

**2017 GOVERNOR'S TRIBAL RELATIONS REPORT – AGENCY NARRATIVE REPORTING FORM
(FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD JULY 1, 2016 - JUNE 30, 2017)**

Purpose: The State-Tribal Relations Report features the State's cooperative work with tribes in support of the Governor's vision for greater economic development opportunities, quality health care and education programs, and improving the effectiveness of governmental operations and services.

1. SUBMISSION DATE: 06/21/2017
2. STATE AGENCY/DIVISION/PROGRAM: OCHE/Montana Educational Talent Search
3. NARRATIVE COORDINATOR NAME: Jeannie Origbo
PHONE/EMAIL: 444-0334/jorigbo@montana.edu

4. ACTIVITY NAME: 16/17 Academic Year Program Services
5. PROGRAM STAFF NAME: Jeannie Origbo, Aspen Herndon, Michael LeaderCharge, Dugan Coburn, Casey Figueroa, Marianne Frank, Carol Good Luck, and Joseph Jessepe
PHONE/EMAIL: 444-0334/jorigbo@montana.edu

6. Select Tribe(s) Involved:

<input type="checkbox"/> All	<input type="checkbox"/> Fort Belknap
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blackfeet	<input type="checkbox"/> Fort Peck
<input type="checkbox"/> Chippewa Cree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Little Shell
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Confederated Salish & Kootenai	<input type="checkbox"/> Northern Cheyenne
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crow	

7. Please specify when this state-tribal activity started and if it is ongoing or finalized.

<input type="checkbox"/> Started before FY 2017	<input type="checkbox"/> Started during FY 2017
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ongoing/Long-Term	<input type="checkbox"/> Completed/finalized during FY 2017

In the next sections, please make sure to spell out acronyms and acknowledge the source when the materials (text/data/photographs) were provided by an entity outside of state government.

8. In 1-2 paragraphs, describe the purpose of the state-tribal activity, its significance, major accomplishments, and overall impact. Please include a brief description of the state program contributing to the activity, timelines, cost and monetary contributions, location, other partners, etc.

Montana Educational Talent Search (METS) is a federally funded Department of Education TRIO grant housed in the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education. METS has the goal of helping youth, grades 6-12, to complete high school and enroll in an institution of higher education of their choices. We provide both group and one-on-one mentor sessions with Pre-College Advisors who informs, educates, advises, and encourages students on career and college choices. Services include educational tutoring, guidance on middle and high school selection, career counseling, financial aid resources, and college and scholarship information. Participants have the opportunity to attend college tours, educational field trips and learn about different career opportunities. METS serves eligible students in the Blackfeet, Crow, Flathead, and Great Falls target area.

During the 16/17 academic year between all the target areas all but two of Montana University System campuses were visited, one Montana community college was visited, three Montana tribal colleges were visited, and two Wyoming colleges were visited. Participants also had the

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opportunity to visit business and industry, like North 40, to learn more about education levels and skills needed, for different positions within the company. The second annual METS Student Leadership Conference was held in Helena with five students attending. The elected student leader was selected to attend the Council for Opportunity in Education's National Student Leadership Congress held at Georgetown campus this June. In August, fifteen students will participate in a week long college and career exploration visit through western Montana and Idaho. Program Alumni also participated in two panel discussions at Montana College Access Network's (MCAN) Annual Conference focuses on post-secondary retention issues.

9. In 1-2 paragraphs, describe any new rule, policy or law (include bill number) related to your program that impact state-tribal relations, Indian people and tribal communities.

In May 2017 H.R. 244 was passed by the federal government. It included a \$50 million increase in appropriations to TRIO programs. Specific language for TRIO programs was, "*TRIO - The agreement does not include funding for the TRIO demonstration project proposed in the budget justification. The Department is directed to allocate fiscal year 2017 TRIO funding such that all current grantees receive an increase in their grant award. The Department is directed to avoid imposing additional requirements as a condition for grantees to receive these funds. Additionally, the Department is directed to increase the number of new grants awarded for those programs that will conduct a new competition this fiscal year. There is concern that the Department has rejected and made ineligible for review several fiscal year 2017 grant applications based on minor formatting issues. The Department is strongly encouraged to provide flexibility to such applicants by permitting submission of a corrected application. The Department should include consistent formatting requirements across all TRIO competitions in the future.*" As of this date, Talent Search programs have not received word from the U.S. Department of Education what that means for fiscally for our programs.

10. If available, provide noteworthy data regarding the impact of your program on tribal communities, such as the number of American Indian people served, jobs created in Indian Country, leveraged funds stimulating economic development, etc

Of the participants served each federal fiscal year (September 1-August 31) 77%-85% of the participants self-identify as American Indian (approximately 990-1075 participants). Program objectives will be reported on in December 2017 on how METS met the following objectives:

- 66.67% of participants will be both low-income and potential first-generation.
- 77% of non-senior participants will persist to next academic grade level.
- 86% of senior participants will graduate with standard number of years.
- 20% of senior participants will complete a rigorous core program of study within the standard number of years.
- 52% of senior participants will enroll in a postsecondary institution in the fall immediately after graduation, or have proven year enrollment deferment from institution.
- 40% of served during the project year who enrolled in an institution of higher education by the fall term immediately following high school graduation or by the next academic term (e.g., spring term) as a result of acceptance but deferred enrollment will complete a program of postsecondary education within six years. (Class of 2012 is first cohort of students under this objective. First reporting on this objective begins December 2018)

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11. Are there photographs to support the narrative? (x) Yes () No

Please submit photographs in JPEG format, in high resolution (300 DPI). Please provide below the file name, caption and credit for each photograph.



