

Did you know?

**Fastest growing jobs until 2016
requiring at least a BA/BS**

In United States:

- Network systems & data communications analysts, administrators, & engineers
- Industrial & chemical engineers
- Geoscientists
- Sales engineers
- Environmental & health scientists
- Technical writers
- Petroleum engineers
- Mental health/substance abuse counselors
- Biomedical engineers
- Cost estimators

In Montana:

- Computer software engineers & network systems analysts
- Industrial & chemical engineers
- Geoscientists
- Sales engineers
- Environmental & health scientists
- Mining & geological engineers
- Technical writers
- Petroleum engineers
- Mental health/substance abuse social workers
- Biomedical engineers

Information from America's Career InfoNet
www.acinet.org/acinet/

Your Major Matter\$!

You are about to invest several years and a lot of money in preparing for your future. An informed decision makes \$en\$e!


You may earn **\$2,000,000** or more in your lifetime and spend 1/3 of your life working--research and choose a major that sends you on the right career path!

Use these sites to explore career options that fit your major:

<http://career.sdsu.edu/MAJORS/index.htm>

www.uncwil.edu/stuaff/career/majors/index.htm

<http://careers.cua.edu/explore/index.cfm#cim>



Class of 2008
96% of MSU Billings grads responding to an annual survey found employment **within 6 months** of graduation, or they attended graduate or professional schools.

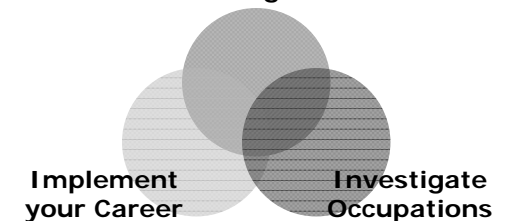
Class of 2008 BA/BS Degree:
Average Salary was **\$34,068/year**
49% were employed in **Billings**
20% were employed elsewhere in **MT**
19% were employed **out-of-state**

Class of 2008 Tech (2-yr) Degree:
Average Salary was **\$37,654/year**
75% were employed in **Billings**
16% were employed elsewhere in **MT**
9% were employed **out of state**

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Making a "Major" Decision

Identify your
Interests &
Strengths



Montana State University-Billings
Career
SERVICES

Explore Hire Education

Montana State University Billings
(406) 657-2168
careers@msubillings.edu
www.msubillings.edu/careers

1 Identify



- What activities do I enjoy during my spare time?
- What activities do I do well? What have I done in the past that makes me especially proud?
- What classes and jobs have I most enjoyed?
- Is this a major field in which I can perform well?
- What do I value? How does that affect my academic/career interests?
- What are my life circumstances and how might they affect my decision?
- What are my career goals? How do they fit with my values, interests, abilities?
- Why am I considering this major? Is it because it would be easy or have a high salary? Is it because it has inherent value or fits my interests?

Use online assessments to identify your interests and skills:

Montana Career Info System:
www.smartaboutcollege.org/mcis.do

O*Net Online:
<http://online.onetcenter.org/>

2 Investigate

- Research occupations to find the occupational outlook and salary projections for various careers.
- Think about your dream job and conduct informational interviews to learn about that profession.
- Volunteer in the field to experience the responsibilities of the profession.
- Talk with alumni about their choices; visit professors; read professional literature.
- Visit Career Services to meet with a Career Coach who can help you evaluate the information you have collected and guide you through the decision-making process.

RESEARCH OCCUPATIONAL OUTLOOK AND SALARY PROJECTIONS

MSU Billings Grad Data:
www.msubillings.edu/careers

Montana Dept of Labor and Industry:
<http://ourfactsyourfuture.mt.gov>

America's CareerInfoNet:
www.acinet.org

Occupational Outlook Handbook:
<http://stats.bls.gov/oco>

3 Implement

- Review majors available at MSU Billings; create a list that matches your values, interests, and abilities.
- Try courses in the majors you are considering.
- Get hands-on experience in an internship that complements your academic choice.
- Work part-time in a field related to your potential major.
- Attend Career Services events such as the Career Fitness Fair, TechExpo, Teacher Recruitment Interviews, and Ask-an-Executive.
- Declare your major and meet with your Academic Advisor to develop your plan of study.



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Billings, MT 59101
(406) 657-2168
careers@msubillings.edu