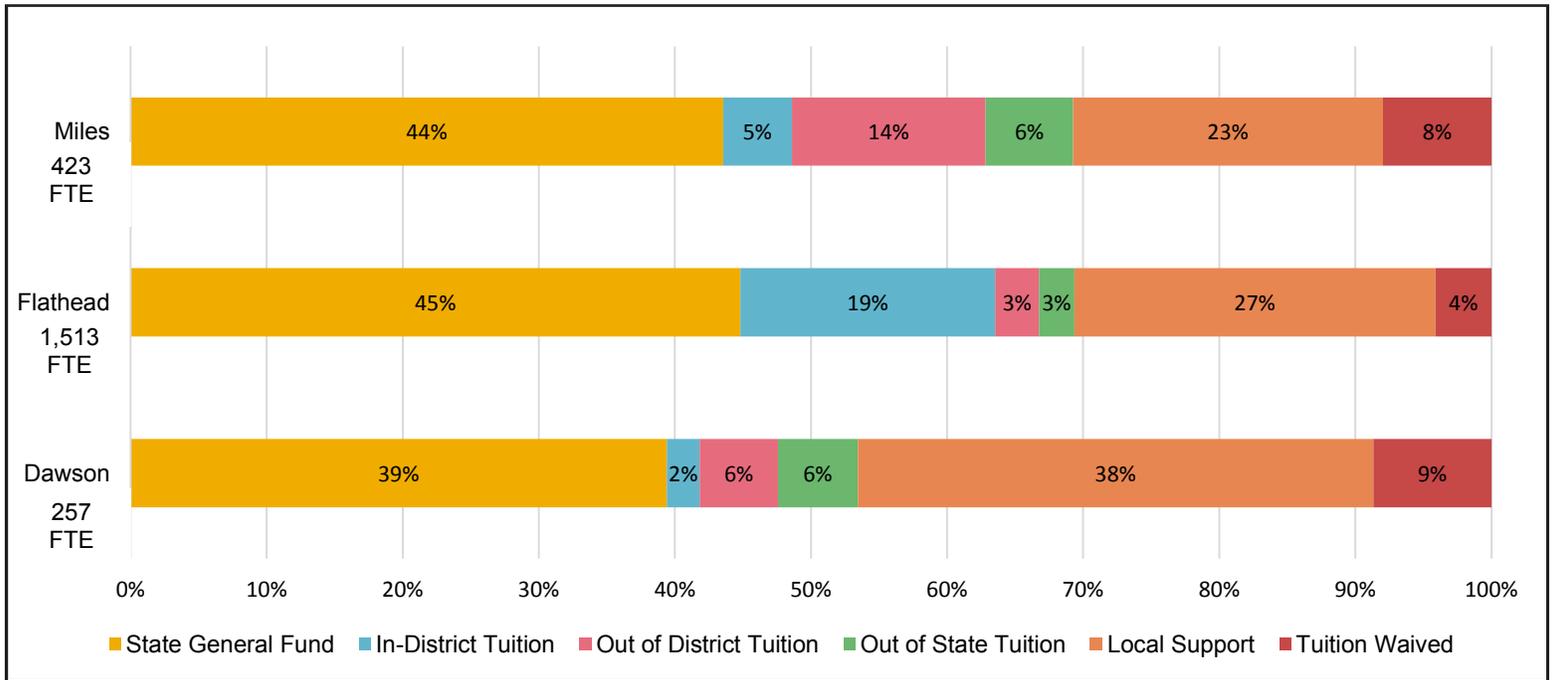


Montana Community College Funding FY 2017
Current Unrestricted Operating Budget



This chart represents the revenue mix of the current unrestricted operating budget of Montana’s three community colleges. State general fund is calculated through a statutorily mandated funding formula based on enrollment and operating budget factors. The general fund percent of the operating budgets has declined slightly over the past few years.

Local support can be comprised of mandatory and optional levies to in-district properties to fund specific aspects of the community college. Local support funds are allocated directly to the corresponding campus. In most cases, local support funding has increased over the last several years.

Tuition and fee revenue is the portion supported by students. Overall, the percent of the operating budget related to tuition and fees has remained flat for several years. This can be attributed to increases to tuition and fees and declining enrollments. Tuition that is waived is foregone revenue, tuition waivers are often a tool for recruitment efforts.

The community college system served approximately 2,193 full-time equivalent students (FTE) in FY 2017 with 1,965 FTE being Montana residents. The total FTE enrollment for the community colleges has decreased by 11.1% over the last five years, but there was a wide variation in the enrollment trend by institution. Enrollment tends to be counter-cyclical — when the economy slows, higher education enrollment grows more rapidly. This affects most institutions to some extent but is particularly notable for the community college system.