



## Helena College and Federal Financial Aid

### Helena College Scholarships and Awards

Below is a partial list of scholarships provided for Helena College students. A complete and up-to-date list can be found on the Helena College website. Some scholarships are offered by the College and others are offered by community organizations, business firms, endowment funds, etc. For more information, students should contact the Financial Aid Office.

Boeing Access to Education Scholarships  
Campus Compact  
Charles R. & Helen G. Taylor Memorial Aviation Scholarship  
Everett D Potter Scholarship  
Gene Haas Foundation Machining/Metals Technology Scholarship  
Grosfield Memorial Nursing Scholarship  
Gruber Masonry Contractor Scholarship  
Harold Hamm Memorial Scholarship  
Helena College Foundation Scholarships  
Helena College STARS Scholarship  
Helena Gold Rush Lions Club Scholarship  
Helena Rotary Club Scholarship  
Joe Smietanka Memorial Scholarships  
Lacee Miller Memorial Nursing Scholarship

Optimist Club Scholarships  
Peter Nelson Scholarships  
Shupe Scholarship  
Soroptimist Live Your Dream Awards  
Soroptimist Professional Technical Awards  
The Tracy Lamb Memorial Scholarship  
The Turman Larison Arts Scholarship  
Tim Zarke Memorial Scholarship

### Private Scholarships

Many private organizations provide financial assistance to Helena College students. Scholarship information may be obtained by contacting civic, professional, religious, or other community organizations in addition to high school guidance offices and the internet. A listing of web resources is available on the Helena College Scholarship webpage: <http://www.helenacollege.edu/financialaid/scholarship.aspx>. One such website is [www.scholarships.com](http://www.scholarships.com). Private scholarships are generally applied one-half to each successive semester after the funds are received.



### **Tuition Waivers**

The Montana Board of Regents has authorized the waiver of either full or partial tuition charges for certain categories of students. These categories include:

Native American  
Montana Veterans  
Montana National Guard  
War Orphans  
Dependents of Prisoners of War  
Senior Citizens  
Surviving Dependents of Montana Firefighters or Peace Officers  
Faculty and Staff  
MUS Employee Dependent  
MUS High School Honors

Applications for tuition waivers are made prior to and must be completed within 14 days of the start of the semester in which the student expects the tuition waiver. More information and applications are available on the Montana University System website, [Tuition Waivers | Montana University System](#).

Helena College offers the following tuition waiver opportunities:

Skills USA  
Student Ambassadors

### **Vocational Rehabilitation**

Certain persons with an employment disability may qualify for education assistance through the Rehabilitative/Visual Services Division, Montana Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services. Students should contact that office at 406-444-2590 for more information.

### **Veterans Education Benefits**

Veterans may be eligible to receive benefits under various chapters of the GI Bill:

- Chapter 30 – Montgomery Active Duty: for veterans who served at least two years on active duty may be eligible for the MGIB-AD program..
- Chapter 31 – Vocational Rehabilitation & Employment: for veterans who have a service-connected disability. Contact the Veterans Administration, Fort Harrison, MT 59636, or call toll-free 888-442-4551 to inquire
- Chapter 33 – Post/911: for veterans who have served a minimum of 90 days on active duty after September 10, 2001
- Chapter 33 ToE: for a spouse or child of a service member on active duty and eligible for the Post – 9/11 benefits, may qualify for transfer of benefits. Both the service member and transferee must apply



for these benefits.

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- Chapter 35: for dependents of veterans who have a service connected permanent or total disability or died as a result of service connection.
- Chapter 1606 – Guard/ Reserve members may receive up to 36 months of education benefits.

Applications for Montgomery GI Bill educational benefits may be obtained online at <https://www.va.gov> or call 1-888-442-4551.

The Veterans Administration expects veterans to make satisfactory academic progress and pursue a final objective. All veterans and eligible persons receiving benefits are required to report promptly when they drop or add courses, or withdraw completely.

A Veterans Tuition Waiver may be available for veterans who have exhausted their benefits. Students can apply with the Montana University System [Tuition Waivers | Montana University System](#).

A Montana National Guard Tuition Waiver may be available for current Guard members who are in good standing and have completed Initial Entry Training. Students can apply with the Montana University System [Tuition Waivers | Montana University System](#).

### **Higher Education Assistance (HEA) and Tribal Grants**

Native American students may be eligible for need-based grants from the HEA or the student's tribe. For more information, students should contact the Tribal Educational Specialist within their tribe.

Note: All benefit information must be reported to the Financial Aid Office.

### **Federal Financial Aid**

Students should complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) after October 1 and request the information to be sent to Helena College, Title IV Code 007570. Applications should be submitted through <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa> and take approximately 3-5 business days to process. Students (and parents, if applicable) must have a StudentAid.gov account and password to sign the FAFSA electronically ([Create Account | Federal Student Aid](#)). Students must re-apply for federal aid each year. Delays in receiving financial aid are often the result of late or incomplete submission of the FAFSA.

Except for the Federal PLUS (Parent) Loan, eligibility for the following indicated federal financial aid resources depends on submission of the FAFSA. The information resulting from the FAFSA, provides a Student Aid Index (SAI), which is used to determine eligibility for federal need-based financial aid.

1. Federal Pell Grants are awarded to students with exceptional financial need.  
Note: Pell grants are available to all students who are eligible; however, the following grants are awarded on a priority base only.
2. Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grant (FSEOG) funds are limited and may be available to students with exceptional financial need who have received a Federal Pell Grant.



3. Work-study employment opportunities are available through the need-based Federal Work Study (FWS) as well as the need-based and non-need-based Montana State Work Study (MWS) programs. Limited funds are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis, in accordance with College policy. Awards are usually between 10 and 15 hours per week.
4. Loan monies at federally regulated interest rates are available to students and their parents. Federal loans, except the Federal PLUS (Parent) Loan, are awarded on a need and non-need basis as documented through the FAFSA.
  - a. Federal Direct Loan – available to students on either a need (*subsidized*) or non-need (*unsubsidized*) basis. *Subsidized* loans do not require payment of interest by the student so long as the student is attending college at least half-time. The federal government subsidizes the interest burden. *Unsubsidized* loans do not require payment by the student so long as the student is attending college at least half-time. Interest does start accruing upon disbursement. Once the loan goes into repayment status, the interest is then capitalized upon the principle. Interest rates are set annually in accordance with federal regulations.
  - b. Federal PLUS (Parent) Loan – for parents of dependent students who want to borrow to help pay for their student’s education. Interest rates are set annually in accordance with federal regulations.