



DATE: 8.20.2025

TO: Board of Regents

FROM: Dr. Ron Slinger  
President, Miles Community College

RE: Campus Report for the September 2025 Board of Regents Meeting

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- Miles Community College (MCC) was among the recipients of the latest round of grant funding from the Montana Community Foundation's (MCF) Community Investment Program (CIP) in Custer County, receiving a \$50,000 grant for its Accelerating Credentials Initiative. This new program will equip high school students with credentials in healthcare, transportation, and career readiness. The latest round of MCF CIP grants distributed more than \$310,000 across Rosebud, Custer, and Fallon Counties, as well as the Northern Cheyenne Reservation, and funded a wide range of projects that reflect local priorities – from expanding workforce training programs to upgrading search and rescue equipment to revitalizing community spaces. Each grant was recommended by a Community Advisory Committee made up of local residents. MCC launched its Accelerating Credentials pilot program in spring 2025 in partnership with Custer County District High School (CCDHS) in Miles City. The first cohort of CCDHS seniors completed the Commercial Driver's License (CDL) training and earned their credentials before their own high school graduation. These students received their CDL training certificates in person during the MCC Commencement Ceremony in early May.
- In conjunction with Workforce Development, Miles Community College hosted its annual Teachers Institute classes in July 2025. These professional development opportunities featured one- and two-day courses, focused on a variety of subjects, and aimed at teachers seeking OPI credit renewal. They were also open to the public to those interested in the subjects offered. This year's courses featured subjects including quantum science and technologies, geology and paleontology, information literacy, and integrating arts for student engagement.
- The Miles Community College Information Technology program, with sponsorship assistance from CyberMontana, hosted its Cyber STEM camp at the end of June. Students in grades 7-12 congregated on the MCC campus to for hands on learning in programming, cybersecurity, and graphic and HTML.
- Miles Community College has been selected to participate in the American Association of Community College's (AACC) AI Skills for All Community of Practice, supported by a grant from Microsoft. The "AI Skills for All" initiative is intended to support a community of practice of 30 AACC member institutions for an 18-month engagement including technical assistance and documentation of successful strategies and opportunities related to AI skilling, college and student AI policies, and other related topics. Participating colleges will learn about successful strategies and opportunities related to AI skills integration. The Community of Practice will mobilize at least ten MCC faculty or staff to participate in specialized AI training to be facilitated by Microsoft and additional partners, with the intention of as many faculty to be engaged as possible to inform the most and widest network for AI adoption into teaching and training programs.

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