



MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY BILLINGS



ACCESS & EXCELLENCE

A GUIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE STUDENTS
2026-2027



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◀ msubillings.edu/internationalstudies/admissions.htm ▶

Welcome to MSUB

US News

Best Colleges
Business Programs

AACSB

Accredited College
of Business

4,500 Degree Seeking Students

18:1 Student to Teacher Ratio

100+ International Students
from over 20 Countries

25 College of Business Client-based
projects completed annually

50+ Active Student Clubs and
Organizations

The State of Montana

With a population of just over one million people, the state of Montana is known as the “Last Best Place”. Within driving distance to two of the most popular national parks in the U.S., Glacier and Yellowstone, millions of people from all over the world travel to Montana every year to experience the mountains, lakes and rivers that crisscross the state.

Montanans have a reputation for being warmhearted and friendly. As an international student studying in Montana, you will have a true American experience in an ideal English immersion environment, offering countless opportunities for exposure to the local community.

Billings, Montana:

Population: 119,960

Average annual temperature: 8.91° C

Average rainfall: 34.69 cm

Notable attractions:

Yellowstone National Park,
Red Lodge Mountain,
Reef Indoor Waterpark,
Dehler Baseball park,
Centennial Ice Arena,
Metra Park Arena

Wall Street Journal, 2021:

#1 emerging housing market

Outside Magazine: 2016 Best Town
to Live in the U.S.

Forbes Magazine: 2016 Best Small
Place for Business and Careers

Fortune Magazine: 2009 Best Small
City for Launching a Business

Things to do in Billings, Montana

On Campus:

The MSUB campus has tons of events and activities to keep you busy, including NCAA sports games, fitness at the recreation center, lectures by important public figures, concerts and plays, ping pong and pool, barbecues, fairs and social events.

In the Neighborhood:

Billings is a city on the move, quickly becoming one of the hottest destinations in the Rocky Mountain region. Here, you can enjoy professional sports competitions, over 2,736 bike trails, tax-free shopping, music concerts, dancing, or socializing at one of the many cafes and restaurants popping up in the downtown area.

A Little Farther Away:

If you enjoy nature and all the amazing things it has to offer, MSUB is the ideal place for you. Just outside of the city you can enjoy hiking, backpacking, fishing, kayaking, skiing, rock climbing and mountain biking in one of the most pristine natural environments in the world. Two of the United States’ most famous national parks, Yellowstone and Glacier are within driving distance from the MSUB campus.

The City of Billings

Billings is the largest city in Montana and the trade, retail and distribution center for much of Montana, Northern Wyoming, North Dakota, and South Dakota. MSUB is located 1.5km from downtown Billings, walking distance to a plethora of shops, restaurants, cafes and theaters. As a student at MSUB, you will enjoy the advantages of living and studying in a growing city with ample opportunity for social and professional development. Residents and visitors alike enjoy Montana’s distinct four seasons and fill their days eating and socializing in the city or exploring the splendor of Montana’s natural environment.

CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

International Student Clubs and Organizations

MSUB has numerous on-campus clubs and organizations in which exchange students can participate. The most popular club for international students is the MultiCultural Club. International Studies also has a strong support network for international students through its BFF program, which helps to ensure a smooth and pleasant transition to life in Billings, Montana.

MultiCultural Club

The MultiCultural Club celebrates diversity and culture on the MSUB campus by managing various events and activities that aim to create cultural awareness and provide cross-cultural opportunities for students, staff/faculty, and the Billings community. Activities and events managed by the MultiCultural Club, include the annual International Food Fair, weekly Cultural Presentations, winter ski trips, summer hiking, excursions, paintball, and bowling, to name a few.

Billings Friendship Families (BFF)

The Billings Friendship Families program was designed to provide international students with the support and friendship of a local Billings family while simultaneously giving a local family the opportunity to learn about an international culture. Students are matched with a family based on common interests and hobbies. Billings Friendship Families participate by inviting students for home-cooked meals, weekend excursions, and holiday celebrations. The program is highly successful, enjoyed by students and families alike.



On-Campus Convenience

The MSUB campus has everything you need for an active, happy, healthy lifestyle. Two buildings for student housing, Rimrock and Petro Hall, provide comfortable and modern accommodations with plenty of activities nearby. A short walk from student housing is the university cafe, the student store, basketball courts, weight room, climbing wall, swimming pool, tennis and raquetball courts, a game room, and the library.

The campus is a park-like environment filled with trees, flowers, walking paths and a canal that runs through the south-end of campus. The university is surrounded by upper-middle class family homes in one of the most desirable neighborhoods in the Billings community.

The city of Billings experiences little-to-no crime; however, for added safety, the university has on-site security that patrols and safeguards the campus 24 hours a day and student housing can only be accessed using state-of-the-art handprint recognition technology.

