

THE WEDNESDAY READER

October 13, 2021

Please note—With the New CTE Professionals Hybrid Workshop 2021 and the Montana ACTE Fall Institute 2021 in Bozeman next week, there will not be a Wednesday Reader for October 20. See some of you in Bozeman. Safe travels.

First-Time Montana ACTE Fall Institute Attendee Stipend from MBEA

The [Montana Business Education Association](#) (MBEA) is offering two (2) \$50 stipends for Montana Business and Marketing Educators attending the [Montana ACTE Fall Institute](#) for the first time when the 2021 Fall Institute is held October 21-22 in Bozeman.

Individuals interested in applying for one of the two stipends must be registered for the Montana ACTE Fall Institute 2021 and must attend the MBEA Business Meeting Friday morning, October 22.

For complete details and to apply, please complete the [online application](#). The deadline to apply is October 15.

For questions regarding the MBEA stipends, please contact MBEA President Mandy Wichman at mandy.wichman@hobson.k12.mt.us.

College Application Week Fall 2021

The Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education and the Office of Public Instruction encourage all high school students to participate in Montana College Application Week October 4 through October 15.

The event is an opportunity for high school seniors to learn about Montana colleges and universities and to submit a college application during the school day. Application to all Montana University System campuses is FREE using [ApplyMontana.org](#) during College Application Week. Last year, more than 7,900 applications were submitted during the two-week event at 193 Montana high schools.

According to survey data from student participants, 82 percent of Montana students who submitted applications during the event in 2020 indicated that College Application Week increased their understanding of the college application process. More than 80 percent stated that College Application Week increased their interest in attending college.

Students are encouraged to check with their school counselor for event details at their high school.

For more information on Montana College Application Week, please contact Angela McLean, MUS Director of American Indian/Minority Achievement & K-12 Partnerships at amclean@montana.edu or Scott Lemmon, MUS Director of Admissions & Enrollment Strategy at slemmon@montana.edu.

The American College Application Campaign (ACAC) is a national effort to increase the number of first-generation and low-income students pursuing a college degree or other higher education credential. The primary purpose of this effort is to help high school seniors navigate the complex college admissions process and ensure they apply to at least one postsecondary institution. It also helps by removing the financial barrier of the application fee for low-income students.

The first College Application Week took place in North Carolina in 2005. One high school worked with a handful of local campuses on fee deferral and provided structured time for seniors to complete and submit applications during the week. The initiative has grown to be a national event. Montana joined the initiative in 2012 and has become a nationally recognized leader in implementation of the college application campaign. All 50 states and the District of Columbia have had an initiative in place since 2015.

The Prospects 2022 Business Competition from the Montana Chamber Foundation Now Open

The [Montana Chamber Foundation](#) is excited to be hosting this [competition](#) again and cannot wait to see what ideas are submitted. There are thousands of dollars in cash, scholarships, and experiences available. Last year there were 93 submissions and a \$53,000 prize purse. This is a great opportunity to get your students ideas exposed to business leaders in Montana. There are 100 judges lined up for this year and the goal is for 200 student submissions with a \$100,000 prize purse.

Last year, Matt Olson was your main contact; Matt is still around, but [Tiana Yates](#) (tiana@montanachamber.com), the Montana Chamber Youth Entrepreneurs Coordinator, will be your main contact for this year's competition. You do not have to be teaching [Youth Entrepreneurs](#) (YE) to participate in the contest, but it was observed last year, it was helpful.

[The Prospects](#) will be split into two rounds this year; Fall and Spring. The Fall competition is open October 1-December 10 for submissions and Spring competition will run January 17-March 18. The Awards Show will be held virtually, April 22 at 12 pm (MDT).

Eligibility: Any of Montana's 40,000+ high school aged students (grades 9-12) are encouraged to submit their innovative ideas and solutions or enter their existing businesses.

Submissions: Pitch Video (2 minutes or less), Business Summary (1,000 words max.), a Waiver Form signed by an Educator and/or Parent or Guardian, and a completed W-9 Form.

Complete contest and submission details can be found on [The Prospects page](#) of the Montana Chamber Foundation website.

