

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY

BOZEMAN | BILLINGS | NORTHERN | GREAT FALLS COLLEGE

CAMPUS REPORT | Board of Regents Meeting | November 20-21, 2025



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY BILLINGS

The Fall 2024 cohort retention for University Campus is the highest on record, with the College of Business, College of Education, and University Campus American Indian students all reaching record highs for retention. New freshmen enrollment is up 9.1% compared to last fall. [Fall census data](#) shows that MSU Billings has 4,145 enrolled students, which is the highest overall headcount since 2019. This is our third consecutive fall semester of enrollment growth over the previous fall.

In early October, MSU Billings and Billings Public Schools announced a new [Direct Admission](#) program that puts graduating high schoolers on an automatic and direct path to college admission at MSUB. The Billings program is the first of its kind in Montana. Graduates from Billings Senior, Billings West, and Billings Skyview high schools, along with graduates of the Billings Early College School, Billings Opportunity School and Billings Multilingual Academy, received an offer of admission to study at MSUB's University campus or City College campus starting in the Fall of 2026.

In conjunction with the university's seven-year cycle of review, the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) conducted the Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness comprehensive accreditation visit at MSU Billings on October 8-10, 2025. Students, faculty, and staff were actively engaged in this process as each sector of the university met with the team of evaluators. The official evaluation report will be issued in early 2026.

Starting this fall, Native American dual credit students will have the opportunity to take a [Crow language class](#). Implementation of a Crow language class has been a long-time goal for Sunny Real Bird, Director of American Indian Outreach at MSU Billings. She is collaborating with the university's Department of English, Philosophy & Modern Languages to bring the class to fruition.

An ebony grand piano that had its performance roots with an educational focus and is signed by legendary jazz musician Wynton Marsalis has a new permanent home at the MSU Billings Liberal Arts Building. Inherited and played by Billings resident Casey Page, the [piano was donated to MSUB](#) in August. Page donated the piano as a show of support for public education as well as MSUB's longstanding jazz festival.

Dr. Mark Fiege, recently retired Professor of History at Montana State University in Bozeman, presented ["Our Public Lands and Their Elegant Lessons" at the third annual Edgerton Lecture](#), sponsored by the Department of History at Montana State University Billings. The Edgerton Lecture is named for Professor Emeritus of History, Dr. Keith Edgerton.