
MONTANA COLLEGE APPLICATION WEEK



2014 BOARD OF REGENTS REPORT



2014 Montana College Application Week Launch at Capital High School—Helena, MT



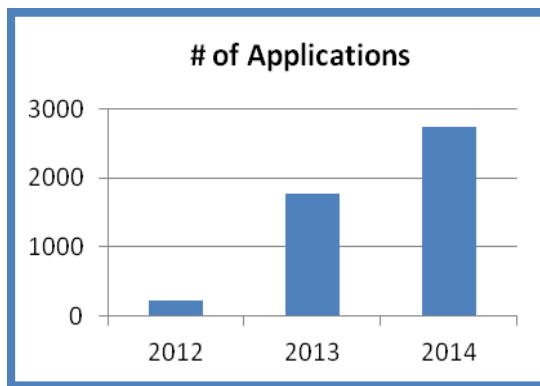
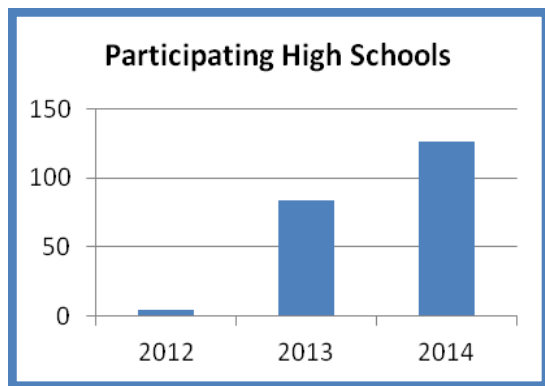
MONTANA COLLEGE APPLICATION WEEK

Purpose

In 2012, Montana joined the American College Application Campaign (ACAC) national effort to increase the number of first-generation and low-income students pursuing a college degree or other higher education credential by piloting Montana College Application Week (MCAW). The purpose of this initiative is to help all high school seniors navigate the complex college admissions process, with a focus on those who may not otherwise apply.

College Application Week in Montana

Montana College Application Week has grown from 4 high schools during the 2012 pilot year to 136 in 2014. The number of applications submitted requesting deferral or waiver increased from 1777 to 2736 between 2013 and 2014. In 2014, all Montana postsecondary institutions participated for the first time.

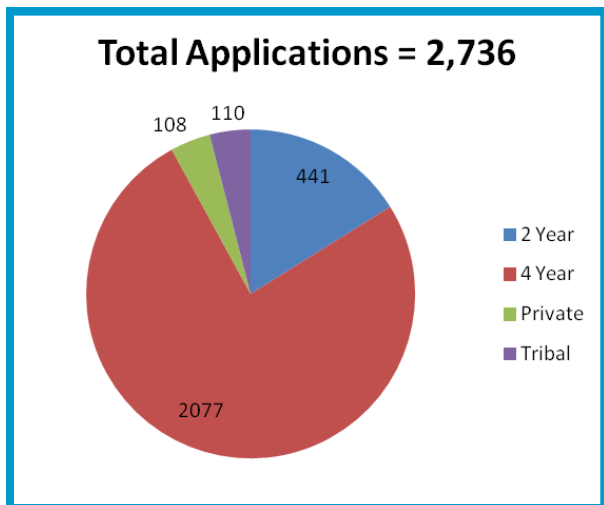


Arlee High School wall features staff and the college they attended



Hellgate High School Counselors support MCAW

2014 Montana College Application Week Summary



4 Year Campuses: 76%

2 year Campuses: 16%

Private Colleges: 4%

Tribal Colleges : 4%

MONTANA UNIVERISTY SYSTEM	NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS*
MSU	657
Gallatin College MSU	25
MSU-Billings	237
City College at MSU-Billings	49
MSU-Northern	143
Great Falls College MSU	98
UM	738
Missoula College UM	71
Bitterroot College	7
Montana Tech	158
Highlands College of MT Tech	26
UM-Western	144
Helena College UM	59
Dawson Community College	25
Flathead Valley Community College	58
Miles Community College	23
PRIVATE COLLEGES	
Carroll College	42
University of Great Falls	34
Rocky Mountain College	32
TRIBAL COLLEGES	
Aaniih Nakoda College	12
Blackfeet Community College	24
Chief Dull Knife College	0
Fort Peck Community College	9
Little Big Horn College	22
Salish Kootenai College	40
Stone Child College	3
TOTAL	2736

*As reported by participating high schools (some data was illegible and/or incomplete). Some colleges do not charge an application fee; therefore, students may have applied but did not report as college applied to with application fee deferred or waived.

