University of Montana
$1,500,000

Accelerate MT is focused on closely partnering with employers and the state to do the following:
- Provide easy access – in close partnership with employers and industry associations – to training and certification on the in-demand skills employers need…delivered both in person and remotely anywhere in state.
- Work closely with employers to build short-term, collaborative training programs with clear pathways to jobs. (Have already demonstrated the effectiveness of such an approach with ATG and Jackson Contractor Group here in Missoula.)
- Work alongside private and public sector employers to develop training programs for their current employees; a "B2B" model that helps employers develop their own workforce. (Already working with employers across the state to develop.)
- Internship/Apprenticeship programs with employers and industry associations across the state to provide on-the-job learning opportunities for students
- Strong partnership with Montana DLI to identify workforce needs and provide case management to assist individuals in transition from training to workforce. (UM's "Become an Alum" program has already proven that such a model works.)
- Significantly expanded portfolio of UMOnline offerings – 2-yr, 4-yr, and certificates – that Montanans can access from anywhere in the state. (Already expanding in this area, but additional resources necessary to grow portfolio of offerings.)

Other campuses and partnerships involved in the initiative

Campuses
Missoula College
Helena College
Great Falls College
Gallatin Community College

Partnerships
- Cyber Montana – State-wide hub for Cyber Security
- Montana Geriatric Education Center – State-wide reach for continuing education of medical professionals
- Montana Public Health Training Center – State-wide initiative to provide continuing education for public health officials
- Montana High Tech Business Alliance
- Montana Contractors Association
- Glacier Country Tourism
- Missoula Economic Partnership
- Montana West Economic Development
- Montana Business Assistance Center
- Department of Labor & Industry

Status update on the initiative

Prior to the funding distribution, UM had several programs and initiatives that created a foundation for the training programs which are now growing and developing. Those programs include the ATG Aim Higher program and the re-launch of Montana Code School and the Commercial Driver's License programs. In addition to continuing collaborations with Jackson Construction and Glacier Country Tourism, UM expanded their employer trainings to work with Submittable, the Department of Revenue, and Elite One.

The AccelerateMT initiative is focused on the following efforts:
- Expanding training programs and offerings
- Launched UMOnline
- Awarding credentials
- Conducting marketing and outreach
- Capacity building
- Established the team

Plans for carrying out the initiative for the remainder of the biennium
- Developing and delivering new and existing training programs based on clearly identified workforce needs
- Deepening the engagement and partnership with employers, industry associations, other 2-year colleges across the State, Tribal Colleges and High Schools
- Roll-out a comprehensive marketing program to reach both employers and prospective trainees.
- Delivery of "wrap around services" for learners

Metrics used to measure success

Metric	Outcome in Period
Number of new collaborative training programs with private industry partners (similar to the highly successful UM-ATG partnership)	4 programs delivered
Number of participants in, and credentials completed as part of, the UM-DLI "Become an Alum Program"	5 – Spring of 2021 39 – For workforce upskilling
Number of new UMOnline Program offerings across Montana, tracked by type of program (e.g. certificate, 2-year, 4-year, graduate)	Degrees: 3 Certificates: 2
Number of learners completing AccelerateMT training programs in the period split between employer trainings and individual learner trainings	110 - Employer Sponsored Training Participants 73- Individual Learner Training Participants