For questions, please contact Tiana Yates at tiana@montanachamber.com.

The following is the video of the Rapelje team that won last year for their drone submission and received this awesome experience for their school: [Workforce Readiness. Where Innovation Meets Opportunity. Rapelje, Montana - YouTube](#).

NGPF Now Accepting Registrations for Certification Course Cohort #17

Registration is now open for the [Next Gen Personal Finance \(NGPF\) Cohort #17 Certification](#) Cohorts.

NGPF Certification Courses are a perfect, and free, professional development event for your fall. Sessions are just 2 hours a week and start the week of October 18.

- Increase your confidence in your personal finance content knowledge
- Have ready-to-implement resources to bring to your students
- Empower yourself as an expert at your school site
- Earn a Certification Badge to share on your email signature, resume, and LinkedIn
- Continue earning your credits for [NGPF Academy](#) this fall.

What teachers are saying:

This was my first course. It was easy to navigate and participate. I felt it was well worth my time and I came away with some great resources to use next year.

As this is my first course, I wasn't sure what to expect. There was lots of information, and they did a great job giving time to digest the information. I loved the breakout rooms as they allowed for conversation and additional processing time.

Five courses are available during this cohort:

- Banking & Budgeting
- Credit
- Investing
- Advanced Investing
- Paying for College

[Register today](#) for an NGPF Certification course.

Earn OPI Renewal Units for Virtual and Out-of-State Professional Development Events

Are you planning to attend the ACTE CareerTech VISION conference in New Orleans or via the virtual option? What about Adobe MAX? If you are planning to participate in out-of-state or virtual professional development, be sure to earn OPI Renewal Units for the events.

Local schools/districts can approve your out-of-state and virtual events for OPI Renewal Units; this approval is no longer done by the Office of Public Instruction. Please check with your school or district office prior to the events to get details about the information needed to get pre-approved for OPI Renewal Units.

Remember, you need 60 Renewal Units every five (5) years to renew your Montana Educator License.

Adobe MAX—The Creative Conference for 2021 is Virtual and FREE

Speaking of Adobe MAX, the [2021 Adobe MAX](#) conference will be held virtually this year, October 26-28. Adobe has waived the registration fee for this year's MAX—you get to participate for FREE.

Find your path to inspiration and learn new skills in 400+ sessions and labs across these tracks:

- [3D and AR](#)
- [Collaboration and Productivity](#)
- [Creativity and Design in Business](#)
- [Education](#)
- [Graphic Design](#)
- [Illustration and Digital Painting](#)
- [Photography](#)
- [Social Media](#)
- [UI and UX](#)
- [Video](#)
- [Meet the Adobe Teams](#)

[Adobe MAX](#) is not your ordinary virtual event--find inspiration in live and on-demand sessions; get a front row seat to the latest Adobe magic and innovations; take fun breaks with musical performances and special guests; connect with speakers and other MAX attendees; and have some creative fun and win great prizes.

Mark Your Calendars for ISTE Live 2022—June 26-29

The [International Society for Technology in Education](#) (ISTE) is excited to announce the return to a live [ISTE Live](#) in 2022. ISTE Live 2022—Empowering Educators. Elevating Equality—will be held June 26-29 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The 2022 conference will also offer a virtual option.

For more than four decades, the ISTE conference has been recognized as one of the world's most influential education events. It's where educators and education leaders gather to engage in hands-on learning, share best practices and hear from the brightest minds from the world of education and beyond.

The annual event attracts over 16,000 attendees and industry representatives, including teachers, tech coordinators and directors, library media specialists, education leaders, tech providers and researchers from around the world. Attendees enjoy over two dozen featured voices on our mainstage, thousands of sessions in a variety of formats and a massive expo hall.

Due to the global pandemic, the ISTE conference went fully virtual in 2020 and 2021, using a custom-built platform that allowed real-time collaboration with presenters and attendees, gamification features designed to deepen learning and engagement, and an archive of more than 1,000 learning experiences that attendees could return to for six months.

This year, [ISTELive 22](#) will be a hybrid event featuring powerful voices and offering a treasure trove of content and resources for attendees in New Orleans and those attending virtually around the world.

