

Montana University System College Access Team

Montana Board of Regents
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Jeannie Origbo
Travis Anderson
Angela McLean



Montana Educational Talent Search

Who We Are :

- Direct service TRIO program funded by the U.S. Department of Education
- Funded to serve 1287 students
- Work with 9 school districts and 16 schools
- Team of 10 state staff
 - 7 Pre-College Advisors working in local communities
 - 3 Helena staff
- PCAs work with 150-190 students each year
- Primarily work with 6th-12th grade students
- Up to 10% of our students served are stop-out, non-traditional



2019 Montana Governor's Award
for Excellence Recipients



Montana Educational Talent Search Highlights—2018/2019

College Awareness Opportunities

- 2018-19 College Campus Visits
 - Visited twelve campuses
 - 209 HS students, 74 middle school students

Career Exploration Opportunities

- Workshops
- Guest Speakers
- Educational Trips
- One-on-one and group meetings

Student Leadership Cohorts

- 14 of 16 seniors will enroll in post-secondary institutions fall 2019
- New cohort group for 2019-2021

Senior Cohorts

- Average between 200-230 students each year
- 67% of METS 2018 senior cohort enrolled in post-secondary institutions





Montana GEAR UP

- Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)
- Current state staff includes: program director, program manager, school grant manager, and federal grant accountant.
 - Liaisons in all 19 GEAR UP schools
- Entering the 3rd year of a 7-year \$24.5 million grant awarded by US Department of Education
- Celebrating 20 years of serving Montana students
- Increase the number of low-income students prepared to succeed in postsecondary education





Montana GEAR UP State Services

- Serve 7th – 12th grade students in 19 schools to:
 - Increase graduation rates
 - Improve academic performance
 - Increase knowledge of postsecondary educational options
- Partner with state's postsecondary institutions to:
 - Support GEAR UP college freshmen
 - Promote college access
 - Support college visits
- Fund the ACT Test







- Helena College- iGraduate Montana Summit 2019
- UMW-Browning- 24/24 Students Participated in Young Indians Scholars Buffalo Society Apprenticeship Program
- MSU's Blueprints for Student Success Project
 - 804 student interactions
 - 256 parent/guardian interactions





MUS

COLLEGE ACCESS EVENTS

TIMELINE

National GEAR UP Week

SEPT. 25-27, 2019



This is a week to celebrate all that GEAR UP does both locally and nationwide. Join the celebration! For ideas on how to participate, check out: <https://www.edpartnership.org/national-gear-up-week>

College Application Week

SEPT. 30-OCT 4, 2019



Join your school's CAW event and have our students apply to any Montana college or university for FREE! Learn more at <https://mus.edu/gearup/caw.asp>

FAFSA events

OCTOBER - APRIL



Join your school's FAFSA night events or host one just for our students. Register your event at <https://mus.edu/gearup/oa.asp>

Celebrate First Gen Day!

NOVEMBER 8TH



Celebrate First Gen Day with your students! This is a great way to open dialogue around what first generation college students need. There are many fabulous ideas and resources to be found at: <https://firstgen.uspa.org/why-first-gen>

Celebrate TRIO Day!

FEBRUARY 22ND



Our participants are joining a program with a rich and diverse history; let's make sure they know that that's worth celebrating. For more ideas and resources, check out: http://www.oaerwt.org/files/national_trio_day_action_packet_2019.pdf

College Signing Day

MAY



Celebrate our students post-secondary opportunities, from college to military to job corps. They've worked hard to get this far so let's recognize all they've accomplished while we look forward to what's next! For more information, go to: <https://www.betheblackroom.org/collegesigningday/>

College Application Week 2018

- 164 high schools participated
- 4,607 college applications submitted
- 50% of graduating seniors submitted a college application

