

Biennial Budget

HB 2 - General Appropriation Act

- **MUS HB2 Budget:** General Fund & State Special

Biennial Increase

2023 Biennial Budget = \$547,080,314

2025 Biennial Budget = \$591,313,681

Total Biennial \$\$ Inc = \$37,833,367

Total Biennial % Inc = 6.9%

Increase Over Base Year

FY23 = \$280,296,842 FY23 = \$280,296,842

FY24 = \$291,133,886 FY25 = \$293,779,795

\$ Inc = \$10,837,044 \$ Inc = \$13,482,953

%Inc = 3.9% % Inc = 4.8%

Total Increase + OTO = \$30,719,997 (+4.3%/yr)

[Link to HB 2 Funding Chart by Program](#)

- **State Insurance Holiday (General/Property):** 2-year holiday on insurance payments totaling approximately \$19M in savings (\$12M in the Ed. Unit Current Unrestricted)
- **Shared Policy Goals:** The MUS entered into a [Shared Policy Goals](#) agreement with the Joint Education Appropriations Sub-Committee

HB 13 - State Employee Pay Plan ([link to HB 13 Funding Chart](#))

- MUS Pay Plan Funding (including Ed. Units, CC's, Agencies, & OCHE) = \$32M
- Based on 4% or \$1.50 per hour whichever is higher, increases applied in July of each year
- One-time Payments: \$3.3M (distributed in May 2023)
- Benefits reserve backfill (HB 424) = \$18M

One-Time-Only Funding (OTO)

\$6.4 million (HB 2) + \$6.2M (HB 10) = \$12.6M total

Sprint Degrees: funding to support the development of accelerated degree pathways that train skilled graduates for high wage, high demands careers. **Total = \$2M** biennial (restricted OTO)

Seamless Education: funding to support the implementation of a single learning management system (LMS) and online course catalog. **Total = \$3M** biennial (restricted OTO)

12FREE: funding to support the continuation of 6 free dual enrollment credits for all high school students. **Total = \$1.4M** FY25 (restricted OTO)

CyberMontana Cybersecurity Initiative: funding to continue the buildout of cybersecurity training and education center at UM. **Total = \$6.2M** biennial (HB 10)

Shared Policy Goals

2023 Legislature

The Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education agrees to partner with the Montana Legislature, represented by the Joint Subcommittee on Education to further the following Shared Policy Goals:

Financial Literacy and College Affordability: Ensure all campuses of the MUS provide financial literacy programs for students, including mandatory tutorials upon entry and ongoing communication with students through the financial aid process.

- Expand the Montana 10 student success intervention and evaluate its impact on affordability topics, including student retention, credit accumulation, and time-to-degree. If proven effective, evaluate options to expand Montana 10 program services to more Montana students.

Free Speech: Reaffirm the Montana University System's commitment to fostering environments that ensure the free expression and open exchange of ideas and viewpoints in accordance with the First Amendment. Examples include,

- Ensuring all campuses have policies and procedures that comply with the First Amendment and affirm the rights of individuals to freely express their views.
- Providing a system-wide training module for campus faculty and staff on free speech and expressive activities.
- Establishing the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education as a resource hub for training materials, guidance, and best practices for upholding rights guaranteed by the First Amendment.

Proficiency-based Education: Implement teaching methodologies and programs that facilitate the development of proficiency-based education opportunities.

- **Teacher Prep:** provide proficiency-based education modules/courses as part of Educator Prep Programs.
- **Credit for Prior Learning:** Improve and expand assessment-based approaches that recognize prior learning for college credit.
- **Digital Academy:** Refine the partnership between the MUS, the OPI, and the Montana Digital Academy so that the MTDA can serve as a portal to a broader range of course opportunities, including more online dual enrollment opportunities through the MUS.

Tribal College Relations:

- **American Indian Language and Culture:** Expand American Indian language, linguistic, and culture programming.
- **Tribal College/MUS Transfer:** Continue efforts to engage Tribal Colleges to improve the experience of students transferring between Tribal Colleges and MUS institutions.

Shared Policy Goals

2023 Legislature

Career & Technical Education: Continue to develop and improve CTE opportunities, particularly those that leverage public/private partnerships and expand high school CTE pathways.

- **Sprint Degrees:** Establish and evaluate new accelerated degree pathways in in-demand fields ("Sprint Degrees") in partnership with industry.
- **High School Student Access:** Expand CTE dual enrollment opportunities and pathways, particularly those that incorporate industry credentials that articulate with degree programs.

Data Sharing: Collaborate with the OPI and the DLI to deepen P20W data sharing partnerships in a manner that provides actionable insights to policymakers and educators and helps to streamline agency processes.

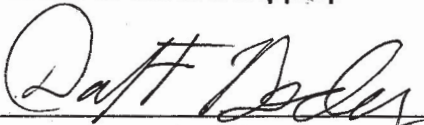
On behalf of the Office of Commissioner of Higher Education:



Clayton T. Christian
Commissioner of Higher Education

5-2-23
Date

On behalf of the Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on Education:



Rep. David F. Bedey, Chairman

5/2/2023
Date

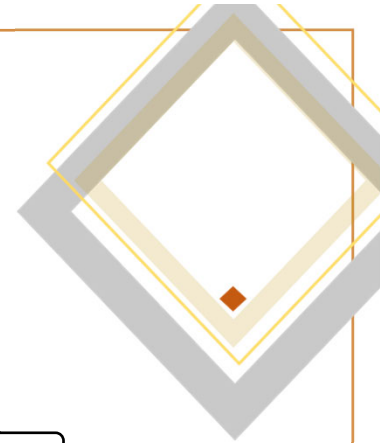


Sen. Daniel Salomon, Vice Chairman

5/2/2023
Date

Public Postsecondary Education in Montana: Structure, Relationship, and Governance

Prepared for the MUS 2-Year Commission by Pad McCracken,
Legislative Research Analyst, August 2019
Revised to show BVCC, October 2021



“Flagship” 4-year research university
Independent accreditation and budget

“Embedded” 2-year college
Dependent accreditation and budget

4-year regional/specialty university
Independent accreditation and budget

“Embedded” 2-year college
Dependent accreditation and budget

“Standalone” 2-year college
Independent accreditation and budget

2-year community college
Independent accreditation and budget
Receives state funding outside MUS “lump”
Supported by various local levies
Governed by locally elected trustees under
supervision and coordination of the regents

2- and 4-year tribally controlled college
Independent accreditation and budget
Receives state funding only through
reimbursement for resident nonbeneficiary
students pursuant to [20-25-428, MCA](#)

