

AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, Article VIII, section 12, of the Montana Constitution vests in the Legislature the responsibility to ensure strict accountability of all revenue received and spent by the state, counties, cities, and towns and all other local governmental entities; and

WHEREAS, Article X, section 9, of the Montana Constitution vests in the Board of Regents of Higher Education the full power, responsibility, and authority to supervise, coordinate, manage, and control the Montana University System and to supervise and coordinate other public institutions assigned to it by law; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education Policy and Budget, comprised of members representing the Montana Legislature, the Montana Board of Regents, and the Executive Branch, has identified statewide public postsecondary education policy goals and accountability measures with the input and feedback of the Montana University System;

This AGREEMENT, between the Joint Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education Policy and Budget and the Montana University System, identifies the statewide public postsecondary education policy goals and related accountability measures that will be used as an assessment tool for policymakers, the university system, and the public in evaluating the achievement of the policy goals.

The policy goals and accountability measures are as follows:

1. Prepare students for success through quality education
 - a. Completion Rates
 - b. Retention Rates
2. Promote access and affordability
 - a. Affordability compared to other states
 - b. State Support as a percent of personal income and per capita income
3. Deliver efficient, coordinated services
 - a. Transferability among institutions
 - b. Percent of expenditures in instruction, administration, athletics, etc.
4. Be responsive to market and employment needs and opportunities
 - a. Job placement rates by field or program
 - b. Growth in FTE enrollment, certificates, and degrees conferred in 2-yr education
5. Contribute to Montana's economic and social success
 - a. Research and Development receipts and expenditures

- b. Technology transfers (licensing and commercialization)
6. Collaborate with the K-12 school system and other postsecondary education systems
- a. Collaborative programs with K-12, Community Colleges, and Tribal Colleges and private colleges (when appropriate).
 - b. Average SAT or ACT scores of first time full time MUS freshmen

The parties further agree to:

1. The Montana University System shall prepare an Accountability Report presenting appropriate and current data for each accountability measure in an easy-to-read format.
2. The Accountability Report shall be presented to the House and Senate Education Committees and the Joint Appropriations Education Subcommittee by the 10th legislative day of the 58th Legislature.
3. The Accountability Report shall be posted to the Board of Regents website and the Joint Subcommittee on Postsecondary Education Policy and Budget website.
4. The Montana University System shall prepare an annual update to the Accountability Report and post the Report on the Board of Regents website by January 1 each year.

This agreement expires January 1, 2005.

Dated this 9th day of July 2002.

Senator Royal Johnson, Chairman
Joint Subcommittee on
Postsecondary Education Policy and
Budget

Richard Roehm, Chairman
Montana Board of Regents

Representative Art Peterson, Vice
Chairman, Joint Subcommittee on
Postsecondary Education Policy and
Budget

Dr. Richard Crofts, Commissioner
Office of the Commissioner of
Higher Education