



For more information on TRIO:

Montana Aspire - [www.aspireonline.org/montana](http://www.aspireonline.org/montana)

Regional Aspire - [www.aspireonline.org](http://www.aspireonline.org)

Council for Opportunity in Education - [www.coenet.org](http://www.coenet.org)

U.S. Department of Education TRIO Home page -  
[www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oep/trio](http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/oep/trio)

For more information on TRIO in Montana, contact:

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This booklet was designed by Barb Waters, Outreach Advisor for the Upward Bound and Talent Search programs at MSU Billings.

# Montana TRIO Fact Book 2020

**Federal TRIO Programs**  
**U.S. Department of Education**

# Overview

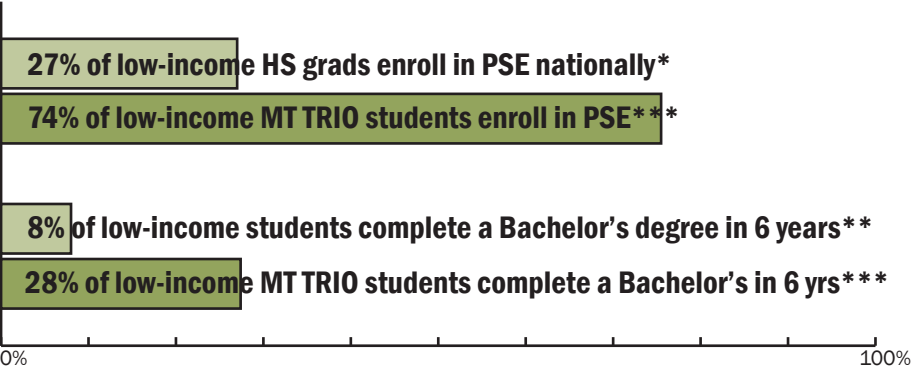
## What is TRIO?

Our nation has asserted a commitment to providing educational opportunity for all Americans regardless of race, ethnic background, or economic circumstance. In support of this commitment, Congress established a series of programs to provide educational opportunity for low-income, first-generation, and Americans with disabilities. These programs are funded under Title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and are referred to as the TRIO programs. While student financial aid programs help students overcome financial barriers to higher education, TRIO programs help students overcome class, social, and cultural barriers to higher education.

## TRIO in Montana is working

In fact, when we compare Montana TRIO students to cohort groups of students from the same demographic (low-income, first-generation, and/or disabled), the students receiving TRIO services are more likely to enroll and graduate from a postsecondary education (PSE) program.

## The Current Numbers....



Statistics based on students coming from families with income less than \$36,000  
\*Data Source: Postsecondary Education Opportunity, October 2010, Number 220  
\*\*Data Source: Postsecondary Education Opportunity, November 2010, Number 221  
\*\*\*14-year average of Montana Upward Bound APR data

## The Federal TRIO Programs

- Upward Bound**—Services include instruction in math, science, language arts, foreign language and other skills necessary for success in college; academic, financial, and personal counseling; assistance in completing college entrance and financial aid applications; and career exploration.
- Educational Talent Search**—Services include academic, financial, career, or personal counseling; tutorial services; exposure to college campuses; assistance in completing college admissions and financial aid applications; special activities for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders; and workshops for the families of participants.
- Educational Opportunity Centers**—Services include academic advising, personal counseling, and career advising; help in completing applications for college admissions, testing, and financial aid; and financial and economic literacy activities.
- Upward Bound Math & Science**—Services include summer programs consisting of intensive math and science training; year-round counseling and advising; exposure to university faculty who do research in math and science; computer training; and scientific research conducted under the guidance of a faculty or graduate student mentor.
- Veterans' Upward Bound**—Services include intensive basic skills development for GED completion; refresher classes for subjects required in college; academic, financial, and personal counseling; tutorial services; assistance in completing college entrance and financial aid applications; and assistance in securing veterans' services.
- Student Support Services**—Services include academic tutoring; assistance in college course selection; assistance in completing financial aid and scholarship applications; financial and economic literacy education; assistance in applying to graduate and professional programs; assistance in transferring from two-year to four-year programs; individualized personal, career, and academic counseling; and mentoring.
- Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement**—Services include academic counseling; research opportunities and mentoring from faculty; summer internships; tutoring; assistance in securing admission and financial aid for enrollment in graduate programs; and seminars and other scholarly activities designed to prepare students for doctoral studies.

