

Talent Search (TS) Program

A renewed partnership between
Montana Tech
&
the Butte, Helena, Anaconda
and Deer Lodge School Districts

Today's Agenda

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- Allowable Services
- Proposed Services
- Eligibility
- Eligibility Criteria
- Funding Status
- Laws, Regulations, & Guidance
- Performance Measures
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TS Purpose

Program Office: Federal TRIO Programs

CFDA Number: 84.044

Program Type: Discretionary/Competitive Grants

The Talent Search program identifies and assists individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds who have the potential to succeed in higher education. The program provides academic, career, and financial counseling to its participants and encourages them to graduate from high school and continue on to the postsecondary school of their choice. The goal of Talent Search is to increase the number of youth from disadvantaged backgrounds who complete high school and enroll in the postsecondary education institution of their choice.

TS Allowable Services

“Services provided by the program can include:

- Academic, financial, career, or personal counseling including advice on entry or re-entry to secondary or postsecondary programs
- Career exploration and aptitude assessment
- Tutorial services
- Information on postsecondary education
- Exposure to college campuses
- Information on student financial assistance
- Assistance in completing college admissions and financial aid applications
- Assistance in preparing for college entrance exams
- Mentoring programs
- Special activities for sixth, seventh, and eighth graders
- Workshops for the families of participants”

TS Proposed Services

Specific Services proposed for the Montana Tech TS include:

- Continual recruitment with big pushes in the Fall of each year
- Review and acceptance of applicants
- Development of a student achievement map for every accepted participant
- Annual reporting to schools and U.S. Department of Education
- Financial Aid workshops and “orientation nights” for seniors and families
- Individual assistance developing life and career goals
- ACT Preparation Workshops and test fee waivers
- Assessment testing & career counseling
- Tutoring services
- A college visit and/or cultural exposure event for every student each year
- High school preparation meetings for 8th grade students and families
- Mentoring
- Summer camps on campus (technology, career exploration, job shadows)
- Summer nudging for recent graduates
- STEM tutoring and enrichment activities

TS Eligibility

Students must be between the ages of 11 and 27 and have completed the fifth grade. In any given project, two-thirds of the participants must be students who are low-income and potential first-generation college students.

Montana Tech's TS was funded to serve 510 students in 11 schools across Southwest Montana. Therefore, 342 of our students will need to be both low-income and first-generation students.

TS Low Income Guidelines

Federal 2016 Annual Low Income Levels

Size of Family Unit	48 Contiguous States, D.C., and Outlying Jurisdictions
1	\$17,820
2	\$24,030
3	\$30,240
4	\$36,450
5	\$42,660
6	\$48,870
7	\$55,095
8	\$61,335

For family units with more than eight members, add the following amount for each additional family member: \$6,240 for the 48 contiguous states, the District of Columbia, and outlying jurisdictions; \$7,800 for Alaska; and \$7,170 for Hawaii. The term "low-income individual" means an individual whose family's taxable income for the preceding year did not exceed 150 percent of the poverty level amount.

The figures shown under family income represent amounts equal to 150 percent of the family income levels established by the Census Bureau for determining poverty status. The poverty guidelines were published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in the [Federal Register](#) on January 25, 2016.

TS Funding Status

FY 2016

National Funding Allocation for TS: TBA

Number of Awards Nationally: TBA (TBA new, TBA lost, TBA renewed)

Montana Tech's Award: \$241,440 per year for 5 years

Montana Tech's Number of Participants: 510

Montana Tech's Cost Per Participant: \$480

FY 2015

Funding Allocation for TS: \$134,520,595

Number of Awards: 449

Number of Participants: 310,199

Average Award: \$299,600

Average Number of Participants: 691

Average Cost per Participant: \$449

TS Legs., Regs. & Guidance

Legislation

Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended, Subpart 2, Chapter 1, Sections 402A and 402B

Regulations

[Title 34 Code of Federal Regulations Part 643](#)

[Education Department General Administrative Regulations \(EDGAR\), 34 CFR Parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 82, 85, and 86](#)

Guidance

[Office of Management and Budget \(OMB\) Circulars](#)

TS Performance

Objectives, Outcomes and Data

TS is a performance driven program. Our plan of operation includes extensive evaluation based on management by objective. This is because, all TS grantees are required to meet 5 template objectives yearly. Subsequent years' funding is dependent on meeting/exceeding outcomes and reporting supporting data in an annual report to the U.S. Department of Education.

Montana Tech's TS Objectives Are:

- 93% of non-senior participants to be served during each budget period will be promoted to the next grade level at the end of the academic year.
- 86% of high school seniors will graduate from secondary school or receive a certificate of high school equivalency during each budget period.
- 40% of high school seniors will graduate from secondary school having completed rigorous core.
- 49% of graduating participants will enroll in a program of postsecondary school education during each budget period (or during the next fall term).
- 29% of participants who enrolled in post secondary education, will complete within six years.

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