

DMA Youth Programs

Building a Stronger Montana For Tomorrow



The Montana National Guard Youth Challenge Academy is an academic intervention program for Montana youth, 16 to 18, who are at risk of high school dropout. The academy offers a highly structured environment to develop the youths' academic, emotional, and physical skills which are needed for productive citizenship. Two class sessions are offered each year and consist of 22 weeks of rigorous onsite instruction and one year of monthly follow-ups, facilitated by a screened and trained mentor. More than 80% of Challenge graduates maintain long-term placement four years after graduation, thanks in large part to volunteer mentors.

In the last year of operation, the academy successfully completed two class sessions, graduating a total of 216 cadets from across Montana. To date, the program has graduated 3,865 cadets and expects more than 100 additional graduates to join the numbers from the current cohort, graduates this December.

Achievements from the two most recent classes include: 121 HiSETS earned (formerly GED), 25 State and District diplomas awarded, 666 high school credits earned, 380 college credits earned, 262 certifications awarded (FirstAid, OSHA, Phlebotomy, ServSafe, Forklift Operation, Traffic Flagger Training, and more). More than 60% of these cohorts immediately entered the workforce after graduation from the program.

Since the program's inception in 1999, 203,961 hours of community service projects have been completed by Challenge cadets. Calculated at the current minimum wage, they have contributed around \$2,029,412 to our economy!



STARBASE is the 100% federally funded, premier Department of Defense youth outreach program, dedicated to empowering youth with hands-on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) learning experiences. In

Montana, it operates classrooms at Fort Harrison in Helena (established in 2007) and at the 120th Airlift Wing in Great Falls (established in 2011). These classrooms are exclusively located on military installations, offering a unique opportunity for young individuals to interact with military personnel, discover STEM careers, and explore real-world applications.

The STARBASE 'Basic' program caters to fifth-grade classes in the Helena and Great Falls area, with each class scheduling a 5-day (25 hour) visit filled with instruction in robotics, computer-aided design (CAD), coding, engineering challenges, and scientific principles. STARBASE Montana is staffed by four State employees and six instructors, contracted through the Helena and Great Falls School Districts. Additionally, STARBASE organizes outreach events, 'STARBASE Advanced' after-school programs, and summer camps across Montana.

STARBASE Montana has impacted 26,393 youth since 2007, with each site serving at least 1,000 Montana youth annually. A survey of 249 graduating seniors in Great Falls who attended STARBASE revealed that 92% still feel their time in STARBASE was valuable, and 27% are now pursuing STEM careers directly because of their time at STARBASE. Remarkably, five days at STARBASE accounts for just 0.002% of a student's total time in school, but consistently leaves a strong, lasting impact on their STEM education. Federal FY23 brought in \$1,155,250 federal education dollars to Montana.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Army National Guard Funding

Full-time Payroll	\$75,614,851
Traditional Guard Pay	<u>\$23,889,399</u>
Total ARNG Payroll	\$99,504,250

Subsistence & Lodging	\$1,678,119
Total Personnel Dollars	\$101,182,369

Operations & Maintenance	\$38,518,744
Total ARNG Impact	\$139,701,113

Air National Guard Funding

Full-time Payroll	\$33,634,673
Traditional Guard Pay	<u>\$37,048,771</u>
Total ANG Payroll	\$70,683,444

Subsistence & Lodging	\$362,622
Total Personnel Dollars	\$71,046,066

Operations & Maintenance	\$28,944,274
Total ANG Impact	\$99,990,340

Total National Guard Impact	\$239,691,453
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Department of Military Affairs (DMA)

Agency	Expenditures	State \$/%	Federal \$/%
Army NG* (Included in ARNG O&M)	25,080,132	1,870,643 7%	23,209,489 93%
Air NG* (Included in ANG O&M)	5,719,213	423,649 7%	5,295,564 93%
Disaster & Emergency Services	15,623,439	2,582,871 17%	13,040,568 83%
Veterans Affairs	3,262,662	3,262,662 100%	0
ChalleNGe Academy	5,700,509	1,189,218 21%	4,511,291 79%
Directors Office	1,725,487	1,204,280 70%	521,207 30%
MT Military Family Relief Fund	41,000	41,000 100%	0
NG Scholarship	250,000	250,000 100%	0
STARBASE	1,044,697	0	1,044,697 100%
Disaster Fund	21,331,044	1,267,861 6%	20,063,183 94%
DMA Operations:	76,778,183	12,092,184 16%	64,685,999 84%

Total Federal Impact to MT	\$132,371,998
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LOCAL IMPACT: NATIONAL GUARD FY23 Personnel Payroll by Community

Area	Total Income	Area	Total Income
Anaconda	\$920,576	Helena	\$66,936,046
Bel/Boz	\$4,624,976	Kalispell	\$4,451,518
Billings	\$6,905,208	Lewistown	\$947,350
Butte	\$1,912,975	Libby	\$754,857
Culbertson	\$1,041,393	Livingston	\$920,443
Dillon	\$877,279	Malta	\$1,500,349
Glasgow	\$890,149	Miles City	\$1,427,350
Great Falls	\$77,052,198	Missoula	\$3,410,586
Havre	\$778,131	Rest of MT	\$1,276,513
Outside MT	\$58,920	Total	\$176,686,817