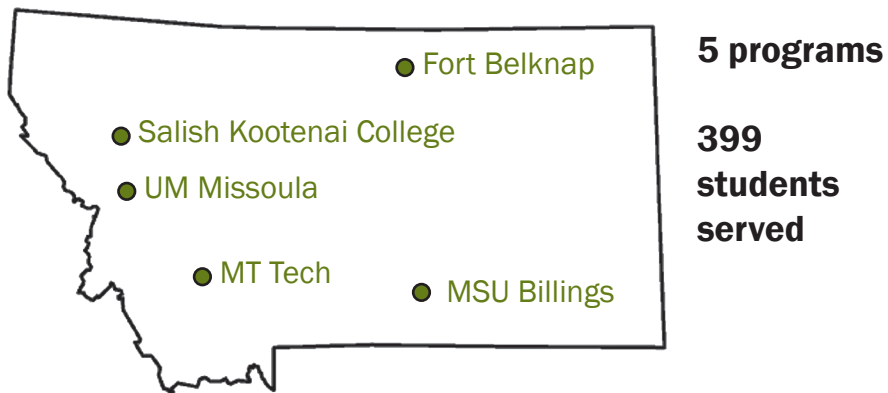
# Upward Bound

TRIO

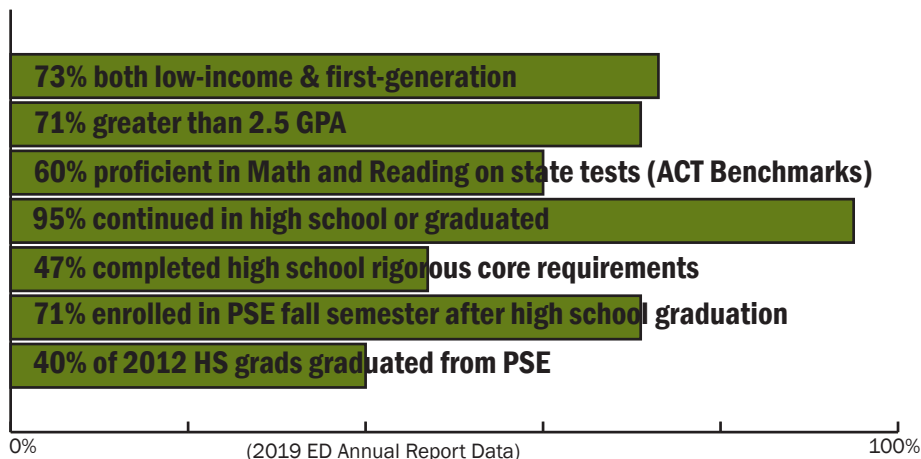
## Purpose

Upward Bound (UB) works to increase the rates at which participants enroll in and graduate from PSE. Classic UB serves high school students from low-income families and high school students from families in which neither parent holds a bachelor's degree.

## Locations



## Montana Outcomes



## Marcia St. Goddard

Marcia St. Goddard has been a long-standing member of the Upward Bound family. She is an enrolled member of the Blackfeet Tribe and was born and raised on the Blackfeet Reservation. She participated in Upward Bound for three years before graduating from Browning High School in 2003 and immediately enrolled as a freshman at UM. During her time at UM, Marcia achieved tremendous academic and personal goals. She was an active student leader in many programs on campus including TRIO Student Support Services, UM Native American Peer Mentor program, UM Health Careers Opportunity Program, UM American Indian Student Services and the UM Upward Bound program. While a single parent, she worked as an Upward Bound tutor throughout her undergraduate studies. Marcia graduated from the University of Montana in 2008, with High Honors with a Bachelor's of Science degree in Health and Human Performance. In addition, she was awarded the "Outstanding Senior Presidential Award" chosen by her departmental faculty. Upon graduation, she was accepted into the prestigious UM School of Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation Sciences program; she was one of sixty to be accepted out of 300 applicants. She earned her doctoral degree in Physical Therapy in 2011 and recently started a new job at Alpine Physical Therapy in Missoula, MT.

