



MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER OF HIGHER EDUCATION

560 N. Park – PO Box 203201 – Helena, Montana 59620-3201
(406) 449-9124 - FAX (406) 449-9171

June 4, 2026

To: Chief Academic Officers

From: Joe Thiel
Deputy Commissioner for Academic, Research, and Student Affairs

RE: Approval of May 2026 Academic Items

The following May 2026 academic items have been approved:

LEVEL I ITEMS:

The University of Montana:

- Request for authorization to establish a Career Certification in Human-centered AI
[Item #1018-LI0526](#)
- Request for authorization to establish a minor in Public Health
[Item #1019-LI0526](#)
- Request for authorization to establish areas of study within the Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) Degree
[Item #1020-LI0526](#)
- Request for authorization to terminate multiple certificates: Graduate Certificate in Poverty Policy, Graduate Certificate in New West: Art and the Environment, Graduate Certificate in Environmental Education, Graduate Certificate in Teacher Librarian Studies
[Item #1021-LI0526](#)
- Request for authorization to terminate multiple concentrations: Master of Education in Teaching and Learning with concentration in Teacher Librarian Studies, MS in Chemistry with concentration in Analytical/Environmental Chemistry, MS in Chemistry with concentration in Inorganic, MS in Chemistry with concentration in Organic, MS in Chemistry with concentration in Physical Chemistry, PHD in Chemistry with concentration in Analytical/Environmental Chemistry, PHD in Chemistry with concentration in Inorganic Chemistry, PHD in Chemistry with concentration in Organic Chemistry, PHD in Chemistry with concentration in Physical Chemistry
[Item #1022-LI0526](#)
- Request for authorization to establish a Graduate Certificate in Data Analytics
[Item #1023-LI0526](#)
- Notification to place the MA in Integrated Arts and Education into moratorium
[Item #1025-LI0526](#)
- Request authorization to terminate multiple centers: Big Sky Language Literacy Institute, Institute for Interprofessional Education, Mountain Water Institute
[Item #1027-LI0526](#)



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Montana State University:

- Request to terminate the Bachelor of Arts in American Studies
[Item #2010-L10526](#)

Great Falls College MSU:

- Request for authorization to establish a CTS in Introduction to Healthcare Careers
[Item #2901-LI0526](#)

LEVEL II ITEMS:

University of Montana:

- Request for authorization to establish concentrations in the Master of Fine Arts in Theatre: Directing, Design/Technology, Music Directing
[Item #1012-LII0526](#)
- Request for authorization to consolidate the School of Music and the School of Theatre and Dance into the School of Music, Theatre, and Dance
[Item #1024-LII0526](#)
- Request to retitle the School of Visual and Media Arts the School of Art and Game Design
[Item #1026-LII0526](#)

Montana Technological University:

- Request for authorization to establish a Doctor of Philosophy in Energy Engineering and Science
[Item #1501-LII0526](#)
- Request for authorization to establish a Master of Science in Nuclear Energy
[Item #1502-LII0526](#)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Thiel".

Joe Thiel
Deputy Commissioner for Academic, Research, and Student Affairs