



MONTANA COUNSELOR UPDATE

● HELPING KEEP MONTANA EDUCATION CONNECTED

COUNSELOR SUGGESTIONS

**on what they like or would like to see at the updates – from previous year's evaluations*

IDEAS TO KEEP IN MIND FOR YOUR PRESENTATION AT THIS YEAR'S EVENT.

- Hearing about the new programs offered at the different colleges is valuable!
- Hearing about what is new on our campuses is always my favorite part.
- It's all valuable. Keep up the good work!
- Just being able to meet and get up to date information.
- Learning about scholarships at the colleges and priority deadlines.
- New degrees, majors, happenings at each school.
- New info is always good to know. Thanks & Thanks for breakfast & lunch.
- New majors, transition assistance for incoming freshmen, emphasis on service learning.
- New programs or changing programs.
- New programs, scholarship opportunities and additional updates. Having personal contact info.
- The new programs offered at each school. Helps us keep up with all new post-secondary education programs and campus happenings.
- The new programs the colleges/universities offer.
- To know the new classes available and classes you can earn money as you get your college degree - working on your field of choice.
- List the top points in your presentation and please don't just read the entire handout. Help us highlight what is most important. Thanks!
- Always great to know about new and discontinued programs.
- Please don't read from the handout. Share new programs and future growth in presentation.
- Changes and programs to each institution. Very informative.
- Financial aid changes are valuable. Introducing new programs. Refreshing counselors about special campus programs.
- Having all these colleges to present information in the course of one day is invaluable to us high school counselors.
- Having SO MUCH information given to us at one sitting. It's so helpful. Thank you.
- Don't forget to smile and have fun. We are excited to be here and hear from you.
- Hearing about the new program degrees.



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- All info was great as usual.
- All of it! So valuable and as always new info only enhances our counseling duties.
- All of the updates are very valuable.
- "Top 5 Points" was awesome! Great idea! Thank you! :-)
- 5 focal points for each institution.
- A representative from MT's US Senator or Representative office to discuss application process for academies.
- All good presentations! The packet w/ all updates from all colleges was well-organized and easy to follow.
- All info in one place.
- All of the information was helpful.
- All really great! LOVE the 5 points, LOVE idea of College App Week packet to High Schools (different school apps include, and who is deferred and who/where waived altogether) Love resources for dual credit, FAFSA incentives and monitoring via GEM
- All was good.
- Always enjoy hearing about new programs at our Montana schools!
- Always valuable to hear about new programs and opportunities that may steer a student toward a particular college or university.
- Amy is awesome!
- Announcements!! :-) Thank you MT GEAR UP
- -application info -changes -new programs -scholarship dates/process -articulation programs
- As a new counselor to Montana State all the info was very helpful!
- Better information on FAFSA, Financial aid
- Bitterroot College
- Can all 2-year associates degree students at former COTs, live in the dorms, if available at 4-year campuses? Joseph T. Jessepe Montana Educational Talent Search Pre-College Advisor Browning High School
- College Application Week - possibly provide a list of colleges who have online applications, and applications for those who accept paper only?
- College top 5 points K20 project Dual credit
- College updates were helpful Financial aid updates
- Colleges - new programs and waivers/defer fees - CAW
- Condensed list of schools, their tuitions, etc.
- Continue same format. I enjoy the updates and bragging rights on each school.
- Credit 4 Credit Reminder of College Application week Student Assistance Foundation I Like
- Deadlines New programs
- Did you tell us which building the training was in at FVCC? Either I missed that info or it wasn't mentioned.
- Each school's cost of attendance and scholarships offered



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- Electronic Transcript Initiative was concerning as I don't know how many parents would feel comfortable having their students' info floating out on the web. It also sounds like it is making the transcript process more complicated, especially in rural schools. In a small school, students don't have a problem getting his/her transcript directly from the counselor, or the secretary. Gear Up presentation was confusing.
- Every update.
- Excellent info on wide variety of MT colleges.
- Fine the way it is.
- For the four-year private schools, it would be great to get an idea of the average student's test scores and GPA, to give us an idea of who should apply. Public colleges too, please. A "snapshot" of each campus would be great: average GPA, average test scores, tuition, fees, room and board, school enrollment. Getting the parking pass ahead of time is awesome. So convenient!!
- Fort Peck Community College - missing?
- Gathering with peers and discussing all things Higher Ed prep.
- Glad I came. :-) Thanks! Wish College App Week was 3 schools, even 2, because 1 is so limiting because so much about scholarships is not finalized - example, "I went to school for free but wasn't fully decided and funded until close to graduation and had 2 schools I was considering until then." The app week can be the nugget for thinking outside 1 place and not feeling pigeon-holed or pushed just yet.
- Good info. A lot covered in a short amount of time.
- Great conference!
- Great energy from all the schools!
- Great update - great assortment of "extra" presentations - great lunch - great day!
- Great update - thanks!
- Handouts are VERY helpful! This is a lot of info to remember, so the handouts are a great reference guide throughout the year.
- Have 4-year public go first some year.
- Hearing about all the opportunities for continued education in Montana.
- Hearing about all the updates in Higher Ed in the great state of Montana. Rubbing shoulders with the other counselors in the area. Loved the notes on the back of the pages.
- Hearing about new programs, scholarship opportunities.
- Hearing about program updates
- Hearing each respective representative giving their personal update for their school! This is one of the most VALUABLE workshops I attend every year. :-)
- Hearing from all the campuses, especially new programs and/or new scholarships.
- Hearing the new things that colleges have or what they are offering.
- Hearing about the updates at each college (which is obvious), however, very valuable. There is so much out there that I wouldn't know about without the update! :-)
- Highlights from each school
- I always enjoy hearing NEW things happening at all the schools to keep students up to date.
- I am glad I came to this. I agree with the counselor who asked if the colleges would get together to outline what each college offers and requires for college app week.