**"Upward Bound was a crucial component to my career success!"**

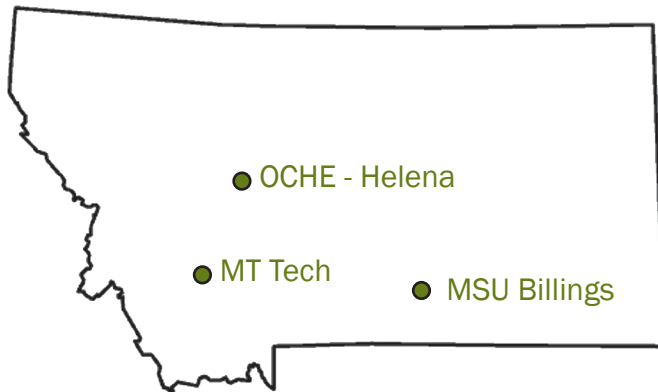
# Educational Talent Search

TRIO

## Purpose

The goal of Educational Talent Search (ETS) is to increase the number of youth, 6th-12th grade, from disadvantaged backgrounds who complete high school and enroll in the PSE institution of their choice. Educational Talent Search also serves high school dropouts, to age 27, by encouraging them to re-enter the educational system and complete their education.

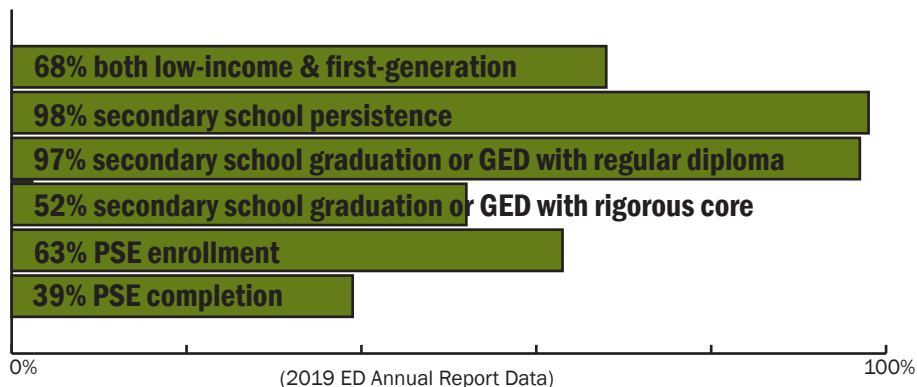
## Locations



**3 programs**

**2,301  
students  
served**

## Montana Outcomes



## Daniel Sublette

Daniel Sublette is one of eight children and the first in his family to earn a Bachelor's degree. Daniel joined ETS as a sophomore in high school and admits that he didn't realize the full benefit of the program at the time. It wasn't until years later that Daniel realized how invested all the Trio staff were in his success and how much that support helped him in achieving his dreams. After graduation, Daniel

attended MSU Billings where he continued his participation in Trio by joining the Student Support Services program. Throughout his time as a Trio participant, he utilized many services including tutoring, career exploration days, fee waivers for tests such as the ACT and PCAT, and help applying for financial aid. Through it all, Trio was *"there to support my successes and failures."* He earned his Bachelor's degree in biology with a minor in accounting in 2013 and then proceeded to attend the University of Montana's pharmacy program. He graduated with his Doctorate of Pharmacy in 2018. One month after becoming licensed as a pharmacist, Daniel found the career he had been searching for when he took on a role as pharmacy manager at Costco. *"Everyone I encountered in the ETS office was more excited about me succeeding and helping me to achieve those dreams than I could grasp."*