Photo File Name: Hall and Tester

Photo Caption (include the name of the event/persons, location, and date): METS student Olivia Hall meeting Senator Tester while participating in National Student Leadership Congress.

Photo Credit: Senator Tester's office

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Photo File Name: MCAN 1

Photo Caption: METS alumni student panel discussion on obstacles that made that hindered their first attempt at college and their struggles to return to their studies during MCAN conference.

Photo Credit: METS

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Photo File Name: MCAN 2

Photo Caption: METS alumni student panel discussion on their journey to obtain their degrees during MCAN conference.

Photo Credit: METS Staff



Photo File Name: Campus Visit

Photo Caption: Great Falls Area Participants visit to MSU-Northern campus this spring.

Photo Credit: METS Staff

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12. Do you have any suggestions on how to improve the Governor's Tribal Relations Report?

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Purpose: The State-Tribal Relations Report features the State's cooperative work with tribes in support of the Governor's vision for greater economic development opportunities, quality health care and education programs, and improving the effectiveness of governmental operations and services.

1. SUBMISSION DATE: June 21, 2017
2. STATE AGENCY/DIVISION/PROGRAM: OCHE/Academic Research & Student Affairs (ARSA)/Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)
3. NARRATIVE COORDINATOR NAME: Angela McLean
PHONE/EMAIL 406-444-0332 amclean@montana.edu
4. ACTIVITY NAME *College and Career Readiness Services for grade 7-12 students*
5. PROGRAM STAFF NAME: Zach Hawkins
PHONE/EMAIL: 406-444-0317 zhawkins@montana.edu

6. Select Tribe(s) Involved:

- | | |
|---|--|
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7. Please specify when this state-tribal activity started and if it is ongoing or finalized.

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8. In 1-2 paragraphs, describe the purpose of the state-tribal activity, its significance, major accomplishments, and overall impact. Please include a brief description of the state program contributing to the activity, timelines, cost and monetary contributions, location, other partners, etc.

In 2011, OCHE was awarded a 7-year \$28 Million grant to serve underprivileged communities around Montana, providing their students in grades 7-12 services aimed at increasing their high school graduation rates, increasing their awareness and understanding regarding college and career options, and increasing their enrollment and persistence in postsecondary programs. Eighteen communities were selected to be served through the grant, including twelve communities located on or near Montana's seven Indian Reservations. In 2017 Montana GEAR UP awarded \$1,068,264 in academic year Federal Grant funding to on or near reservation middle and high schools, supporting services such as: tutoring, academic enrichment initiatives, technology purchases, professional development, peer mentoring, family events, campus visits, and student advising. Funding impacted a total of 3,386 students in those schools. In addition to academic year funding, Montana GEAR UP offers summer program opportunities and coordinates statewide efforts such as Montana College Application Week, and funding the ACT test for all public high school juniors. Four hundred fifty-four

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juniors enrolled at on or near reservation GEAR UP schools took the ACT test free of charge in 2017.

Montana GEAR UP has been serving on or near reservation communities since 1999, and submitted successful grant applications in 2005 and 2011. Recently, another 7 year \$24,500 grant proposal was submitted that would serve 13 on or near reservation schools from 2018 through 2025. Montana GEAR UP expects to receive notice of funding status in September.

9. In 1-2 paragraphs, describe any new rule, policy or law (include bill number) related to your program that impact state-tribal relations, Indian people and tribal communities.

Montana GEAR UP has not driven any new policy, rule, or law at the state level.

10. If available, provide noteworthy data regarding the impact of your program on tribal communities, such as the number of American Indian people served, jobs created in Indian Country, leveraged funds stimulating economic development, etc.

- 65.2% of GEAR UP students that participated in activities during the 2016-17 school year were American Indian
- 51 % of GEAR UP students who enrolled in college the fall of 2015 enrolled in a Montana Tribal College*
 - 29% LBHC
 - 24% BCC
 - 13% SCC
 - 12% FPCC
 - 11% Aaniiih Nakoda
 - 7% SKC
 - 5% Chief Dull Knife
- 79% of 2015 GEAR UP graduates who enrolled in college the fall of 2015 were American Indian*
- 55% of 2015 GEAR UP students who took a dual enrollment course were American Indian*
- 78% of GEAR UP students who completed the FAFSA were American Indian
- The number of GEAR UP students testing college ready on ACT subject area tests increased by an average of 8.3%, increasing the likelihood that more GEAR UP students will not start college in remediation status and incur debt to take remedial courses and/or drop out with student loan debt and no college credential.

*Most recent data available

11. Are there photographs to support the narrative? (X) Yes () No

Please submit photographs in JPEG format, in high resolution (300 DPI). Please provide below the file name, caption and credit for each photograph.

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Photo File Name: GEAR UP Student Leadership Retreat

Photo Caption: Montana GEAR UP students pose for a photo at a student leadership retreat in Helena's Great Northern Hotel. (April 2017)

Photo Credit: Jamie Jones

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Photo File Name: Rocky Boy Students on Campus

Photo Caption: Rocky Boy students pose during a campus visit to Rocky Mountain College (March 2017)

Photo Credit: Dorrina Patracsil

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Photo File Name: HHS Students During College Application Week

Photo Caption: Hardin High seniors work on college applications with a representative from Little Bighorn College during College Application Week. (November 2016)

Photo Credit: Coralie Tesch

12. Do you have any suggestions on how to improve the Governor's Tribal Relations Report? No.