A Strong Workforce Builds Strong Communities



Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve is a DoD program. Montana ESGR has 21 volunteers and 2 full-time employees who work to gain and maintain employer support for Guard and Reserve service by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the law, and resolving conflicts through mediation. Paramount to their mission is encouraging employment of Citizen-Warriors who bring integrity, global perspective & proven leadership to the civilian workforce. **Together, We All Serve!** Learn more at www.ESGR.mil.

Montana DMA & NG Personnel by Location

City	ARNG	ANG	VA	DES	Other
Anaconda	48				
Bel/Boz	161	52	3		
Billings	279	42	3	1	1
Butte	118	9	1	1	
Clyde Park				1	
Culbertson	26				
Dillon	45	2			59
Glasgow	38	2			
Great Falls	50	491	6		42
Havre	30	1	2		
Helena	910	52	7	34	66
Kalispell	139	11	3		
Lewistown	40	2			
Libby	26				
Livingston	50	4			
Malta	80				
Miles City	51		3		
Missoula	155	43	7		1
Rest of State	10	168			
Out of State	0	79			



2024 Economic Impact Statement



Always Ready - Always There

Federal Mission

Serve as the primary federal reserve force in support of national security objectives, when called upon by the President

State Mission

Protect life and property, preservation of peace, order, and public safety for Montana's citizens, when called upon by the Governor

Community Mission

Participate in local, state, and national programs that add value to America

Montana Army & Air National Guard

Americans Protecting America



The Montana Army National Guard (MTARNG) is a community-based organization that consists of Citizen-Soldiers authorized to units in 16 communities. The Guard is financially supported in large part through federal

funding in the form of military pay and allowances, purchase of goods & services, and through capital investments in equipment & infrastructure. Federal funding for Guard activities bolsters the state economy as the revenue is turned over several times in countless business segments of local communities. More than 4,500 Montana Citizen Soldiers have deployed in support of every major overseas contingency operation since 2001. In 2023, approximately 150 Soldiers were deployed overseas. Soldiers supported community Innovative Readiness Training exercises including road construction near Jordan and a medical clinic at the Fort Belknap Reservation. A Limited Army Aviation Support Facility was established in Billings, providing enhanced training opportunities and emergency support to Eastern Montana.

Montana Air National Guard (MTANG)

The MTANG deployed 78 Airmen overseas, serving a critical role in deterring adversaries from attacking the United States and its interests. The 120th Airlift Wing (120 AW) participated in missions and exercises worldwide. In Exercise AGILE FLAG, 120 AW Airmen transported 248 passengers and 144K lbs. of cargo as part



of operations in a dynamic environment. In Exercise SILVER ARROW, 120 AW operated in the US European Command to support the European Deterrence Initiative, flying over 218 hours in a 25-day exercise. In Exercise MOBILITY GUARDIAN, 120 AW performed in a joint large-scale exercise in Japan to test the Air Force's new Generation Model and Agile Combat Employment capabilities, transporting 63 passengers and 91K lbs. of cargo. The MTANG has also been selected as a preferred location for the new C-130J Super Hercules aircraft, guaranteeing the continuity and legacy of the MTANG. The 219th RED HORSE Squadron constructed a \$2.4M KSPAN project in Fort Harrison, MT to provide indoor M1 Abrams tank storage during harsh weather conditions. The work that RED HORSE accomplished will save the MTARNG \$800,000/year on maintenance costs.

**** Since 2019, the Guard has had a 100% tuition waiver for all Montana National Guard members that attend a Montana institute of higher educa-**

Emergency Response & Civil Support

Montanans Serving Montana

The 2023 Fire Season had no fires that required State Active Duty (SAD). From 1 June to 1 Sept, 309 Guardsmen received Red Card training in preparation for potential wildfires. Two Soldiers attended higher level Red Card training to prep them for leadership positions while on SAD.

Seven Soldiers from the MTNG Defensive Cyber Operations Element (DCOE) were requested to support recovery efforts following a cyber-attack at MSU Bozeman. DCOE supported the identification, containment, and eradication of the malware used in the attack.

Aviation supported two Search and Rescues. These helicopters used medical personnel and hoists in an immediate response authority to support our community partners.

The 83rd Civil Support Team provides support to Hazardous Materials teams and agencies throughout Montana to identify and handle unknown chemical agents, white powder incidents and any other potential chemical, biological or radiological scenarios.

Finally, the Montana National Guard planned and conducted multi-agency rehearsals in preparation for winter storm response and wildland fire support for the state of Montana that strengthened cooperation and enhanced relationships with our local, state, and federal emergency response partners.