*"Trio never left my side and helped guide me towards success."*

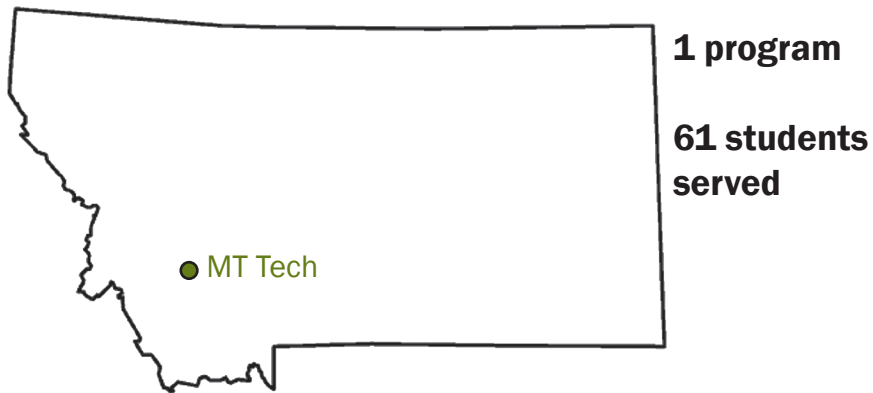
# Upward Bound Math-Science

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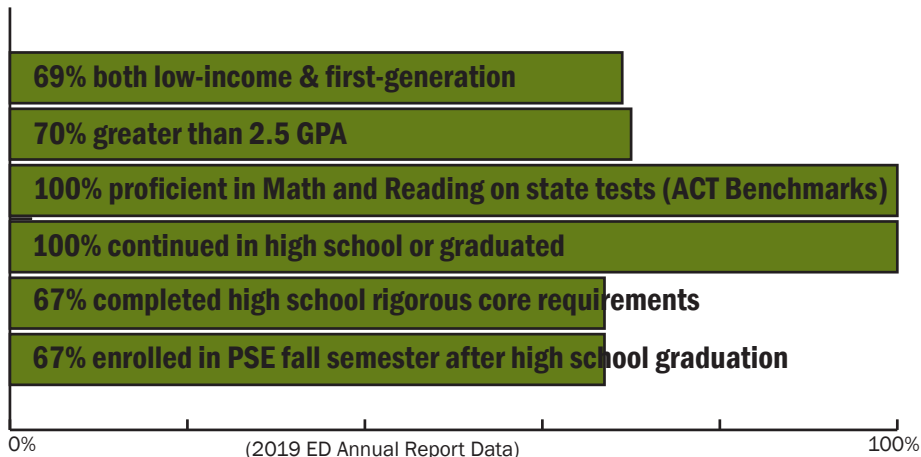
## Purpose

The goal of Upward Bound Math-Science (UBMS) is to help high school students recognize and develop their potential to excel in math and science and to encourage them to pursue PSE degrees in math and science, and ultimately careers in the math and science profession.

## Locations



## Montana Outcomes



## Bethani Maris

Bethani Maris is a senior at Butte High School. Bethani was one of the first to be accepted to the Upward Bound Math-Science program at Montana Tech. Bethani was accepted into the program because of her desire to succeed in her chosen STEM field. She is interested in studying Forensic Science, and has the grit and determination to succeed in this area. Bethani is currently ranked in the top

of her class and maintains a 4.0 GPA. Bethani noted that *"In my 17 years living on this earth I have had quite a few trials. I have moved around quite frequently, struggling with financial stability, and over all just not fitting in. However, after being accepted to Upward Bound I have found my place. I learned that if you don't apply yourself then you will never advance. Upward Bound gives a strong healthy environment and provides so many opportunities to better your future."* Bethani credits Upward Bound Math-Science with opening the door for her to attend Idaho State University. *"This program has given me experience in a college setting, taught me how to navigate a campus, and taught me how to find resources when needed, as well as so much more."*

*"I have gained so much from Upward Bound, and I hope to see it do the same for others in the future."*

