

Montana Career Pathways

Focus on Careers and Work-Based Learning

Helena College University of Montana, provides access to and support of lifelong educational opportunities.

Programs that begin with a two-year program and can lead to a university program include:

- Associate of Arts
- Associate of Science
- Accounting BAS
- Business Administration
- Elementary Education
- Entrepreneurship
- Information Technology
- Interior Space Planning and Design
- Nursing BSN
- Criminal Justice
- Health Administration
- Pre-Pharmacy
- Social Work
- Psychology/Sociology



In 2017-18, Big Sky Pathways will be renamed “Montana Career Pathways.” New documents will be available on the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education (OCHE) website with labor market data, lists of Dual Enrollment courses throughout the state, and links to all of Montana’s college programs.

Helena College offers 28 degrees and certificates in Career and Technical fields, accounting for about 30% of the institution’s enrollment. We will provide information and events designed to help students understand the value of these programs, including finding opportunities to earn college credits and work experiences while still enrolled in high school. Not only are these high-demand careers, but Helena College’s CTE graduates currently make \$19,886 to \$54,656 during their first year of employment.

General education students, who plan to transfer to a four-year program, make up 37% of Helena College’s student body. Helena College has articulation and direct-transfer agreements, tied to specific program requirements such as Criminal Justice, Elementary Education, and Social Work. Pathways help students earn dual credit strategically, complete an AA or AS at Helena College, transfer to a four-year program, then begin a career.

Helena College’s Pathways program will work to encourage career exploration and help students begin taking steps that will lead to successful college completion. Our approach will include:

- **Faculty and staff visitations to partner schools**
 - Developing new Dual Enrollment Courses
 - Teaching students to use Career Pathways
 - Helping students use Dual Enrollment Advising Worksheets
- **Career/College Exploration Events for Students**
 - Fabrication Fridays
 - Women in Gear
 - Welding Rodeo
 - Student Shadowing
 - Industry Tours
- **Professional Development for Teachers of Concurrent Enrollment**
 - Course Shadowing
 - Curriculum Alignment for all mathematics courses
 - Grade Norming for WRIT101 and WRIT121
- **Enhanced Resources in Dual Enrollment**
 - Textbooks
 - Technology
 - Helping Students Use Online Library
 - Online Course Enhancements
 - Dual Enrollment Advising Worksheets
 - College staff helping advise students

Contact:
Jan Clinard (447-6951)

jan.clinard
@helenacollege.edu

FUNDED through a Federal Carl D. Perkins Grant: Montana Career Pathways, administered by the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education

Pathways to Helena College One-Year and Two-Year Degrees:

Business and Finance

Business Technology
Accounting

Transportation

Automotive Technology

Advanced Manufacturing

Welding/Fabrication
Computer-Aided
Manufacturing

Law, Security, Safety

Fire and Rescue
Legal Support Specialist
Criminal Justice

Information Technology

Computer Programming
Networking

Health Science/Support

Nursing (LPN, RN)
Pre-Pharmacy
Medical Support
Medical Admin
Social Work

Office Technology

Computer Skills
Specialist
Admin Support
Admin Management
Elementary Education

Plan Now to Participate in Pathways Events!

FABrication Fridays (Sept 15, Oct 6, Nov 3, Feb 2, March 2 & April 6)

Students will have hands-on experiences with Computer-Aided Manufacturing, Robotic Arm, 3D Printing, and SolidWorks at Helena College (9 am to 12 pm), followed by a tour of Boeing or Pioneer Aeronautics (1-2 pm) to see manufacturing in action. Mileage, lunch, and sub pay will be reimbursed. Contact Jan with your preferred date. We will schedule on first-come basis.

Student Shadowing and Industry Tours

Students interested in any college program/career are encouraged to spend a day at Helena College, shadowing a college student or visiting an employer in the area. Contact Ryan Loomis (ryan.loomis@helenacollege.edu) to set up a date and program to shadow.

Course Shadowing

Concurrent Enrollment Teachers have the opportunity to spend up to a day at Helena College, observing the course they are teaching at their high schools and consulting with Helena College faculty. Travel and sub pay will be reimbursed.

Mathematics Alignment Meeting

Teachers of Concurrent Enrollment Mathematics (Technical Math, College Algebra, Pre-Calculus, Calculus, and Linear Math) will meet together to ensure that the scope and sequence of these courses lead to a seamless transition from high school to college-level DE to upper-division math and from Tech Math to applications in the Trades. Travel and sub pay will be reimbursed. Watch for date announcement.

Norming WRIT101 and WRIT121

Teachers of Concurrent Enrollment College Writing and Technical Writing will convene during Spring Semester to collaboratively examine samples of student writing in order to ensure that their grading scales are consistent across levels and among schools. Travel and sub pay will be reimbursed. Watch for a date announcement.

Expanding Access to Dual Enrollment

Watch for student-targeted information about the value of specific Dual Enrollment Courses within pathways, highlighting how these courses can help students progress. Helena College staff and faculty will conduct school-site meetings to develop new courses.

Using Montana Career Pathways to Plan with:

- Labor Market and Career Information
- Work-based Learning Opportunities
- Lists of Industry-Recognized Credentials
- Recommended high school courses within a Career Cluster
- Recommended Dual Enrollment within a Career Cluster

