

Meet the 2016 MSUB American Indian Business Leaders (AIBL) Team featuring Bessie Crooked Arm, Sabrina Half, and Violet Birdinground. These students were the 2016 Champions at the National American Indian Business Plan Competition. This is the sixth time MSUB AIBL students have won the national competition.



## MSUB students launch careers, campaigns, and creative adventures.

What are you waiting for? **Apply today.**

### Need help Getting Started?

#### Applying for admission?

Office of New Student Services  
1500 University Dr.  
Billings, MT 59101  
Phone: (800) 565-6782 or (406) 657-2888  
[admissions@msubillings.edu](mailto:admissions@msubillings.edu)

### Need help with the FAFSA or Scholarship Application?

#### Financial Aid questions?

Office of Financial Aid & Scholarships  
1500 University Dr.  
Billings, MT 59101  
Phone: (406) 657-2188 Fax: (406) 657-1789  
[finaid@msubillings.edu](mailto:finaid@msubillings.edu)



[msubillings.edu](http://msubillings.edu)



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To access the annual campus crime report, please visit: [msubillings.edu/security](http://msubillings.edu/security)  
To access consumer information visit: [msubillings.edu/finaid/Consumer\\_Information.htm](http://msubillings.edu/finaid/Consumer_Information.htm)

## American Indian Student Financial Aid Guide

"I chose MSU Billings because it was affordable and close to home. The staff and faculty were supportive in my learning experience and helped me to excel as a student.

MSU Billings provided me with the skills and education that I carry with me as my career advances."

-Meri Young



Meri Young  
MSUB Alumna, 2016  
Master of Health Administration  
Harlem, MT  
Health/Mental Health/Disabilities Manager,  
Early Head Start Program for Fort Belknap Indian Communities

[msubillings.edu](http://msubillings.edu)



Montana State University Billings and City College are all about access. Access to launch a personalized career path, access to services like free tutoring, student support services and finally, access to an affordable education.

## CHECK OUT THESE TIPS ON WAYS TO PAY FOR COLLEGE!

### Non-Federal Types of Financial Aid

#### American Indian Tuition Waiver

This waiver eliminates tuition costs charged to a qualifying student. However, it does not waive any other charges (i.e. fees). The application is available at MSUB's Forms page ([www.msubillings.edu/finaid/forms.htm](http://www.msubillings.edu/finaid/forms.htm)). Check out these requirements to see if you qualify.

- A Montana resident
- An undergraduate student
- Have a minimum of ¼ blood quantum or are an enrolled member of a state recognized or federally recognized Indian tribe located within the boundaries of the state of Montana.
  - Blood quantum or enrollment status can be documented with a Tribal enrollment card or other Tribal documentation like a Certificate of Indian blood. If you do not have a Tribal enrollment card or Certificate, yet have ¼ blood quantum, documentation may be accepted such as parents' enrollment documentation and birth certificates. If you are a new applicant, please attach a copy of the documentation to the form.
- Students who have already submitted and received the waiver do not need to apply again for the next academic year.
- Have financial need determined by filing the Free Application of Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and submitting required documents.
- Must be making Satisfactory Academic Progress (see next page).

#### Tribal Higher Education Funding

Each Tribe awards Tribal Higher Education Funding based on its criteria and standards.

- Call your Tribal Higher Education office for eligibility and deadlines.
- Tribes require the MSUB Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships to complete a needs analysis form. We recommend that you submit this form to the MSUB Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships *at least two weeks* prior to the tribal deadline.

#### Scholarships

Annually, MSUB awards over \$1.8 million in scholarships. Incoming freshmen and new transfer students must apply and be accepted for admission to the University or City College campus before completing the scholarship application. The MSUB General Scholarship Application (<https://msubillings.academicworks.com/>) is available to both incoming and current students. The application opens November 1 and is due by February 1.

- The Chancellor's Excellence Awards is available to a traditional or non-traditional entering freshman enrolled full-time for a minimum of 12 credits per semester. The application deadline is February 1. Go to: <https://msubillings.academicworks.com/opportunities/3325> for full details.
- American Indian students are also encouraged to apply for American Indian College Fund scholarships at [www.collegefund.org](http://www.collegefund.org)

### Types of Federal Financial Aid

#### Federal, State and Institutional Grants

Students will be offered the maximum grant aid possible, based on their Expected Family Contribution (EFC) as determined by the FAFSA application. Some funds are limited, so applying early (by December 1) is vital for receiving the best possible award package.

#### Work-Study

Students who are awarded work-study will only receive the funding if they secure a work-study position. For those who do, students receive a paycheck after they perform work for the job. For more information visit MSUB's Work-Study FAQ page. ([www.msubillings.edu/finaid/WorkstudyFAQ.htm](http://www.msubillings.edu/finaid/WorkstudyFAQ.htm))

#### Loans

The types of loans available to students will depend on many variables. MSUB encourages students to accept the least amount of loans necessary to complete their educational goals. For more information about the individual types of loans available, visit MSUB's Loans page ([www.msubillings.edu/finaid/Loans.htm](http://www.msubillings.edu/finaid/Loans.htm))

## IMPORTANT DATES AND FINANCIAL AID TIPS

October	Submit an application to MSUB or City College during College Application week and we will waive the application fee. See your guidance counselor for dates and details.
October 1	Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) opens for the upcoming academic year (fall and spring)
November 1	MSUB Scholarship Application is available.
December 1	File your FAFSA at MSUB by this priority date. To file, visit the Federal Student Aid FAFSA homepage ( <a href="http://fafsa.ed.gov">fafsa.ed.gov</a> ); be sure to include MSUB's school code (002530).
December 1	MSUB begins awarding scholarships for freshmen students. MSUB recommends that freshmen submit their scholarship application by this date.
February 1	Submit your MSUB Scholarship Application by this priority date to be considered for scholarships.
June 15	Submit all of the requested documents by this date to avoid delays with your fall semester aid. <i>Please note: These dates are November 1 for the spring semester and April 1 for summer semester.</i>
July 1	All student files must go through a process known as "review." Once this process is complete you will receive an email asking you to accept or decline your award offer on your myInfo account. If you have not received an award offer for the upcoming fall semester by this date, please contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships.
August 1	Fall semester bills are available online. Remember to login to myInfo to confirm your attendance (i.e. pay your bill) prior to the start of the semester.
A week before the semester begins	Business Services disburses aid for those students whose files have been reviewed, and who have confirmed attendance for the semester on their myInfo account.

### IMPORTANT FINANCIAL AID DEFINITIONS

**Verification** - The US Department of Education (ED) selects approximately 30% of FAFSA applicants for a process known as verification. Once ED selects a student for verification and notifies MSUB, the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships will ask the selected student to submit additional documentation, which will be compared to the student's information on the FAFSA. Completing this process ensures that the information on the FAFSA is accurate and students receive the correct amount of federal aid.

**Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP)** - Students receiving federal financial aid are required to make timely and satisfactory academic progress towards the completion of their degree or certificate. In order to maintain SAP students must:

- Maintain a 2.0 GPA (undergraduates),
  - Successfully complete at least 67% of the credits they attempt, and
  - Earn a degree within the maximum timeframe allowed (150% of the published length of their program, measured by credits attempted).
- Students that fail to make SAP may have their financial aid suspended and would need to appeal to be considered for reinstatement of financial aid.