# Veterans' Upward Bound

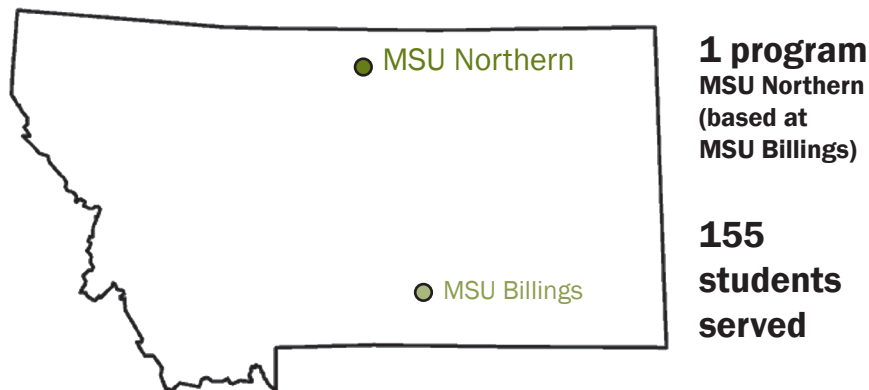
TRIO

## Purpose

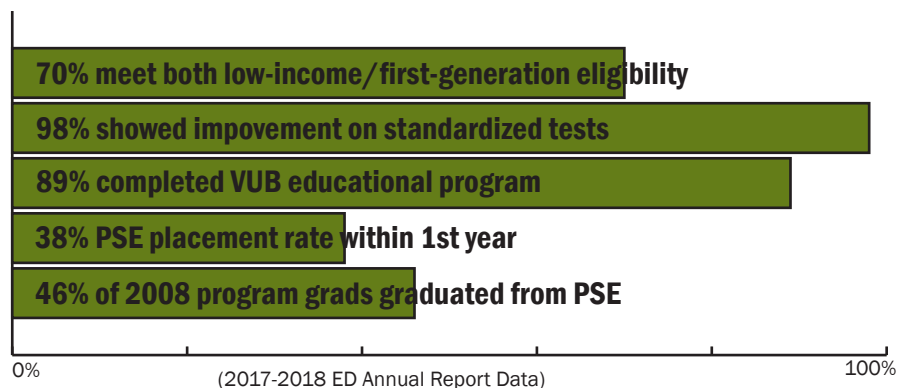
The goal of Veterans' Upward Bound (VUB) is to increase the rates at which participating veterans enroll in and graduate from PSE.

Veterans' UB serves low-income, first-generation military veterans who are preparing to enter PSE.

## Locations



## Montana Outcomes



## Edward Foote, Jr.

Eddie Foote describes his path back to college as a story of choices, both good and bad, and second and third chances. Eddie graduated from high school and rather than pursue college, he enlisted in the Army. He served for six years and was deployed to Iraq in 2005-2006 with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team. In 2010 he inquired into VUB to consider his educational options. Before classes even started,

he withdrew and moved to California where he started college and was doing well until he began to struggle with his focus and motivation. He withdrew from school and eventually moved back to Montana. In 2019 he returned to VUB to take a financial literacy class on taxes and started to think about going back to college. It was a difficult path back to college and along the way, Eddie dealt with difficult personal events. He addressed and adjusted to his service-connected disabilities, tackled the consequences of poor choices, and re-established his place as a role model for younger members of his family. He worked with VUB staff to re-enroll in college and did a terrific job in VUB's summer academic bridge to prepare academically to be back in college classes. He is starting his second semester at MSU Billings and is only a few classes away from earning an Associate degree in Business, after which he will begin coursework for a Bachelor's degree.

“Hard work and dedication – along with the right people in your life – make the perfect formula for success.”

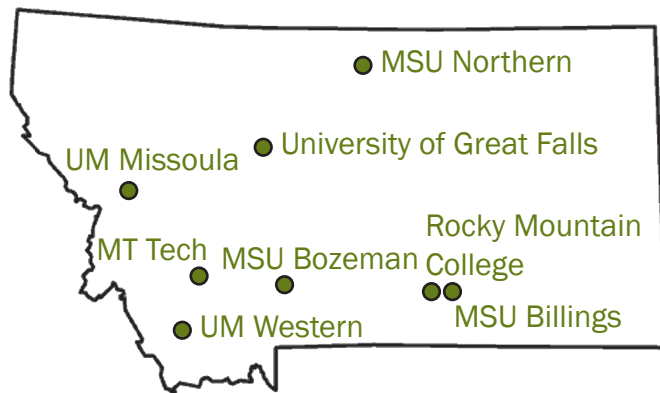
# Student Support Services - 4 year

TRIO

## Purpose

The goal of Student Support Services (SSS)/4-year projects is to increase college retention and graduation rates of participating students. SSS provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements, and serves to motivate students towards the successful completion of PSE. SSS may also provide grant aid to current participants who are receiving federal Pell Grants.