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- I appreciate hearing all updates from campuses and programs from across the state.
- I appreciated hearing about articulation agreements which are difficult to find information about on school websites.
- I enjoyed how efficiently run this counselor update was. Overall, it was very informative.
- I enjoyed the new 5-step process.
- I felt all of it was extremely helpful!
- I have always appreciated the Counselor Update booklet we receive and use it with students in my office.
- I like hearing about the new programs.
- I liked all that was on especially the announcements at the end - would have liked to have all their announcements on the handout. I missed a lot of what was said.
- I liked that schools made 5 key points about their schools. Most stayed within time parameters.
- I loved the new location for this update at MSU-Northern! *FAFSA pronunciation - FAFSA not FASFA
- I really like the "updates" at the end. Feel free to add to those! :-)
- I really liked the 5 quick facts. This helped move colleges along by giving pertinent information quickly.
- I really liked the top 5 point section on the handout.
- I think the present updates are great!
- I think what's already included is great!
- I too, appreciated the "Top 5 Points" format. When I come to Counselor Update, I'm looking to learn "what's new," "what's changed," and "what's exciting" about each school. Thank you!
- I would like to see this recorded to use with my students. It is such great information re: scholarships, program, certificate, degree programs, costs, etc. I love the information but can never share with my students effectively. I would love to have a format like this that my seniors could participate in - either live or recorded. Also - is it a possibility to do this presentation during MEA?
- Info/updates from colleges.
- Information about MUS scholarships - to hear updates, changes, etc. to help us understand more fully about the scholarships.
- Information on college programs and costs and deadlines.
- Is it possible to deliver this update via webcast rather than MetNet? It would be nice to do this at our school locations. It would also be great to see our location on the screen when presenters from our location spoke (Billings). We just had to look at the back of their heads. :-)
- Is there any discussion about presenting this as a webinar so we don't have to travel and be gone as long from school. I do think the connection with other counselors is good, but is this the best way to provide this valuable information.
- It is helpful when college reps talk about specific program offerings, scholarships, student life etc. It is NOT valuable to know who the political/admin people are. (chancellors etc.) Two-years talked about students. 4 years talked about stuff my students do not care about. Give us the bottom line about your program.
- It might be beneficial to do the updates (Financial Aid, Gear-up etc.) in the morning. That is hard information to sit through in the afternoon. Also, restrict colleges to presenting on 5 points to go more quickly and eliminate irrelevant information on staffing, funding, etc.



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- It was ALL quite valuable! Thanks to everyone!
- It was great to have some key points about all the state's colleges for easy access when counseling students. The brag points provided some great insights as well.
- It would be nice to have a site map with all the colleges' locations. Would love to know population of students at every college. Thank you!
- It would be really nice to have one grid/spreadsheet that shows all colleges and universities and the programs that they offer. A quick reference guide. For example, if a student requests programs in welding, I could access the quick reference guide and say "colleges A, E and F offer welding." This may already exist elsewhere, it would just be helpful in our packet.
- Keep up the good work!
- LBHC - Missing?
- Learning more about each school and about student opportunities.
- Learning new info about each of the institutions - changes, new programs
- Learning that most of the 4-yrs have moved up their scholarship deadlines. Need to get that info to students.
- Learning the new programs and individual accomplishments.
- Liked info sheets and top 5 talking points.
- Liked the top 5 sheet.
- List of links as a quick reference (links to important web sites) Have each school pre-populate their Top 5 points. Fast talkers made it hard to keep up with notes.
- Lots of valuable information in a short summary.
- Love this every year! It gives me such good info to share with my students! Two-year schools are awesome!
- loved the Top 5 points
- Maybe we could have Q & A sessions with the reps from the schools in our regions as we tend to need to work more closely with these schools. (off MetNet)
- Miles City and their Jump Start program...WOW!! We're going to follow up with Miles City when we get back to school.
- Montana Digital Academy
- more on Electronic Transcripts
- more on what teachers need to do to become dual credit teachers especially rural teachers where students don't have access to face-to-face college classes
- More visual aids. Maybe slideshow of pictures of the schools while they are talking. This would help me absorb more info, as a visual learner.
- MTDA Updates - webinars, PIR credits and program updates.
- NCAA/NAIA updates for 2016 and beyond.
- Networking with others in the room. Also, having the handouts with all the colleges and their info...I can make copies and leave them available for students.
- New academic programs, campus facility changes, 2-yr program offerings, 4-yr offerings
- New info on programs, buildings or changes on campus; being able to ask questions for clarification.



