**MUS Performance Funding Initiative – Goal & Objectives**

**Goal:**
Utilize performance funding as a strategy to help reach the State’s goal of increasing the percentage of the population with a higher education credential from 40% to 60%.

**Objectives:**
The primary objective of performance funding is to improve student learning and attainment outcomes. To help guide the MUS Performance Funding initiative and the development of outcome metrics, six priority target areas have been identified. The target areas are intended to drive metrics that vary by institutional type, as well as promote mission differentiation and innovative institutional-level strategies.

1. Increase success of under-represented student populations (ex. economically disadvantaged, American Indian, and veterans);
2. Increase early college access for Montana high school students;
3. Improve student success in freshmen year (ex. freshmen/sophomore retention, improve success of remedial students);
4. Increase the number of students transferring from 2-year to 4-year campuses;
5. Increase the number of students completing degree and certificate programs, particularly in niche program areas with significant economic impact to Montana; and
6. Grow graduate education and research capacity consistent with institutional missions.