

Application for Montana State University Billings Chancellor's Excellence Awards

Annual Deadline: January 15



Chancellor's Excellence Awards

The Chancellor's Excellence Awards are Montana State University Billings' most prestigious scholarship awards, recognizing academic achievement as well as leadership qualities. Chancellor's Excellence Awards will be awarded to freshmen entering Montana State University Billings in September each year. **Recipients receive \$3,000 per academic year.** Scholars who meet or exceed all of the renewal criteria may expect to have their awards renewed for four years for a maximum award of **\$12,000.**

Eligibility

- Applicants must apply for admission to Montana State University Billings as an entering freshman (traditional or non-traditional) and must enroll as a full-time student with a minimum of 15 credit hours per semester.
- Scholarship applicants must have a composite score of 26 or greater on the ACT or 1760 or greater on the SAT. Graduates of an accredited high school must also rank in the top 10% of their high school graduation class OR have a cumulative high school grade point average of at least 3.5.
- Applicants who have not graduated from an accredited high school, but are home school, charter high school, or G.E.D. graduates, or applicants who have been out of high school more than three years, must satisfy the ACT or SAT requirements listed above.
- Each applicant must provide evidence of leadership and a record of school/community service.
- Three letters of recommendation are required from non-relatives who can attest to your academic achievement and potential, leadership skills, and community service experience (e.g. high school teacher, school administrator, school counselor, employer, community person, etc.).
- Applicants are required to provide a signed declaration of intent to complete a four-year undergraduate degree conferred by Montana State University Billings and be enrolled in a Montana State University Billings bachelor's degree program.

Selection

Students will be selected as finalists based on the eligibility requirements and will be invited to campus for mandatory interviews with members of the Chancellor's Excellence Awards Selection Committee.

Renewal Criteria

Scholarships are automatically renewed each year to the awardees provided the following renewal criteria is met or exceeded:

- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.5 maintained.
- Successful completion of at least one honors course/seminar per year with cumulative 4-year minimum of 12 honors credits.
- Documentation of community/university service learning activity(ies).
- Successful completion of a minimum of 15 credits per semester with no grade below a C in any course.
- Record of effective citizenship and contribution to the campus community.
- A freshman entering the University with an undeclared major must formally declare an MSU Billings major by the end of the second semester of freshman year.

Application Deadline

The application together with all related documentation must be **postmarked no later than January 15** and sent to the Chancellor's Excellence Awards Committee. Finalists will be notified by February 1. Interviews will be scheduled mid-February.

You may write or call the Montana State University Billings Foundation if you have any questions.

Phone: (406) 657-2244; (888) 430-MSUB; Fax: (406) 657-1600; or e-mail srhodes@msubillings.edu

Please send the completed application on the reverse side with all required information to:

**Chancellor's Excellence Awards Committee
Montana State University Billings Foundation
1500 University Drive
Billings, MT 59101-0298**

Chancellor's Excellence Awards Application

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION:

Name (Last, First, MI) _____
Social Security Number _____ Phone number _____
Permanent Address _____
E-mail Address _____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION:

High School(s) attended (name, address, and year(s) attended): _____
Date of high school graduation _____ Cumulative high school GPA on a 4.0 scale _____ High school class rank _____ in a class of _____
ACT (English) _____ (Math) _____ (Reading) _____ (Science Reason) _____ Composite _____
SAT (Critical Reading) _____ (Math) _____ (Writing) _____ Total _____
List Advanced Placement courses successfully completed or currently in progress _____
National Merit Semifinalist? ___Yes ___No
Other High School Academic Awards/Honors: _____
Intended Field(s) of Study _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

U.S. Citizen? ___Yes ___No State of legal residence _____ If Montana resident, what county? _____
Gender ___Male ___Female Marital status _____ Have you ever been married? _____
Dependents? ___Yes ___No If yes, list ages _____
Employer _____ Hours worked per week _____

REQUIRED MATERIALS:

In order to be considered for a Chancellor's Excellence Award, you must apply for admission at Montana State University Billings. We recommend applying for admission at least two weeks before the January 15 scholarship deadline to allow adequate processing time for your admission application. In addition, and in order to be considered, you must include all the below-listed materials with this application postmarked no later than January 15. Unsuccessful candidates for the Chancellor's Excellence Awards will automatically be considered for other MSU-Billings scholarships for which they are eligible.

1. A letter addressing each of the following areas:

- Please list and indicate year(s) of involvement in school/community service; and your leadership role in school/community clubs, organizations, committees, departments, work experience and/or other groups or activities.
- Briefly state how you have benefited from your involvement in these activities.
- Please explain why you are interested in attending MSU Billings and completing a four-year degree at MSU Billings.
- Please describe how you plan to become actively involved at MSU Billings.
- Please list any additional information (personal, financial, etc.) you would like the scholarship committee to consider.

2. A transcript of your high school record including your cumulative GPA, rank in class and college test results. If ACT or SAT scores are not included on transcript, the candidate must arrange to have such results (either ACT or SAT) forwarded by a responsible official to the Chancellor's Excellence Awards Committee at MSU Billings Foundation no later than January 15.

3. A list of your senior year high school courses in which you are currently enrolled and that you plan to enroll in during the year. (If currently enrolled in high school.)

4. Three letters of recommendation from non-relatives who can attest to your academic achievements and potential, leadership skills, and community service experience (e.g. high school teacher, school administrator, school counselor, employer, community person, etc.). Each letter should include the person's name, address, occupation, title, and his/her relationship or affiliation to you. Please ask your references to address the following: 1) How long and in what capacity have you known the applicant? What is your position? 2) Describe the applicant's motivation and potential for academic success. Please be specific. 4) Describe the applicant's leadership skills and/or involvement in school/community service. 3) Describe the applicant's distinctive qualities and characteristics, you have personally observed, that make the applicant particularly well qualified to receive a Chancellor's Excellence Award.

5. An essay of no more than two pages (double-spaced) on your future goals and aspirations and how Montana State University Billings will play a role in attaining those goals. Describe the academic, personal and other educational goals you seek to accomplish while attending Montana State University Billings (be as specific as possible).

DECLARATION OF INTENT:

I wish to be considered for the Chancellor's Excellence Award. I have made separate application for admission to Montana State University Billings and have read and agree to all conditions stipulated for candidates for Chancellor's Excellence Awards, including my intent to enroll in a Montana State University Billings bachelor's degree program and complete a four-year undergraduate degree conferred by Montana State University-Billings. I certify that the above information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and permit Montana State University Billings to release relevant public information to scholarship donors and/or the news media.

Signature of applicant

Date