

# Montana University System

## PROGRAM REVIEW

Institution: Great Falls College Montana State University

Program Years: 2017-2023

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### List of the programs reviewed:

- Surgical Technology Associate of Applied Science
- Paramedic Associate of Applied Science

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### Decision(s) concerning the future of the program(s), based on the program review criteria established at the campus:

#### **Surgical Technology Associate of Applied Science Degree**

This program was approved for continuation with expectation for sustained performance.

#### **Paramedic Associate of Applied Science Degree**

This program was approved for continuation with expectation for sustained performance. Please see comments below for additional information.

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### Rationale or justification for the decision based on the program review process established at the campus. Include graduation numbers and student majors for each of the last seven (7) years for every program under review.

The program review process at GFC MSU evaluates each program by the following weighted variables:

Category	Approved Weight
Degrees/certificates production	30%
Retention	30%
Median wages for graduates employed all four quarters	15%
Projected job openings/Job openings (AAS/CAS/CTS) OR Transfer rate (AA/AS/General Education Certificate)	10%
Annual FTE	10%
Financial impact per FTE (Revenue minus cost / FTE)	5%
TOTAL	100%

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Surgical Technology Associate of Applied Science Degree

This program was approved for continuation with expectation for sustained performance.

Rationale for Recommendation:

- The overall score of the Surgical Technology program is within the top 40% and is ranked #7 of all GFC MSU programs.
• The retention rate is in the top 20% of all programs, and the annual median salary and projected job growth are in the top 40% of all programs.

The program director was commended for building relationships with partner institutions and students, and for using data to make curricular decisions that enhance student success. The program director was encouraged to continue exploring opportunities to market the program with a goal of reaching program capacity.

Surgical Technology AAS

Table with 8 columns: Enrollment and Graduation Numbers for each of the last seven years (AY 16/17 to AY22/23) and 2 rows: Enrollment, Graduation.

\* There were no graduates in the Surgical Technology program in the spring of 2020 because the students were unable to complete their clinical rotations due to the pandemic.

Paramedic Associate of Applied Science Degree

This program was approved for continuation with expectation for sustained performance.

Rationale for Recommendation:

- The overall score for this program was within the middle 20% of all programs and was ranked #14 of all programs.
• Retention rate, annual median salary, and projected job growth were in the top 40% of all GFC MSU programs.

The division director and program director were commended for their ongoing efforts to expand the pipeline to increase enrollment by partnering with rural fire departments and municipalities, by making the program accessible for working students, and by expanding dual credit opportunities.

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Paramedic AAS

Enrollment and Graduation Numbers for each of the last seven years							
	AY 16/17	AY 17/18	AY 18/19	AY 19/20	AY 20/21	AY 21/22	AY 22/23
Enrollment	16	15	12	18	18	12	9
Graduation	6	6	7	6	12	8	5

In April 2023, the director of the paramedic program resigned, and the program was placed under review. Current students completed the program and graduated in the summer of 2023; no new students were admitted into the program in Fall 2024.

Great Falls College is researching ways to revise the program, including doing a trial run this academic year (23/24) with OneMSU; the students are enrolling in the courses at MSU Billings but the labs are offered on the Great Falls College campus.