Construction & Sustainment

Significant Military Construction Projects

\$52M Billings Limited Army Aviation Support Facility. Status: Under design 2022, beginning construction spring 2024.

\$34M Silver Bow County National Guard Readiness Center. Status: Est. completion Dec 24.

\$16M Malta Maintenance Shop. Status: In design. Estimated construction in 2025.

\$4.7M Fort Harrison Maintenance Bay Expansion. Status: Awarded construction contract.

\$11.1 M in MTNG Operations and Maintenance funding. Noteworthy projects: Weapons Cleaning Facility, K-Span Project, Bldg. 71 Remodel, 532 Solar Panels, Range Latrines and AASF Energy Improvements.

\$27M appropriated to complete land acquisition and state share of funding for the Billings Readiness Center during 68th Montana Legislative Session.

\$20M in 2028 Military Construction funding for Fort Harrison

Disaster and Emergency Services



Disaster & Emergency Services

The Montana Division of Disaster and Emergency Services (MT DES) exists to provide for prompt and timely response to disasters, ensure that preparation of the state is adequate to deal with disasters, and preserve the lives and property of the people of Montana to the fullest extent possible. Our mission is to lead a comprehensive emergency management program to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate disasters. Our strategic goals are:

- Goal 1. Ready the State for Disasters
- Goal 2. Recover from Disasters
- Goal 3. Mitigate Disaster Impact
- Goal 4. Coordinate Statewide Disaster Response

Funding for Counties and Tribes

Between 1 October 2016 and 30 September 2023, the Montana Disaster & Emergency Services Division has administered more than \$197 million in mitigation, preparedness, and disaster funding that has touched every county and tribe in the state.

Mitigation is the effort to reduce the impacts disasters have on people and communities. The National Institute of Building and Sciences found that for every \$1 dollar invested in mitigation saves taxpayers an average of \$6 in future spending. The Pew Charitable Trust reports that the return on investment for flood-related mitigation in Montana is \$6.36 for every \$1 invested. Mitigation is key to becoming less dependent on state and federal disaster funding.

Preparedness funding helps communities develop and sustain local disaster and emergency services programs to ensure all levels of government are prepared to respond to, and recover from, disasters. Funding may be used to purchase equipment or services that enhance local capabilities to effectively respond to events, ultimately saving lives and reducing the impact to property, as well as updating plans and conducting exercises and training.

Disaster funding supports communities as they recover from a state or federally declared disaster. Depending on the magnitude of the event, communities may be eligible for financial assistance for debris removal, life-saving emergency protective measures, and restoring public infrastructure.

Total Funding for Counties and Tribes Administered by Montana Disaster and Emergency Services 1 October 2016—30 September 2023

Local Disaster Funding	\$126.5 million
Local Mitigation Funding	\$17.1 million
Local Preparedness Funding	\$53.6 million
Total Local Funding	\$197.2 million

Dept. of Military Affairs Divisions & Programs

Veterans Affairs provides statewide support to approximately 100,000 veterans and 160,000 family members who access federal/state veteran entitlements & benefits.

The nine statewide Veterans Service Offices, located in Belgrade, Billings, Butte, Great Falls, Havre, Helena, Kalispell, Miles City and Missoula manage the following:

VA Service Office

Belgrade	\$43,682,847
Billings	\$66,177,615
Butte	\$20,440,371
Great Falls	\$61,280,160
Havre	\$18,530,943
Helena	\$35,632,470
Kalispell	\$55,277,436
Miles City	\$11,923,914
Missoula	\$58,737,830
Federal \$ to MT Vets:	\$371,683,586

- \$109 of *Federal VA* money goes to MT Vets for every \$1 of State General Fund & Special Revenue Investment.

- MVAD received increased funding for the 2025 biennium due to passage of the PACT Act. Claim production increased 40%, justifying an additional 6 new Administrative Assistants, 1 Accountant and 3 Groundskeepers.

Montana Military Family Relief Fund

The Montana Military Family Relief Fund (MMFRF) provides monetary grants to families of Montana Guard & Reserve who are called to active duty for federal service in support of a contingency operation.

MMFRF grants help Montana families de-fray the costs of food, housing, utilities, medical services, and other expenses that become difficult to afford when a wage earner is placed on federal active duty. The grants totaled \$140,000 in FY22.

The Scholarship Program provided \$244,971 support to Soldiers and Airmen with the MT Guard.



State Partnership Program

Montana has a State Partnership Program (SPP) with four countries: The Kyrgyz Republic; Turkmenistan;

Sri Lanka; and the Maldives. This is a federally-funded joint initiative between the partnered countries, the Department of State, DoD and Montana that brought \$685,000 to our state. SPP directly supports the interests of the United States by engaging partner nations through military and civilian contacts at all levels. The program held 50 official events in 2023.

Montana SPP works on security issues ranging from military disciplines to disaster response, and the program is continuing to expand its relationships to include a whole-of-government approach. The SPP is a flexible and innovative program capable of having strategic effects for the United States, Montana, and our partners.