Visit the [ISTELive website](#) for more details and to sign up to receive conference updates.

In 2023, ISTE Live will be held in Philadelphia (June 25-28) and in Denver in 2024, June 23-26.

TEAMS Virtual Work Sessions Being Held Throughout October

The Office of Public Instruction's Accreditation office is offering TEAMS Virtual Work Sessions in October to assist with completing the TEAMS report.

There are five webinars intended for brand new users and nine webinars for returning users that discuss FY2022 TEAMS updates. Sessions will be held via Zoom and will have time to work on your individual TEAMS report.

Click [here](#) to view the full TEAMS Webinar Schedule or visit the [Accreditation and Educator Preparation](#) website.

AIM Webinar Zoom Links for October including Fall CTE Data Collection

Below is information for AIM Webinars taking place during the month of October. Please visit the [AIM Webinars](#) webpage for the complete 2021-2022 AIM Webinar Schedule.

AIM Webinars Taking Place in October: Fall CTE Collection.

This collection ensures that the Date Contacted and Post-Graduation Status fields for CTE concentrator students who graduated in previous spring school year (2020-2021) are populated and accurate. These students should be contacted during the second quarter.

Please see the [AIM Fall CTE User Guide](#) for more information.

ZOOM LINK Info: Thursday, October 28, 2021 at 2:30 pm

Join Zoom Meeting <https://mt.gov.zoom.us/j/88179992185?pwd=NjFQSGhvWHFnOTFNZm5NYURTUnpUZz09>

Meeting ID: 881 7999 2185 Password: 336424

Dial by Telephone +1 646 558 8656 or +1 406 444 9999 Meeting ID: 881 7999 2185 Password: 336424

Nominations Being Accepted for the MBEA Awards Program

The [Montana Business Education Association](#) (MBEA) is now seeking nominations for its 2021 awards program.

Nominations can be submitted for

- Outstanding New Teacher of the Year
- Outstanding Business Teacher of the Year
- Distinguished Service Award
- Lifetime Achievement Award (ACTE)

Nominations can be submitted to MBEA Past President Calie Wineinger using the online nominations form at forms.gle/5XHWGA2pd8soqm4r5. The deadline for nominations is Friday, October 13.

For questions regarding the MBEA Awards program, please contact MBEA Past President Calie Wineinger at cwineinger@froidschool.com.

The 2021 Payback Challenge is Here; \$75,000 in Scholarships for Students Available

[Next Gen Personal Finance](#) (NGPF) is excited to announce the [2021 Payback Challenge](#) with \$75,000 of scholarship funding for high school students.

This scholarship contest officially opened on Monday, September 27, 2021 and is open to all high school students in the United States.

[Payback](#) is NGPF's most popular arcade game and has earned several Webby Awards to date. Millions of players hit the site each year to try and "win the game," which simulates the college experience from applying to college all the way to graduating and possibly receiving a job offer; but that is ONLY IF you can make it to graduation without dropping out or being put on academic probation! Game ON.

The 2021 Payback Challenge details, rules and prize amounts are available on the NGPF [blog](#). [Subscribe to NGPF's Blog](#) so you don't miss the big announcement.

You can also bookmark this webpage [link](#), which has the details about how to enter this scholarship contest: ngpf.org/paybackchallenge.

Curious about previous winners? Check out these blog posts featuring some pretty cool teens who have won this scholarship in the past:

- [4th Annual Payback Challenge Winners](#)
- [3rd Annual Payback Challenge Winners](#)
- [2nd Annual Payback Challenge Winners](#)
- [1st Annual Payback Challenge Winners](#)

FREE Montana Educator Wellness Center from EVERFI

You've been there for others. Now it's time to be there for YOU.

[EVERFI](#) has partnered with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Montana to provide mental wellness resources designed specifically for educators. Check out the Montana Educator Wellness Center [here](#).

The 5-10 minute lessons featured in the [Montana Educator Wellness Center](#) translate evidence-based best practices on mental well-being into actionable, just-in-time learning specifically designed for educators and school leadership.

