

Development of 2-year Education in Montana

Prepared for the MUS 2-Year Commission, September 2019
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Constitutional Changes

1887

Common Schools and University System are governed by **State Board of Education** whose powers and duties are prescribed by the LEG.

1972

Board of Public Education (BPE) “generally supervises” K-12. **Board of Regents (REG)** has “full power” to “supervise, coordinate, manage, and control” University System. Combined, these two boards are **State Board of Education**.

2020

Postsecondary vocational education

1939 – State Board can authorize high schools to establish vo-tech centers

1969 – LEG limits # of vo-techs based on tax base and replaces ANB funding with up to 1 mill levy in the 5 eligible counties

1975 – LEG tries to assign oversight of the vo-techs to renamed State Board of Vocational Education; court rejects

1979 – LEG assigns oversight of vo-techs to SPI; increases levy to 1.5

1987 – LEG assigns vo-techs to REG; makes 1.5 mills in the 5 counties mandatory to state GF

1994 – MUS restructures into “2 hemisphere” model; 5 vo-techs assigned to “parent campus” in each hemisphere and rebranded as “Colleges of Technology”

2009-2012 – Gallatin and Bitterroot Colleges established; CoT branding ends

Community Colleges

1940 – Miles and Dawson Junior Colleges established as part of county HS

1965 – LEG establishes CC laws separate from HS

1967 – FVCC forms

1971 – No more ANB funding for CCs; CC funding formula established; supervision by “Regents” (Board of Ed)

1975 – CC funding formula revised

1979 – Regents and CCs must delineate CC governance under [20-15-103](#)

1983 – CC funding formula revised

2007 – CC funding formula revised; Ravalli County effort to create CC; LEG rejects (2009)

2019 – CC funding formula revised; creation statutes clarified

Tribal Colleges

1974-1984 – Tribal colleges established under federal law

1995 – LEG enacts reimbursements for nonbeneficiary students