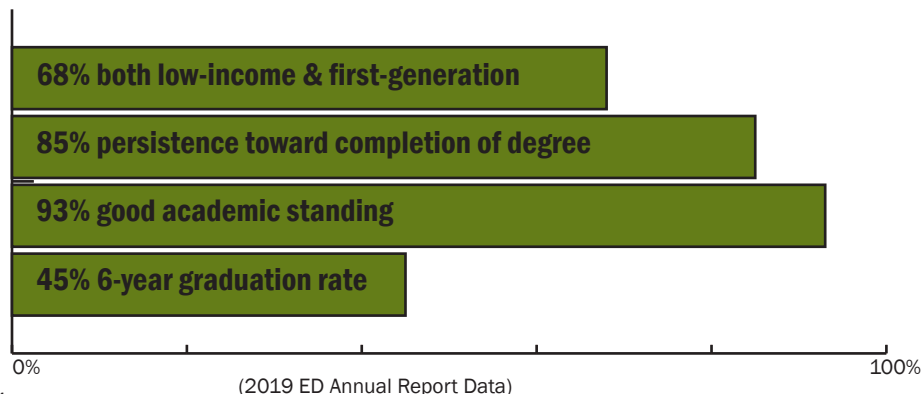
## Locations



**8 programs**

**1,773  
students  
served**

## Montana Outcomes



## Steven Wickham

Steven Wickham struggled a lot with high school and now jokes about one of his report cards which had a majority of F's. Not knowing what path to follow after high school, he entered the US Army 10 days after graduation. He spent just shy of 5 years in Special Operations as an infantryman in the 75th Ranger Regiment, and then he switched jobs to being a mechanic and crew chief on a CH-47 Chinook helicopter for the remainder 15 years of his career. Steve served multiple tours to both Iraq and Afghanistan, totaling 5 years spent in the Middle East supporting the Global War on Terrorism. After serving 20 years in the Army and retiring, Steve decided to move his wife and two young daughters back to Billings to attend Rocky Mountain College's Aeronautical Science program. Steve became a participant in the SSS program during his first semester at RMC. He attributes much of his success at Rocky to the Academic Specialists that he was able to work with. They helped him map out his class loads, receive proper academic credit for military experience and coursework, and provide a sounding board when he just needed someone to talk to. Steve completed the BS degree program in just under three years and also earned his Private, Instrument, Commercial, Multi-engine, and Certified Flight Instructor ratings. Steve was the recipient of the Private Pilot of the Year and the Sophomore of the Year scholarships. After graduation, Steve was hired by Rocky as a flight instructor. He hopes one day to become an air ambulance pilot so that he can continue serving people in need.

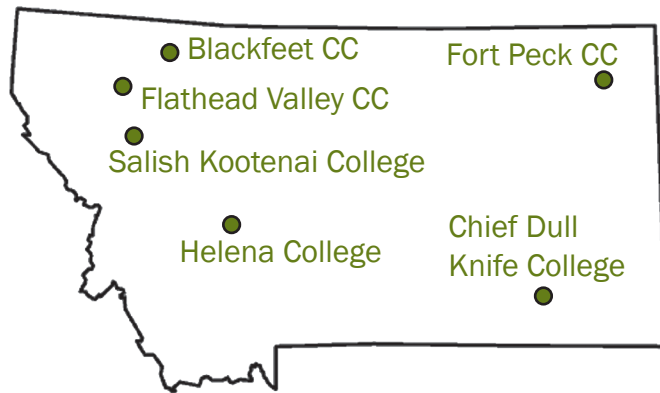
# Student Support Services - 2 year

TRIO

## Purpose

The goal of Student Support Services (SSS)/2-year projects is to increase the college retention and graduation rates of its participants and facilitate the process of transition from one level of higher education to the next, particularly from 2-year degree programs to 4-year degree programs. SSS may also provide grant aid to current participants who are receiving federal Pell Grants.

