



MUS Strategic Plan

Affordability

Goal 1: Access & Affordability

System Initiatives:

- **Tuition Cap:**
Continue freeze on tuition for FY12 and FY13 at all two-year colleges.
- **Two-Year College Initiative - College!Now:**
Increase access and participation at two-year institutions by improving online access, growing dual enrollment opportunities, customizing programs for nontraditional students, and promoting two-year education as a low-cost, viable entry point to high-demand occupations and/or to four-year degrees.
- **Affordability Taskforce:**
The Board of Regents and the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education have appointed an Affordability Taskforce to meet during the 2011-12 academic year. The Taskforce is charged with:
 1. Utilizing data to recommend strategies for improving affordability in the MUS;
 2. Recommending approaches for improving communication and outreach about affordability of higher education in Montana; and
 3. Recommending policies to facilitate a more coordinated system of financial aid and services.

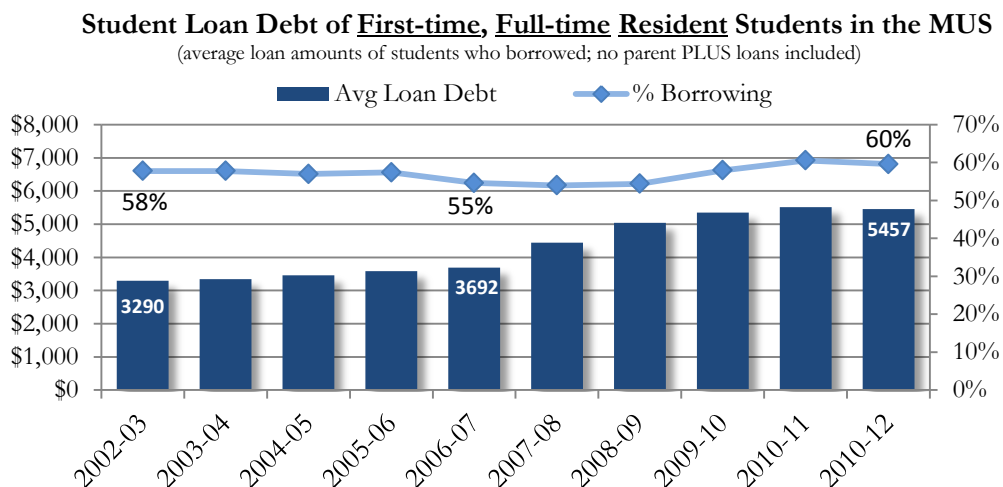
Updated: 12/21/2012

Goal Statement

Promote postsecondary education affordability

Objective 1.3.1

Decrease average loan amounts and the percentage of students borrowing



Objective 1.3.2

Decrease tuition as a percentage of median household income

Ratio of Tuition and Fees to Median Household Income

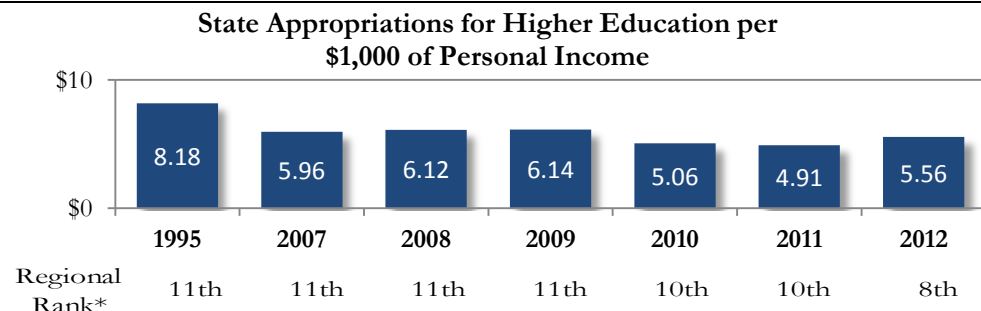
Institutional Type	2012-13	2011-12	2007-08	2002-03
2-year Institutions				
Montana	8.4%	8.3%	7.3%	7.1%
Regional Avg.	6.3%	6.0%	4.5%	3.7%
4-year Institutions				
Montana	13.1%	12.6%	11.0%	10.6%
Regional Avg.	11.8%	11.2%	8.1%	6.9%
Doctoral Institutions				
Montana	15.7%	15.1%	12.7%	11.7%
Regional Avg.	14.7%	14.2%	9.9%	8.0%

source: WICHE

Note: Tuition and fees used in the calculation are the average resident tuition and fees for full-time undergraduates

Objective 1.3.3

Increase the amount of state support as a percentage of total personal income relative to peer states and historical levels



source: 2011 Grapevine Report; SHEEO State Higher Education Finance Report

*rank among the 14 WICHE states (minus CA);