



Montana University System

Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education

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

MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM | COMMISSIONER’S DIRECTIVE

RE: Generative Artificial Intelligence Adoption and Use

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 9, 2026

Artificial intelligence— including generative AI tools capable of producing text, code, images, and other content—is rapidly reshaping higher education and the workforce. These technologies offer significant potential to expand access, enhance teaching and learning, accelerate research, and improve institutional operations. They also introduce real risks, including threats to data privacy and security, academic integrity, research reliability, and equity of access.

In March 2026, the Board of Regents received the **MUS AI Task Force Recommendations**, developed by a cross-institutional task force convened by the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education. That document establishes a shared framework for responsible AI use across the Montana University System, organized around core principles, system-level actions, and campus-level essential practices.

Based on the Task Force’s recommendations, Montana University System campuses are directed to:

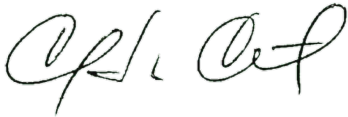
1. **Engage with the MUS Core Principles for AI Use.** Campus CEOs and chief academic officers should ensure that institutional leadership, faculty governance bodies, and relevant administrative units review and discuss the eight core principles established in the MUS AI Task Force Recommendations: data privacy and security; transparency and accountability; bias awareness and mitigation; human discretion; protection of intellectual property; academic integrity; restricted uses; and use of approved and non-approved tools. These principles should inform campus policy, practice, and professional development.
2. **Adopt campus-level essential practices.** Each MUS institution shall review the campus essential practices and considerations set forth in the MUS AI Task Force Recommendations—organized across the domains of *procurement and software*, *instruction*, and *research*—and adopt those practices in institutional policy and operations as appropriate to institutional context, size, and capacity. Campuses are expected to give particular attention to establishing clear AI use expectations for instruction, implementing

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risk-based procurement safeguards, and reinforcing research integrity standards for AI-assisted scholarship.

3. **Collaborate with OCHE on system-level AI initiatives.** OCHE will pursue a coordinated set of system-level actions in support of responsible AI adoption across MUS institutions. These include: *training*—developing and making available system-wide AI literacy resources for students, faculty, and staff, including materials hosted in Canvas Commons and opportunities for professional development; *procurement*—working with state and MUS procurement to establish cooperative purchasing agreements and a centralized inventory of vetted AI tools available to campuses, including coordinating optional campus access to ChatMT.ai as a secure, cost-effective option for accessing frontier AI models; *instruction*—curating and distributing faculty-facing resources including sample syllabus language, AI disclosure guidance, and discipline-specific examples; and *operations*—partnering with institutional leaders to identify and pursue AI strategies that improve efficiency across administrative and student services functions.

The MUS AI Task Force Recommendations are intended as living guidance. OCHE will update the document as AI technologies, legal and regulatory requirements, and institutional practices continue to evolve. Campuses are encouraged to treat their own AI policies and practices as similarly adaptive—revisiting and revising them regularly in response to new developments in this rapidly changing field. Campus feedback on the MUS AI guidance—including suggested edits, emerging practices, and resource links—should be submitted to OCHE to support ongoing updates to system guidance.



Clayton T. Christian
Commissioner of Higher Education