACEY, chair
SEN. DANIEL SALOMON
REP. FRED ANDERSON
REP. JACOB BACHMEIER

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED

STAFF PRESENT

PAD MCCRACKEN, Lead Staff
LAURA SANKEY KEIP, Staff Attorney
JENNI CARR, Secretary

VISITORS' LIST (Attachment 1)

AGENDA (Attachment 2)

COMMITTEE ACTIONS

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL (Attachment 3)

00:00:04 Sen. Facey brought the meeting to order. The committee secretary took roll.

WORKING SESSION TO DETERMINE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EDIC REGARDING STATE FINANCIAL AID PROGRAMS - Laura Sankey Keip, LSD Staff Attorney; Shauna Albrecht, LFD Analyst; Tyler Trevor, Deputy Commissioner of Higher Education

00:01:37 Mr. McCracken began the work session, and introduced Shauna Albrecht, Deputy Commissioner Trevor, and Ron Muffick, OCHE.

00:02:27 Sen. Facey asked how high school students look into financial aid.

00:02:35 Ms. Sankey Keip reviewed the materials provided. ([Exhibit 1](#)) ([Exhibit 2](#)) ([Exhibit 3](#)) ([Exhibit 4](#)) ([Exhibit 5](#)) ([Exhibit 6](#)) ([Exhibit 7](#)) ([Exhibit 8](#)) ([Exhibit 9](#))

Overview of the financial aid progress

00:04:53 Mr. McCracken went through an overview of the financial aid process. ([Exhibit 10](#))

00:14:17 Sen. Facey asked if the loan format was the same for any school that was part of the MUS system.

00:19:09 Sen. Facey asked for more information on work-study positions.

00:20:02 Sen. Facey asked what happens with room and board costs if the student continues to live at home.

00:20:50 Sen. Salomon asked if living at home would count as family contribution.

Goals for the state financial aid programs

00:21:17 Ms. Sankey Keip asked what the issues are with financial aid and what recommendations the subcommittee has for the next Education Interim Committee.

00:22:11 Sen. Facey asked about the "last dollar in" programs, room and board, and tuition and fees in regards to those programs.

00:25:13 Sen. Facey discussed his ideas on dividing financial means between students.

Review of existing state financial aid programs

00:28:00 Mr. McCracken referred to Exhibit 5.

00:31:13 Sen. Facey clarified the need to leverage as much money as possible to get the most impact for the most students and families.

00:32:05 Sen. Salomon asked for more information on the STEM scholarships.

00:33:33 Sen. Facey asked how the legislature could help more families.

00:42:00 Sen. Salomon asked about the MUS honors scholarship.

Programs in other states

00:46:46 Sen. Facey asked how funds were divided up in other states.

Montana financial aid overview

00:49:53 Sen. Facey asked about the match by MUS and clarification on Exhibit 1.

00:54:20 Sen. Salomon asked if the total number of students was dropping in the state.

00:58:14 Sen. Salomon asked for clarification on percentages.

- 00:59:25 Sen. Salomon asked where the funds come from for MUS waivers and if the waiver could be considered state contribution.
- 01:07:16 Sen. Facey asked for clarification on Exhibit 6.
- 01:11:41 Sen. Salomon asked if there were once more slots in certain programs.

Possible options

- 01:14:25 Sen. Facey asked for committee recommendations regarding which programs to fund.
- 01:15:10 Rep. Anderson suggested getting rid of programs that are on paper only and are not getting funded, and providing consistency for the state.
- 01:16:58 Sen. Facey asked for clarification on Exhibits 3 and 4.
- 01:21:33 Sen. Facey asked in which ways the committee could ensure that the tribal colleges, community colleges, and flagships could partake in an equitable manner towards any money the state might have towards that.
- 01:22:31 Rep. Bachmeier asked about funding the "Montana Promise."

BREAK (reconvene 2:50)

- 01:54:10 Sen. Facey reconvened the meeting.

Committee questions and discussion

- 01:54:26 Rep. Bachmeier asked Mr. Trevor for clarification on the priorities of opportunity, workforce development, and merit retention.
- 01:55:00 Rep. Bachmeier asked for Mr. Trevor's vision on what could work and policy points that could be analyzed for consideration.
- 02:01:30 Sen. Facey asked the subcommittee what they would like to be included on a possible report for the Education Interim Committee.
- 02:02:05 Committee discussion.
- 02:11:44 Ms. Albrecht discussed details about the STEM scholarship. ([Exhibit 11](#))
- 02:14:27 Mr. McCracken used Exhibit 9 to clarify the committee's decisions.
- 02:15:57 Committee discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

- 02:19:24 With no further business before the subcommittee, Sen. Facey adjourned the meeting at 3:22pm.