2 year = 441
4 year = 2077

Private = 108
Tribal = 110

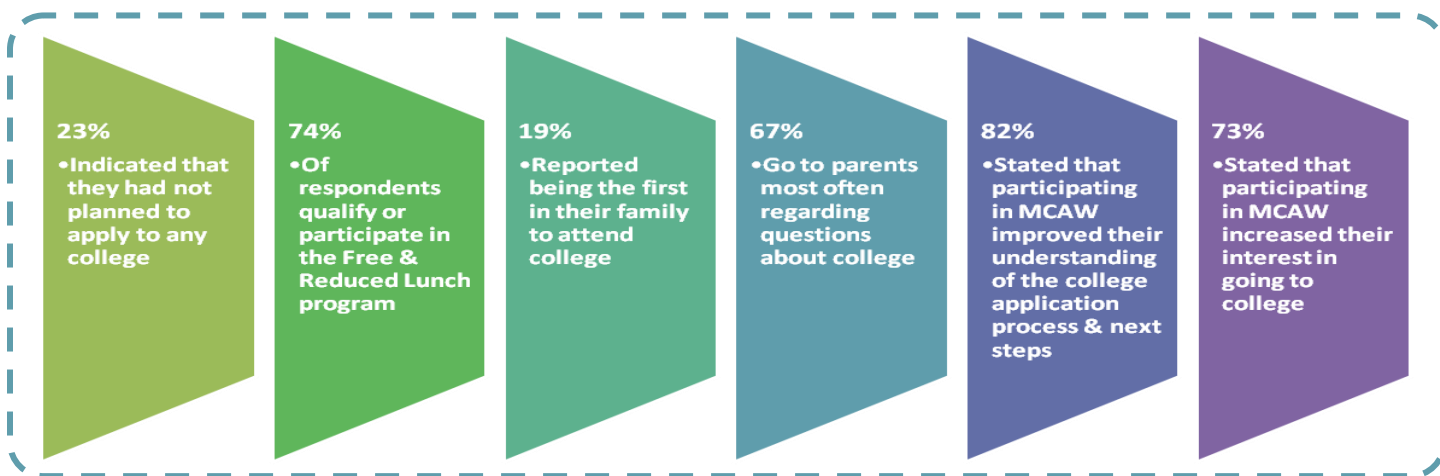
Student Comments

"I think it is a great idea. It helped me better understand what to do and I wasn't afraid to ask about it anymore."



"College Application Week has helped me to get my options organized and understand the process it takes to financially be ready for my college experience."

Student Survey Results



Conclusion

Higher education will determine the future of our nation. The economic health and social viability of a democratic society is determined by the education of its citizens. The barriers to postsecondary education access must be removed. Montana College Application Week is just one effort in a collection of efforts that educational leaders in Montana have initiated and are invested in to ensure more students have access to postsecondary education opportunities. "We literally have something for everyone," Montana Commissioner of Higher Education Clayton Christian said of the higher education system in Montana, offering everything from certifications that take only a few weeks to doctoral degrees. Commissioner Christian said he thinks College Application Week is especially important in Montana where many first generation students may be applying to college.

Next Steps

- Distribute College Application Week 2014 Report to local and statewide stakeholders
- Convene steering committee meetings to discuss results, logistical challenges, and successes
- Hold roundtable discussion at MSCA Conference and get feedback from counselors across a broad spectrum of schools
- Engage campus admissions staff in discussion of 2015 initiative
- Establish timeline and format for 2015 initiative with OCHE and other stakeholders
- Begin examination of relevant data outcomes regarding enrollment of students who submitted applications during CAW