FAFSA Events 2018

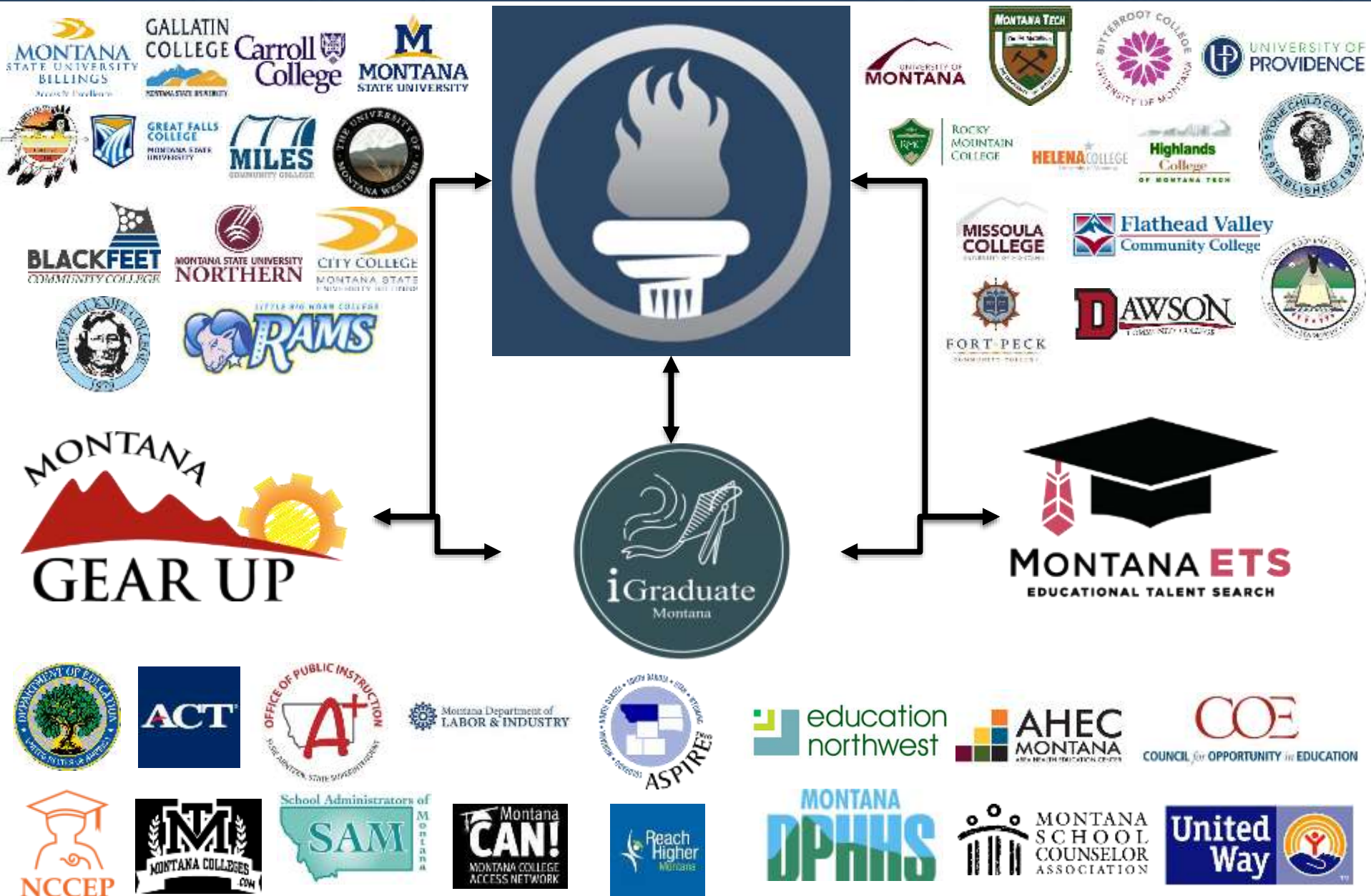
- 52% of graduating seniors completed the FAFSA application

First Generation Day Celebration 2018

- BCC and Helena College partnered with us to share stories and celebrate
- Campuses across the system held their own celebrations

College Signing Day Spring 2019

- First year sponsored as a statewide event
- Partnered with 20 high schools to sponsor events





For more information on MUS College Access efforts please contact:

Angela McLean

amclean@montana.edu

Jeannie Origbo

jorigbo@montana.edu

Travis Anderson

tanderson@montana.edu