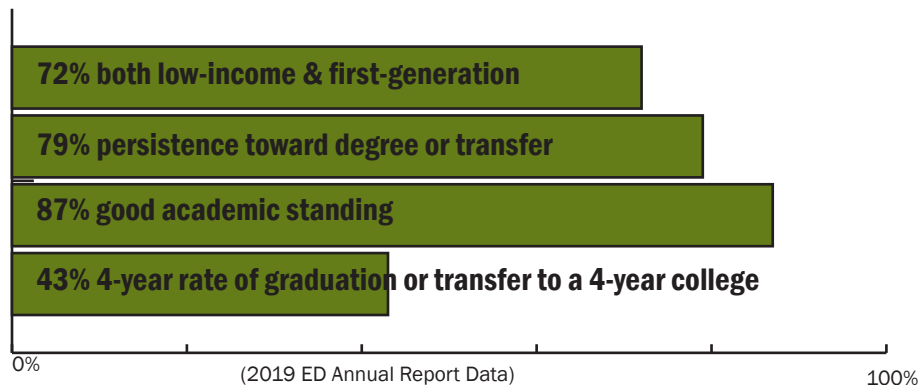
## Locations



**6 programs**

**1,214  
students  
served**

## Montana Outcomes



## Rita Brown

Rita Brown grew up in Kalispell, Montana. After graduating high school she completed a year-long business management program at Kinman Business University in Spokane before marrying her high school sweetheart. Several years later, she was injured on the job and suffered major injuries to her back and both shoulders. This inspired Rita to apply for college again, knowing that she would need a degree to improve her career options

and income potential. Rita enrolled at Flathead Valley Community College and earned Associate Degrees toward Accounting and Sociology. In the Fall of 2015 she transferred to the University of Montana to finish her Bachelor's degree in Accounting. Rita has overcome many obstacles. She mourned the loss of her father and a sibling, and persevered through physical and mental health challenges, maintaining her positivity and resilience through it all. She graduated from the University of Montana in the Spring of 2017, and will be embarking on acquiring her CPA licensing in the future. Currently Rita works full-time at Kalispell Regional Medical Center as a staff accountant and part-time as a TRIO Tutor at FVCC for accounting and business courses. *"The support from all of the TRIO advisors and many tools that I had access to while a TRIO scholar helped me to succeed and overcome the challenges I faced."*

**"I am incredibly grateful and proud to be a TRIO Student and Tutor."**

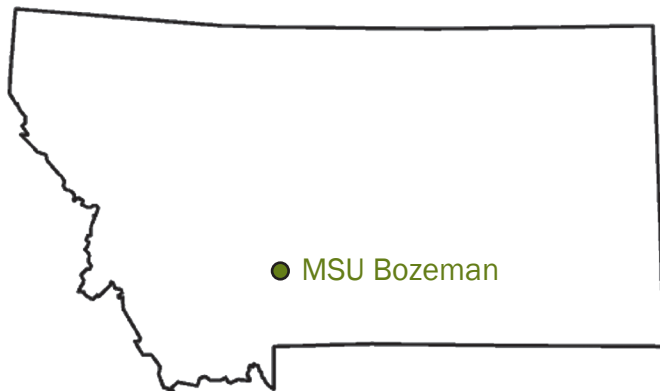
# McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement

TRIO

## Purpose

The goal of The McNair Scholars Program is to promote equity in graduate school enrollment by encouraging the completion of doctoral degrees by low-income, first generation or underrepresented minority students. The program facilitates each student's successful application to graduate school and better equips them with confidence, knowledge and skills for meaningful and relevant contributions to their professional career endeavors.

