



MUS Strategic Plan Affordability

EDUCATION & LOCAL GOV'T IC
MARCH 23, 2012

Exhibit 6

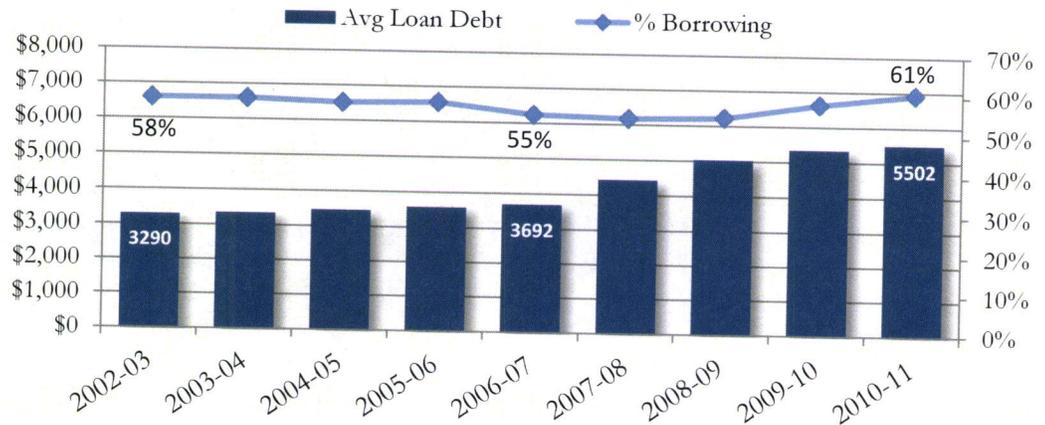
Goal Statement

Promote postsecondary education affordability

Objective 1.3.1 NEW

Decrease average loan amounts and the percentage of students borrowing

Student Loan Debt of First-time, Full-time Resident Students in the MUS
(average loan amounts of students who borrowed; no parent PLUS loans included)



Objective 1.3.2

Decrease tuition as a percentage of median household income

Ratio of Tuition and Fees to Median Household Income

Institutional Type	1993-94	2000-01	2005-06	2010-11
2-year Institutions				
Montana	5.0%	8.7%	8.7%	8.1%
Regional Avg.	3.4%	5.1%	5.9%	5.9%
4-year Institutions				
Montana	6.8%	8.4%	11.3%	11.6%
Regional Avg.	5.4%	6.1%	8.1%	11.0%
Doctoral Institutions				
Montana	7.6%	9.4%	13.3%	14.4%
Regional Avg.	6.2%	7.0%	9.4%	13.0%

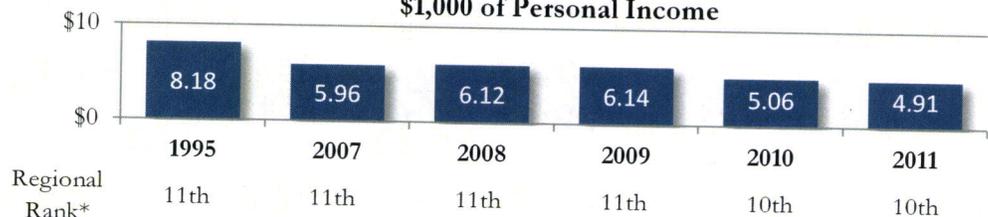
source: WICHE

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

State Appropriations for Higher Education per \$1,000 of Personal Income



source: 2011 Grapevine Report; SHEEO State Higher Education Finance Report
*rank among the 14 WICHE states (minus CA);

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:
 - Utilizing data to recommend strategies for improving affordability in the MUS;
 - Recommending approaches for improving communication and outreach about affordability of higher education in Montana; and
 - Recommending policies to facilitate a more coordinated system of financial aid and services.

Updated: March 2012