



**MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM**  
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION  
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**The Montana University System is Offering 50% - 100% Tuition Discounts  
To Montana High-School Students for Online and On-Campus “Dual Enrollment” Courses**

**High School Students Must Enroll Soon in Order to Pursue Dual Enrollment Opportunities This Year  
Via the Montana Digital Academy or on the Campuses of the Colleges of Montana**

**HELENA, Montana (August 23, 2012)** – The public Colleges of Montana are offering deep discounts and easy access to dual enrollment programs for high school students throughout Montana, including a dual enrollment partnership with the Montana Digital Academy. The dual enrollment programs of the Montana University System empower high school students to be enrolled in high school and college courses at the same time, allowing qualified students to take college level classes for credits that may be applied toward their high school diploma and toward a college degree or certificate later in their academic career.

“Now is the time to pay attention to dual enrollment opportunities if you are a high school student, parent or caregiver in Montana,” said John Cech, Deputy Commissioner of Higher Education for Two-Year and Community College Education, Montana University System. “The courses are excellent and the tuition discounts are breaking down barriers. This tuition structure will provide a greater level of consistency as well as affordable tuition for high school students enrolled in both dual credit and dual enrollment courses. The partnership among the Montana University System and the Montana Digital Academy is very exciting for high school students who live in Montana’s rural communities and may not have access to a nearby college campus.”

The Montana Digital Academy is offering the largest selection of online dual enrollment courses providing access to online dual enrollment courses across the state for all qualifying Montana high school students through a partnership with the Montana University System. This fall, nearly 100 online dual enrollment courses are available through partnerships with Flathead Valley Community College, Great Falls College MSU, Helena College UM, and City College at MSUB.

Learn more about these opportunities at [www.montanadigitalacademy.org](http://www.montanadigitalacademy.org).

“Every Montana high school student should consider taking advantage of dual enrollment opportunities through this partnership,” said Denise Juneau, Superintendent of Public Instruction. “Dual enrollment can help make college more affordable and accessible for Montana families, and it also gives students the chance to challenge themselves with college-level courses. The Montana Digital Academy continues to serve more and more students each year and is a valuable asset to Montana students and schools.”

During this past year, the Montana Board of Regents approved a new tuition structure for all dual enrollment and early college courses for Montana’s qualifying high school students. Tuition for dual enrollment classes at the Colleges of Montana is being discounted as much as 50 percent and mandatory course fees will not be assessed. In some cases, tuition will be free to high school students, a decision the Board of Regents made in an effort to inspire high school students to pursue dual enrollment opportunities.

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY ~ Campuses at Billings, Bozeman, Great Falls, and Havre  
THE UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA ~ Campuses at Butte, Dillon, Helena, and Missoula  
Dawson Community College (Glendive) ~ Flathead Valley Community College (Kalispell) ~ Miles Community College (Miles City)

*Check out our new website at [www.mus.edu](http://www.mus.edu)!*

Increasing participation and engagement of secondary students statewide in dual credit and dual enrollment programming has long been a high priority of the Board of Regents. In addition, the Board of Regents approved a common and greatly simplified application and enrollment process for Montana’s dual enrollment courses.

“The Montana University System is making a major investment in the future of our children by providing great incentives and encouragement for our high school students to be engaged in dual enrollment programs at our colleges,” said Robert Currie, Executive Director, Montana Digital Academy. “Through our partnership, we are able to reach students in every Montana community, providing opportunities for dual enrollment with twice the number of classes this year.”

Application deadlines for the MUS Dual Enrollment programs vary. Students, parents and caregivers should contact their local high school administrator or counselors to learn more or refer to [www.mus.edu](http://www.mus.edu).

The online dual enrollment courses include a variety of topics ranging from college-level general education courses, such as Introduction to Montana Indians: Culture, History, and Issues; Archeology; Introduction to Sociology; Introduction to Philosophy; Introduction to Ethics; and Music Theory. Other more specialized course options include Digital Photography; Introduction to Interior Design; Introduction to Business; Medical Terminology and the Human Body; and a wide variety of computer classes.

The expanded dual enrollment program of the Montana University System is part of the multi-year College!NOW initiative. Led by the Montana University System, College!NOW is designed to make two-year higher education more accessible, better coordinated, better understood and, as a result, better utilized statewide. The funds for the College!NOW initiative are being provided through a competitive grant from the private/nonprofit Lumina Foundation for Education, through their College Productivity Initiative. No tuition and tax dollars are being used for the College!NOW initiative. Please learn more about College!NOW at [www.montanacollegenow.com](http://www.montanacollegenow.com).

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**For more information about the Montana Digital Academy, please contact:**

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