More detailed information about housing and residential life can be found at:

msubillings.edu/reslife

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Join our Family

<http://www.msubillings.edu/internationalstudies/admissions/>

Exchange Student Admission:

For admission as an international exchange student, the following basic requirements must be met. Click on the QR Code for more detailed information:



Criteria:

- Be currently enrolled in and nominated by a designated MSUB partner university
- Have at least one semester remaining prior to graduation
- Demonstrate English proficiency. The minimum acceptable score is TOEFL (IBT): 68 / IELTS: 5.5.
 - Exchange students are permitted to submit a letter of verification from a certified English instructor from the partner university indicating that the student's English abilities meets and/or exceeds the minimum admission requirements.
- Have an equivalent of at least a 2.75 GPA
- U.S. Immigration policies require that international students show proof of adequate available financial resources to cover their financial needs for the duration of the exchange

Admission Process:

Step 1: Complete MSUB's international student application and pay the \$30 application fee
www.applyweb.com/msubill

Step 2: Email the following supporting application documents to internationaladmissions@msubillings.edu

- Financial statement form and institutional bank letter
- Proof of English language proficiency
- Copies of transcripts or records of previous school work
- Copy of passport

Application Deadlines:

Fall Inbound: May 15 | **Spring Inbound:** November 15



COSTS & ARRIVAL



On-Campus Living:

All exchange students are required to living on campus, per MSUB policy. Due to living on campus, exchange students are also required to purchase a meal plan. Scan the QR code or follow the link to review MSUB's room and board information:
http://www.msubillings.edu/reslife/housing_info.htm



Estimated Costs:

Tuition and most fees are waived for exchange students, however, students still must cover the costs for room and board, health insurance, and some fees. In order to obtain a DS-2019 immigration document and a J-1 visa, all exchange students must provide proof of financial means to support their costs abroad. Below is a breakdown of the estimated costs needed to obtain the necessary immigration documents (calculated for 2026-2027).

	Academic Semester (4 months)	Academic Year (9 months)
Books & Supplies (estimated)	\$700	\$1,200
Non-waived Fees	\$225	\$325
Mandatory Health Insurance	\$300	\$600
Double Room / Single Room	\$2,799 / \$3,392	\$5,598 / \$6,784
Meal Plan (4 options)	\$2,188-\$2,411	\$4,376-\$4,822
Total Estimated Cost	\$6,212-\$7,028	\$12,099-\$13,731

Airport Pickup & Orientation:

MSUB Office of International Studies offers FREE airport pickup service for all students who inform us of their arrival 1 week in advance. To sign up for this service, indicate your arrival information in the International Student Confirmation Form and upload a copy of your flight itinerary. Please be aware that we may not be able to accommodate airport pickup between the hours of 23:00 - 7:00.

All students also must participate in a mandatory international student orientation prior to the start of the semester. The orientation typically lasts runs three days and is generally held the week prior to the start of classes. Students will receive more information about arrival and orientation via email. If you have any

PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Exchange students can choose from an array of undergraduate course offerings. Per the terms of the J-1 exchange program, exchange students are required to take at least one class pertaining to American or local culture. Explore specific course offerings available for a specific semester at https://prodmyinfo.montana.edu/pls/blagent/bzskcrse.PW_SelSchClass.

To apply, visit <http://www.msubillings.edu/internationalstudies/admissions.htm>.

B: Bachelor's Degree BO: Bachelor's Degree Option TM: Teaching Minor A: Associate Degree M: Minor

A		- Health & Wellness	BO
Applied Science	B	- Human Performance	BO
Art	B - M	3+2 BS Health & Human Performance/MS Athletic Training	B
Art - Fine Arts	B	Health and Physical Education (K-12)	B
Art (K-12)	B	History	B
B		History Education	B - TM
Biology - BA, BS	B	Human Services	B
- Medical Laboratory Science	BO	I	
Broadfield Science	B	Information Systems	M
Business Administration	B - M	L	
- Accounting	BO - M	Liberal Studies	B
- Finance	BO	M	
- General Business	BO	Math Education	B - TM
- Management	BO	Music Performance	B
- Marketing	BO - M	Music (K-12)	B
C		N	
Chemistry	B - M	Native American Studies	M
Coaching	M	O	
Communication Arts	B	Outdoor Adventure Leadership	B
- Media Studies	BO - M	P	
- Organizational Communication	BO	Political Science	B
Criminal Justice	B	Political Science Education	TM
E		Psychology - BA, BS	B - M
Early Childhood Studies	TM	Pre-Physical Therapy	
Earth Science	M	Public Relations	B - M
Elementary Education	B	Pre-Nursing	
English	B - M	Psychiatric Rehabilitation	B
English Education	B	R	
Environmental Studies	B	Reading (K-12)	M
G		S	
General Studies	A	Sociology	M
H		Spanish	M
Health & Human Performance	B	Special Education	B
- Health & Wellness	BO		



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