Topics include:

- Mental Well-Being Basics
- Managing Mental Health Challenges
- Developing Resilience
- Students isolate & control variables to see how different materials affect protection & maneuverability
- Mindful Living
- Building Strengths & Developing Motivation
- Strategies for Stress Management
- Supporting Loved Ones with Mental Health Challenges

Take a minute out of your day for you, and explore a lesson.

This resource is available at no-cost to the entire education community in Montana. Please share the resource with fellow educators.

In addition to this free resource for teachers, you also have access to [Mental Wellness Basics](#) lessons for your students. Have questions or want more information? Just reach out to [Sean Thomas](#), the local support here in Montana. Sean and can be reached at sthomas@everfi.com.

Download Updated Montana Business Education & CTE Curriculum Resources

A shared Montana Business Education Curriculum Resources Google Drive folder can be accessed at bit.ly/MTBusEd21-22.

This shared drive contains the files found within the Montana Business Education Curriculum Resources binder. Many of these files have been updated for the 2021-2022 school year.

Files within the folder include

1. Montana Business Education Planning Calendar for 2021-2022
2. An updated binder title page which lists the new Montana CTE K-12 Standards
3. An updated Framework for Business Education Montana aligned to the new National Standards
4. Updated Business Professionals of America and DECA competitive events crosswalks
5. TEAMS K-12 Course Codes for 2021-2022 Business & Marketing Education Reference Manual
6. A TEAMS Worksheet (PDF) to code your courses & share with your school's TEAM data entry rep
7. A TEAMS Worksheet (Word) to code your courses & share with your school's TEAM data entry rep
8. The complete National Standards for Business Education (5th Edition Released Fall 2020)
9. Montana CTE K-12 Content Standards Reference Guide (New as of July 1, 2021)
10. Montana Statewide Career Pathway & Secondary Programs of Study for Business & Marketing Education

If you have issues accessing the [shared folder](#), please let me know.

TEAMS is Now Open & will Close November 1 for Fall & Spring Course Data Reporting

The Office of Public Instruction's [Terms of Employment, Accreditation, and Master Schedule](#) (TEAMS) system is now open. Data reported in TEAMS includes all courses being taught for the 2021-2022 school year, number students enrolled, and the length of extended contracts, if offered. TEAMS will close for data entry on November 1.

For Career & Technical Education programs, TEAMS data is used to determine State CTE/VoEd funding allocations and Montana Career Pathways. Therefore, it is imperative the CTE data schools report is complete and correct.

All local courses taught are aligned to a national course code when entered into TEAMS. To ensure all courses are correctly reported, please work with you school's officials on coding courses to the correct codes. The complete listing of [Montana OPI TEAMS K-12 Course Codes](#), and a [worksheet](#) for sharing your courses, can be downloaded from the [Montana Business Education 21-22](#) shared Google folder at bit.ly/MTBusEd21-22.

If you teach more than one course during the same class period, be to list each course and its enrollment separately. In the fall, all courses to be taught for the year must be entered; in the spring, only the enrollments for second semester or second & third trimesters can be updated—no new courses can be added following the November 1 closing of TEAMS.

If you have questions about coding your courses, please let me know.

Additional information and resources for TEAMS can be found on the [TEAMS page](#) of the OPI website.

Applications Now Being Accepted for the National Center for Women and Information Technology

This is the 10th year.

For a number of years, the NCWIT (National Center for Women and Information Technology) has given national awards to high school girls. The [NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing](#) is for young women with aspirations and achievements in technology and computing.

This year will be the tenth year that there also will be a Montana contest for Montana girls. The time to submit applications is September 1-November 5 and application materials can be found [here](#).

There are many qualified high school girls that would apply if they just had a little push from a leader like you. Any interested female high school student would need to fill in the online application, and get a parent and a school official to approve it to be entered into both the national and Montana contests.

Montana has had winners from high schools in Absarokee, Anaconda, Arlee, Beaverhead, Billings Senior, Billings West, Bozeman, Bozeman Petra, Broadwater, Butte, Cascade, Cut Bank, Great Fall High, Hamilton, Helena Capital, Helena High, Hobson, Jefferson High, Libby, Missoula Big Sky, Missoula Hellgate, Missoula Sentinel, Noxon, Park County, Red Lodge, Seeley-Swan, Sidney, Simms, and Whitefish High Schools.

