



Montana University System

AIMA

American Indian and Minority Achievement & K-12 Partnerships

We exist to:

- Provide all Montanans with affordable access to excellent educational opportunity. Provide for a seamless transition from K-12 to college and ensure retention.
- Increase academic engagement and achievement for minorities throughout the MUS and the state.
- Ensure our campuses are places that are welcoming and primed for student success and at the same time make sure we are reaching current and future first generation college students.

Partnerships:

- The Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education has a presence in middle and high schools across Montana through dual enrollment, *EdReady*, ETS, GEAR UP, Perkins, ACT and Big Sky Pathway initiatives ensuring that each has a linkage to Indian Country.
- The AIMA Program oversees two college access grants and serves schools on all 7 reservations. The ETS Program has a \$584,694 annual budget and serves 1287 students in 13 middle schools and their receiving high schools, providing college and career readiness services to students and their families. The GEAR UP Program receives \$4 million annually and provides similar services to 18 middle schools and their receiving high schools. 12 of these are on or near reservation schools.

Goals:

- 1) Improve human capacity building and the development of relationships and rapport with our students to ensure an environment where students succeed.**
- 2) Increase Student Access**
 - 5% of all enrollees in the MUS are American Indian
- 3) Increase Student Retention**
 - 52.6% of full time freshmen return for 2nd year (4 year)
 - 48.4% of full time freshmen return for 2nd year (2 year)
- 4) Increase Student Completion**
 - 3.9% of all MUS undergraduate completions (246) are American Indian
- 5) Improve Tribal College to MUS relations**
- 6) Grow availability of data**

AIMA

The Director serves as a liaison to Montana's seven Tribal Colleges and represents the MUS in K-12 partnership initiatives with high schools, including on or near reservation schools and the state Office of Public Instruction.

AIMA Council

Appointed by the MUS Commissioner of Higher Education the Council serves to examine the needs of Montana's American Indian students and to identify best practices to meet those needs and mitigate barriers to educational attainment.

Montana Tribal Colleges

- Aaniiih Nakoda College
- Blackfeet Community College
- Chief Dull Knife College
- Fort Peck Community College
- Little Big Horn College
- Salish Kootenai College
- Stone Child College

For additional information contact:

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Billings-Northern Montana College MSU- Gallatin College MSU- Missoula College UM-Helena College UM- City College at MSU
Billings-Great Falls College MSU-Highlands College of MT Tech-Bitterroot College
Dawson Community College-Flathead Valley Community College-Miles City Community College