WICHE and Montana: Partners Since 1953

Montana University System
Board of Regents
March 10, 2022
What is WICHE?

• An interstate compact formed by the Western Governors in 1953

• Congressional action signed in 1953 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower
WICHE’s mission

WICHE and its 16 member states, territories, and freely associated states work collaboratively to expand educational access and excellence for all citizens of the West.

By promoting innovation, cooperation, resource sharing, and sound public policy, WICHE strengthens higher education’s contributions to the region’s social, economic, and civic life.
The WICHE Commission

Clayton Christian
Commissioner of Higher Education
Montana University System

Representative
Laurie Bishop
Montana State Legislature

Sheila Stearns
Past President
University of Montana
WICHE’s Student Access Programs

- Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)
- Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP)
- Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP)
Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)

- Provides greater options for students
- Keeps programs robust & viable
- Avoids duplication of unique programs
- Diversifies student populations
Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE)

- Students pay up to 150% of resident tuition at 164 institutions
- AY 2021 Enrollment: 46,170
- Tuition savings = $503 million
  - Montana students saved $7.9 million
- No money exchanged between states
WUE Student Mobility

WUE Students by State

Montana Students Saved $8.0 Million

Students from Montana • Total: 1,205

Students to Montana • Total: 3,724

More WUE students come to Montana than leave.

Currently do not have any participating WUE schools.
## WUE Enrollment in Montana Institutions, AY 2021-2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Number of WUE Students Enrolled</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Montana State University, Bozeman</td>
<td>1,780</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Montana</td>
<td>1,015</td>
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<tr>
<td>University of Montana Western</td>
<td>254</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montana State University, Billings</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montana Technological University</td>
<td>168</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montana State University, Northern</td>
<td>108</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miles Community College</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawson Community College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Helena College University of Montana</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highlands College of Montana Tech</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flathead Valley Community College</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Falls College Montana State University</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP)

- Fills excess capacity
- Keeps programs robust & viable
- Avoids duplication of unique programs
- Diversifies student populations
Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP)

• Students pay up to 150% of resident tuition for master’s, doctorates, and graduate certificates at 63 institutions
• AY 2021 Enrollment: 2,947
• Tuition savings = $43.8 million
  • 99 Montana students saved $1.5 million
  • 95 students came to Montana
• No money exchanged between states
WRGP Student Mobility

WRGP STUDENTS BY STATE  MONTANA STUDENTS SAVED $1.5 MILLION

STUDENTS FROM MONTANA ▶ Total: 99

STUDENTS TO MONTANA ▶ Total: 95

* Currently do not have any participating WRGP schools.
Professional Student Exchange Program (PSEP)
WICHE’s PSEP has allowed me to pursue my medical education at an amazing medical school in the intermountain west. When I complete my training, I look forward to providing care to rural and underserved populations.

Maddy • Montana resident, University of Utah School of Medicine, Class of 2024
For More Information:

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www.wiche.edu