



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

February 20, 2026

To: Chief Academic Officers

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

RE: Approval of February 2026 Academic Items

The following February 2026 academic items have been approved:

LEVEL I ITEMS:

University of Montana

- Notification of changing the CTS in Clinical Medical Assisting from online to face to blended delivery
[Item #1001-LI0226](#)
- Notification of the establishment of a Commercial Dance Certificate
[Item #1003-LI0226](#)

Montana Technological University

- Notification of the establishment of a 10-credit graduate post bac certificate in Mineral Processing
[Item #1501-LI0226](#)
- Notification of the establishment of a 10-credit graduate/post ba certificate in Environmental Management for Mineral Operations
[Item #1502-LI0226](#)
- Notification of the establishment of an undergraduate certificate in Nuclear Energy
[Item #1503-LI0226](#)
- Notification of the establishment of a 10-credit graduate/post bac certificate in Production Geology
[Item #1504-LI0226](#)
- Notice of the establishment of a 10-credit graduate/post bac certificate in Mineral Project Management and Evaluation
[Item #1505-LI0226](#)
- Request for authorization to establish a minor in Welding Engineering
[Item #1506-LI0226](#)
- Request for authorization to establish a minor in Mechatronics
[Item #1507-LI0226](#)

University of Montana Western:

- Request to establish Mathematical Biology and Applied Mathematics Options
[Item #1601-LI0226](#)

Montana State University Billings:

- Request for authorization to terminate Ultrasound Technology, CAS



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Item #2701-LI0226

Montana State University:

- Request for authorization to terminate the BS in Hospitality Management (Food Enterprise Option)
[Item #2013-LI0226](#)
- Request authorization to retitle the BFA in Art - Studio Art option to BFA in Studio Arts
[Item #2014-LI0226](#)
- Request for approval to retitle the BFA in Art – Graphic Design option to BFA in Graphic Design
[Item #2015-LI0226](#)
- Request to retitle the MS in “Family and Consumer Science” to the MS in “Human Development and Family Science”
[Item #2016-LI0226](#)
- Request approval to terminate the Minor in Physics Teaching
[Item #2017-LI0226](#)

Level II:

Montana State University:

- Request to establish the Montana State University Institute on Artificial Intelligence (AI)
[Item #2010-LII0226](#)
- Request to form three departments in the Jake Jobs College of Business & Entrepreneurship
[Item #2011-LII0326](#)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joe Thiel".

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