



# Montana University System

## Educational Attainment

### MUS STRATEGIES

College attainment rates are rising in almost every industrialized county in the world, except for the United States.

Montana must do its part to help ensure the U.S. remains competitive.

#### College!Now

The following are broad strategies designed to help Montana increase degree attainment.

#### Increase utilization of two-year colleges

- Only 28% of MUS undergraduates take advantage of lower cost 2-year colleges

#### Target non-traditional students

- 135,000 working age adults in Montana have some college credit, but no degree

#### Ensure ease of student transferability

- To increase transparency and ease of transfer, a common course numbering system is being implemented

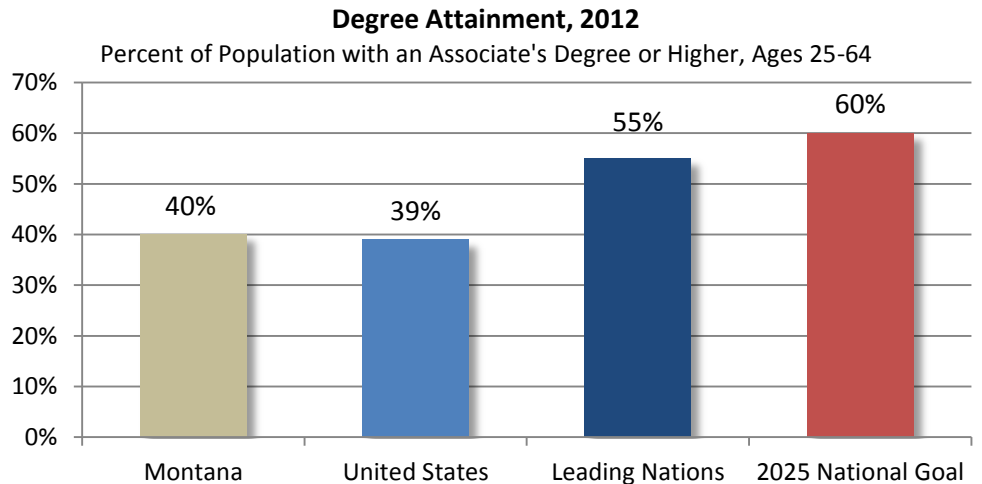
#### Expand early college access

- Increase dual credit/enrollment opportunities for Montana high school students

Updated: 5-19-14

### MEASURE

Percentage of population (ages 25 to 64 years of age) with an associate's degree or higher



source: A Stronger Nation 2014, US Census 2012

- Montana, as well as the entire United States, trails behind leading nations in the percentage of young adults with a higher education credential.
- Educational leaders, including the Lumina Foundation, have set a national goal to increase the percentage of degree holders from 38% to 60% by the year 2025.

### Degree Production in the MUS

#### MUS Degrees & Certificates Awarded, 2008-2013

Degree/Certificate Type	Academic Years					
	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13
Certificates of Applied	303	330	370	376	310	334
Associate Degrees	1327	1352	1514	1797	2087	2019
Baccalaureate Degrees	4554	4662	4672	4829	4703	4924
Masters Degrees	1007	1086	1059	1166	1221	1217
Doctoral Degrees	98	106	97	101	98	97
Professional Degrees	172	170	216	256	282	297
<b>Total</b>	<b>7461</b>	<b>7706</b>	<b>7928</b>	<b>8525</b>	<b>8701</b>	<b>8888</b>
Annual Growth (num)	-85	245	222	597	176	187
Annual Growth (%)	-1.1%	3.3%	2.9%	7.5%	2.1%	2.1%

source: 2012-13 MUS Data Warehouse (including CC's)

- If Montana continues to increase attainment at the rate it did over the last decade, the state is projected to have a college-attainment rate of 47 percent in 2025. (source: A Stronger Nation 2014)
- By 2018, it is projected that 62% of Montana's jobs will require some form of postsecondary education. 155,000 vacancies resulting from job creation, worker retirements and other factors will need to be filled, 96,000 will require postsecondary credentials. (source: Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce)