



2025 Montana TRIO ACHIEVEMENT GRANT APPLICATION



GRANT INFORMATION

The Montana TRIO Achievement Grant is a one-time award of \$1,500. This grant will be awarded to the first 230 applicants that meet grant **eligibility requirements**. This grant is disbursed directly to the student's institution of higher education. The grant may be used to cover the student's costs of attendance (tuition, fees, books, room, meal plans, etc.) at any U.S. accredited college or university that awards an associate's degree or higher.

APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Read the **eligibility requirements** to determine if you are eligible to apply for an Achievement Grant.
2. Complete this application.
 - a. The Applicant Information on page 2 and the Authorization section at the top of page 3 must be completed by the applicant and their parent/guardian if the applicant is under 18 years of age. Please type or print clearly.
 - b. The college preparatory requirements on page 3 must be completed and signed by the applicant's high school counselor or their designee.
3. Attach your 7th semester transcript.
4. Submit completed and signed application and additional materials **no later than March 1, 2025**, either by mail to the address below or by using the Montana University System's secure mail service at <https://mus.edu/securemail.html>. Applications will be reviewed as they are received. Awards must be claimed within 3 semesters following high school graduation.

Mail To: MT GEAR UP Scholarship Department; P.O. Box 203201; Helena, MT 59620-3201

For Questions: Contact John Kilgour at the Montana GEAR UP Program (jkilgour@montana.edu / 406-449-9140)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To be eligible for an Achievement Grant you must:

- Be enrolled in a Montana TRIO Talent Search or Upward Bound Program before or during your junior year of high school.
- Be a participant in a Montana TRIO Talent Search or Upward Bound Program at the time of high school graduation.
- Maintain and graduate with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.0.
- Have completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and be Pell Grant eligible.
Note: Check your FSS (FAFSA Submission Summary) to determine if you are eligible to receive Pell funds; final determination of Pell Grant eligibility will be confirmed by the campus prior to disbursement of funds.
- Be on track to complete the Montana University System college preparatory curriculum as evidenced by your 7th semester high school transcript. **The college preparatory requirements must be met and authorized by graduation to receive funding.**



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APPLICANT INFORMATION

First Name Middle Name Last Name

Parent/Guardian First Name Parent/Guardian Last Name

Mailing Address City Zip

Home Phone Cell Phone Email

Social Security Number (required) Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY) State Student ID

High School Expected Graduation Date (MM/YYYY) City

Date you submitted the FAFSA _____

Educational Plans: Please indicate the college(s) to which you plan to apply (we will verify your enrollment in fall 2025):

Talent Search and Upward Bound Program Information			Enrollment Date: _____
IMPORTANT! Eligible applicants must be currently enrolled in a Montana TRIO Talent Search or Upward Bound Program. Please indicate which program you are enrolled in.			
Program	Director	Email	Phone
Montana State University – Billings			
Talent Search & Upward Bound	Laura Gittings-Carlson	l.gittingscarlson@msubillings.edu	406-657-1668
Montana Tech			
Talent Search	Dr. Kristi Bailey	kbailey3@mtech.edu	406-496-4694
Upward Bound	Arielle Coleman	acoleman2@mtech.edu	406-970-5984
Upward Bound Math/Science	Arielle Coleman	acoleman2@mtech.edu	406-970-5984
North Central Montana			
Upward Bound	Emma Lamebull	emma.lamebull@ftbelknap.org	406-353-8401
Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE)			
Talent Search	Anthony Warren	awarren@montana.edu	406-449-9136
Salish Kootenai College			
Upward Bound	Heather Licht	heather_licht@skc.edu	406-275-4988
University of Montana			
Upward Bound	Dannette Fadness	dannette.fadness@umontana.edu	406-243-2219



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Authorization:

I authorize my (child's) TRIO Program and the Montana Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education to use my (child's) name and high school in promotional materials, newsletters, and state newspapers.

Yes No

By signing this application, I authorize my (child's) high school and/or other educational institution to provide any necessary documents or information to the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education to confirm my (child's) eligibility for this award. Incomplete applications may not be considered.

By signing this application, I certify that the information on this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Student Signature	Guardian Signature	Date			
<p>Montana University System - College Preparatory Requirements</p> <p>This section must be completed and signed by your high school counselor or their designee.</p> <p>Instructions for counselor: In order to document that this student is on track to meet the Montana University System College Preparatory requirements by the time of graduation, please check all courses that this student has either successfully completed with a passing grade or is currently enrolled in and on track to pass by the end of the 2024-25 school year.</p>					
<p>Mathematics: 3 years</p>	<p>Courses shall include Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II (or their sequential equivalents). Students are encouraged to take a math course in their senior year. In schools where a student may take Algebra I in the 8th grade, the student must still complete 3 years of math in high school.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Algebra I <input type="checkbox"/> Geometry <input type="checkbox"/> Algebra II <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain: _____) </p>				
<p>English: 4 years</p>	<p>In each year the content of the course should have an emphasis upon the development of written and oral communication skills and literature.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> 9th Grade <input type="checkbox"/> 10th Grade <input type="checkbox"/> 11th Grade <input type="checkbox"/> 12th Grade </p>				
<p>Lab Sciences: 2 years</p>	<p>One year must be earth science, biology, chemistry, or physics; the other year can be one of those sciences or another approved college preparatory laboratory science.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Earth Science <input type="checkbox"/> Biology <input type="checkbox"/> Chemistry <input type="checkbox"/> Physics <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain: _____) </p>				
<p>Social Studies: 3 years</p>	<p>The courses shall include Global Studies (such as World History or World Geography); American History; and Government, Economics, Indian History, or other third-year courses. Students must complete a full year of Global Studies such as World History or World Geography, a full year of American History, and an additional year in another social studies field such as economics, psychology, sociology, tribal government, or Indian history.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Global Studies <input type="checkbox"/> American History <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Explain: _____) </p>				
<p>Electives: 2 years</p>	<p>World language (2 years preferred), computer science, visual and performing arts, or vocational education units which meet the Office of Public Instruction guidelines. (Such as Information Technology or Computer Science.)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Year 1 (Explain: _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Year 2 (Explain: _____) </p>				
<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">Counselor Signature</td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">Printed Name</td> <td style="width: 33%; text-align: center;">Date</td> </tr> </table>			Counselor Signature	Printed Name	Date
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