The NCWIT hopes your school will be represented on the winners list this year, but girls have to apply.

NCWIT is looking forward to recognizing Montana's talent, and hope that you would encourage the young women that you know to apply. Sometimes all they need is a little encouragement and you are the person to provide that.

P.S. There also is a Montana educator award (with \$250 for professional development) given each year. Do you know a good teacher that you should encourage to apply (maybe you?)? Encourage them to go to [apply](#).

Questions? Visit the Aspirations in Computing [FAQ](#) page.

Presidential Scholars Nominations Now Open

Nominations are now open for the [2022 Presidential Scholars program](#). You may nominate up to 10 males and 10 females for a total of 20 students for the general component of the program, and an additional five students for the Career and Technical Education (CTE) portion.

In the general category, nominations are encouraged for students who demonstrate outstanding scholarship, but might not otherwise be nominated through the current SAT/ACT, Arts, or CTE recognition processes. All high school seniors graduating between January and August 2022, who are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents, and who attend public, parochial, independent schools, or home schools are eligible. The 2022 U.S. Presidential Scholars will be selected by the Commission on Presidential Scholars and receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion.

In the CTE category, all high school seniors who are participants of a CTE program graduating between January and August 2022, who are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents, who attend public, parochial, independent, or home schools are eligible. Candidates will be reviewed by a committee of qualified individuals experienced in CTE; 60 applicants to be named as semifinalists. The 60 CTE semifinalist applications will then be reviewed by the Commission on Presidential Scholars. All 2022 U.S. Presidential Scholars will be selected by the Commission on Presidential Scholars and will receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion.

Nominations are due November 24, 2021. Contact the U.S. Presidential Scholar program staff in October for follow-up submissions instructions. All nominees will be announced and invited to apply in January 2022 by the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program Office; therefore, you do not need to contact your candidate(s). Completed applications will be due in February 2022; Scholars will be announced by mid-May 2022.

To learn more about the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program, its criteria, and the Commission on Presidential Scholars, click [here](#).

Questions? Contact Executive Director Simone Olson at 202.205.8719 or Simone.Olson@ed.gov.

Fun Facts & Trivia

Enigma is a micro board game for two, which is played on a small battle map and uses playing cards to code and decode messages.

The *Enigma* board game is based upon the Enigma rotor cypher machines Germany widely used in World War II.

Enigma was released in 2014.

Enigma is a tile-laying game with a twist.

There are four different sets of tiles in the game; each a different type of puzzle: Weight puzzle, Fragment puzzle, Conduit puzzle, and the Angular piece puzzle.

These puzzles and tiles are the primary components of the game as they will form the developing game board as the tiles are laid out.

Players choose a tile seeking to connect powers cells of the same color to score points; however, each tile is also a puzzle that must be solved to be placed.

If players solve the puzzle, they win the right to place the tile, expanding their system of power cells and potential points.

Fail to solve the puzzle and you must discard your tile.

Enigma is played in a series of rounds.

Each round has four steps: Choose a puzzle, solve the puzzle, place your tile, and then score any closed conduit systems.

When one player reaches 15 points, the player with the most points wins.

British sailors from HMS *Bulldog* captured the first naval Enigma machine from the German *U-110* in the North Atlantic in May 1941.

U-571 is a 2000 fictional submarine film portraying World War II German submarine boarded by American submariners to capture her Enigma cipher machine.

U-571 won the Academy Award for Best Sound Editing.

The cast of *U-571* included Matthew McConaughey, Bill Paxton, Harvey Keitel, Jon Bon Jovi, and David Keith.

Issues of the Wednesday Reader are archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at www.mbea.info. The Wednesday Readers are under the Newsletter section and listed most-recent first.

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"You don't make decisions because they are easy; you don't make them because they are cheap; you don't make them because they're popular; you make them because they're right." ~Rev. Theodore Hesburgh