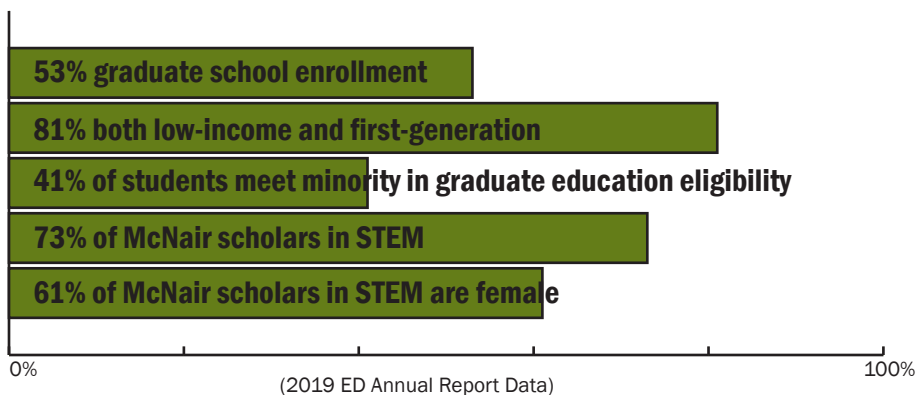
## Locations



**1 program**

**169  
students  
served to  
date**

## Montana Outcomes



## Angie Mallory

For Angie Mallory, in addition to course work, college was about surviving her recent divorce, learning to live outside of the Navy, and being able to feed her two toddlers. At MSU a professor convinced her to do undergraduate research and apply to McNair. The opportunity to do undergraduate research and a community like McNair was invaluable. "Without McNair's financial support to travel to a research conference and

present my work, I wouldn't have believed that I could, indeed, make an impact in the world through research." Angie applied to Iowa State University's Rhetoric master's program but was accepted directly into their doctoral program, a first for the program. She completed her PhD research on the role of listening in warfare with a Marine Corps Psychological Operations unit. In 2018 Angie graduated with honors, with a PhD in Rhetoric and Professional Communication, and took a job as a writer and communication expert for the military. Angie moved back to Montana where she is setting up a wild mustang rescue that pairs trauma survivors with horses learning to trust humans. "My life has been utterly changed by my experience in education, and that started with the McNair program. Every day, as a homeschool mom, an entrepreneur, a writer, and a ranch owner, I find myself encountering challenges I feel ill-prepared to face. But I remind myself that I knew nothing about college when I started, then I use the tools I learned there to ask questions until I solve my current problem."

"Thank you McNair for helping me have the courage to embrace dreams that, back then, I didn't even know I had!"

# TRIO in Montana

TRIO

Program Location	Students	Funding
<b>Student Support Services - 4 year</b>		
Montana State University Billings	258	\$350,473
Montana State University Northern	240	293,377
Montana Technological University	120	253,032
Montana State University Bozeman	140	253,032
Rocky Mountain College	250	334,653
University of Great Falls	230	331,959
University of Montana Missoula	375	468,924
University of Montana Western	160	284,758
<b>Program Total</b>	<b>1,773</b>	<b>2,570,208</b>
<b>Student Support Services - 2 year</b>		
Blackfeet Community College	170	339,094
Chief Dull Knife College	90	162,620
Flathead Valley Community College	350	371,748
Fort Peck Community College	175	311,174
Salish Kootenai College	230	335,753
Helena College, University of Montana	140	253,032
<b>Program Total</b>	<b>1,155</b>	<b>1,773,421</b>
<b>Student Support Services Combined Total</b>	<b>2,928</b>	<b>4,343,629</b>
<b>Educational Talent Search</b>		
Montana Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education	1,287	712,731
Montana State University Billings	600	357,307
Montana Technological University	510	309,604
<b>Program Total</b>	<b>2,397</b>	<b>1,379,642</b>
<b>McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement</b>		
Montana State University Bozeman	25	253,032

Program Location	Students	Funding
<b>Classic Upward Bound</b>		
Fort Belknap Indian Community	77	372,423
Montana State University Billings	77	377,706
Salish Kootenai College	87	416,308
University of Montana Missoula	77	388,172
Montana Technological University	69	331,104
<b>Program Total</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>1,885,713</b>
<b>Veteran's Upward Bound</b>		
Montana State University Northern	155	392,200
<b>Math Science Upward Bound</b>		
Montana Technological University	60	287,537
<b>Upward Bound Combined Total</b>	<b>602</b>	<b>2,565,450</b>
<b>Grand Total for 25 programs</b>	<b>5,952</b>	<b>\$8,541,753</b>

(FY 2019 US Department of Education Data from Federal TRIO Website )