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- new initiatives
- New programs offered by each institution Articulation agreements between schools
- None. Great - everything is timely and appropriate, information is helpful and assists us with working with our students.
- Not sure Electronic Transcripts are a good idea! Too much info on the web.
- One time, one spot, all schools.
- Please include a map of where each college is located in the town they are in. Thanks!
- Presenters who followed the "top 5 points" - made it easier to follow along.
- Programs and updates
- Programs at MUS, 2-years and salary potential
- Quick, but a lot of information.
- Reminder of everything that is out there.
- Resume/scholarship workshop
- Room was a bit crowded. Not enough room between tables.
- School updates and individual info sheets are SO helpful. I make copies for interested students. Thank you for such a great resource!
- School updates!
- Since this event precedes College Application Week, it would have been nice to hear from each of them if they are waiving or deferring the fee, and if they prefer online or paper apps. Zack talked about the event, and that the info is (or will be) on the website - we need this info earlier. Thanks!
- SO good. Can't think of a thing!
- So MUCH MORE comfortable in Heritage Hall instead of the smaller interactive class room!
- Some colleges are too wordy on pages. It is easier to read with "less is more" approach. These are quick reference sheets and harder to read in paragraph form. I would like to see more bullets on the very lengthy ones.
- Specifics on FAFSA filing.
- Statewide networking, up-to-date info
- Summary with tuition rates, enrollment, class size, housing options, meal costs
- Thank you - the day was run well. :-)
- Thank you Amy!! Really liked the top 5 points, made things flow nicely.
- Thank you for including all the extra announcements - keep it up and add more as needed.
- Thank you so much for your hard work! You are the best!
- Thank you!
- Thank you.
- Thanks always for lunch.
- Thanks for your time and energy to coordinate together to do this!
- The college updates are SO helpful.
- The combination of presenters provided a wide variety of valuable information.
- The food/lunch was fresh and delicious! I liked the chips, too. Nice facility - good, comfortable room temperature and large screen for viewing conference. Wifi - good and strong quality - helped me to have access to emails and internet.



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- The handouts were very helpful. Brief presentations were especially helpful.
- The info about new programs and programs that fill up quickly.
- The last six updates were especially helpful because there has been a plethora of emails covering many projects.
- The most valuable aspect for me was the collaboration with fellow counselors. I also appreciated the information on each college/university in Montana.
- The new programs at individual schools
- The packet combined with the Top 5 points sheet! Made presentations short and concise.
- The presentations from colleges - and new things offered
- The short but sweet summaries. The five-bullet checklist.
- The two-year updates and the info and updates about dual enrollment. Lots of new grant \$.
- There are a lot of 2 year schools out there that I didn't know existed so it was very good to get information about those colleges. Learning about the tribal colleges was also very beneficial.
- This event is a valuable resource for school counselors. Please, keep it going! All presenters did well. The Top 5 pts. is a nice format.
- This event is invaluable for school counselors.
- THIS IS PERFECT!
- This is such a great day! VERY helpful.
- This was very good (inclusive)
- This was very helpful, thanks.
- Time-limited and hitting the 5 top points! Thanks so much for hosting this again! I go away with so much information!!
- To learn what is new at colleges.
- Too many negative request [?] for College Application Week! It is NOT our job to dissuade students from applying to a Montana school! If I told students all the post-recording concerns [?], no one would fill out an application at the event!
- Top 5 points awesome! Thank you for all your dedication and hard work! I really appreciate your efforts! I really appreciated the speakers actually saying "This is #1..." etc... You are amazing! Thanks again for a wonderful update!
- Two-year college info - it was good to know about the specialized programs at each.
- Very good this year.
- Well done, Amy!
- Work on delivery - the stop and start of the screen is difficult to stay on task - improve technology. Great lunch in Great Falls. Appreciate that it started on time and stayed on task. The 5 pts for each college really good - more consistent.
- Would be good if MPSEOC could put together a handout for: 1) Visit Days (include ALL schools - public, private, tribal) 2) Scholarship deadlines/priority dates (include ALL schools) Top 5 Points was great - would have been even more helpful if it was on the page next to info (so we could look at both) - instead of on the back of the info sheet.
- Would be great to create a master calendar that we can use that has: scholarships, FAFSA, Dorms, Applications, Special Weeks (CGM App Weeks)
- Would it be possible to get an abbreviated list outlining important dates etc. that we can email to our parents? Thank you!
- Would love (haha, again) a spreadsheet of degrees and certificates and who has what at which institutions - as a quick guide to say "I want welding" and see all the "where" options.