



# LIFE Scholars

*Learning Is For Everyone*

**Student Application Packet**

**2020-2021**



*Dear Applicant,*

*Thank you for your interest in the MSU LIFE Scholars program! Our goal is to provide you with a fully inclusive college experience where you will have the opportunity to become a lifelong learner, develop self-determination to achieve your personal and professional goals, make friends to expand your social networks, explore careers and obtain a meaningful, competitive job after graduation.*

*Every applicant must be at least 18 years of age, have completed all of their high school requirements, be identified as an individual with an intellectual/developmental disability, and most importantly, have a strong desire to go to college! If this is YOU, then please complete this application packet to the best of your ability.*

*Applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis in the order they are received. To ensure a successful college experience for all LIFE Scholars, student enrollment each year will be limited 10 new students.*

*The deadline for submitting the application packet for the 2020-2021 year is May 1, 2020.*

*Included in this packet is an overview of the LIFE Scholars program, as well as a list of estimated costs and fees. Additional information is available on the LIFE Scholars webpage: [www.montana.edu/ehhd/lifescholars/](http://www.montana.edu/ehhd/lifescholars/)*

If you have any questions, please contact:

Christy Sofianek  
Director, MSU LIFE Scholars program  
[christy.sofianek@montana.edu](mailto:christy.sofianek@montana.edu)  
406.994.3114

We look forward to receiving your application!

Sincerely,

*The MSU LIFE Scholars Team*

## **MSU LIFE Scholars Program Overview**

As a land grant university, Montana State University is committed to widening access to higher education and ensuring equality of opportunity for all; committed to inclusion, social justice, equity, and diversity by creating and sustaining an environment that welcomes, respects and nurtures all students, staff, faculty and community; and believes that a more diverse and inclusive institution will contribute to the highest level of excellence that ultimately benefits the entire university community toward becoming outstanding citizens and leaders in local to global communities. As part of that commitment, the university launched the LIFE (Learning Is For Everyone) Scholars program in the fall of 2018. The Mission of this program is to *“educate and provide students with intellectual and development disabilities a fully inclusive post-secondary education.”*

### **Learning Outcomes**

#### **Students will:**

1. Become lifelong learners and develop self-determination to achieve individual life goals.
2. Gain knowledge by enrolling in courses of interest and explore careers through campus internships.
3. Expand social networks and develop peer relationships through engagement in the campus community.
4. Earn a LIFE Scholars Certificate by completing all program requirements.
5. Obtain meaningful, competitive employment upon graduation.

### **LIFE Scholars Program Details**

LIFE Scholars is a three-year, non-degree certificate program. The curriculum consists of three main domains: academics, campus engagement and career development. Students audit classes to gain knowledge in their areas of interest, engage in extra-curricular campus activities to develop social networks, and participate in internships to develop job skills and explore careers. Self-determination is woven into every aspect of the curriculum as students set goals for their learning, choose which courses to take, make decisions about joining clubs or attending events and practice self-advocacy. LIFE Scholars direct their college experience with support from staff and peers. The primary role of LIFE Scholars staff is to facilitate and support the inclusion of students into classes, campus activities and work opportunities. A *MSU LIFE Scholars Certificate* is awarded upon successful completion of program requirements and presented during the MSU graduation ceremony.

### **LIFE Scholars Program Student Eligibility**

Scholars must be a minimum of 18 years of age, have completed all high school requirements, be identified as an individual with an intellectual / developmental disability, and have a strong desire to attend college.

**ACADEMICS:** Scholars audit 1-4 courses per semester. Academic accommodations are provided by the MSU Office of Disability Services, and additional modifications and support are provided by the LIFE Scholars staff and peer partners. Scholars are matched with peer partners, traditional MSU students, who provide academic support both in class to assist with note taking and class participation, and out of class to assist with required homework assignments and test preparation.

**CAMPUS ENGAGEMENT:** LIFE Scholars are encouraged to get involved in all aspects of the campus community. They are matched with peer partners who facilitate engagement in campus activities, such as weekly coffee dates, eating lunch together, working out in the fitness center, attending sporting events, etc. Monthly LIFE Scholars social events are also offered as a way to create community among all the scholars and peer partners.

**CAREER DEVELOPMENT:** Students rotate through three different campus internships to explore careers and gain job skills during their last year of the program.

## Montana State University LIFE Scholars Certificate

The MSU LS Certificate will be awarded to students upon successful completion of the requirements in academics, campus engagement and career development, as well as self-determination and independent living. Students will be expected to demonstrate satisfactory progress in each of the five categories of their individual action plans. Satisfactory progress will be assessed using a proficiency scoring scale.

**Length of program:** 3 years

- Students may complete the program in as few as 2 years and a maximum of 4 years.

**Minimum Academic Credit Requirements:** 20 (14 academic + 6 internship credits)

**Minimum Campus Engagement Hours:** 60

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### Academic Career Pathway Courses

Students identify a career pathway through the STAR Person-Centered Planning process.

Students select four or more courses identified in their program of study. 1 foundation course is recommended.

Minimum required credits: 12

### Electives

Students select a minimum of two 1-credit activity classes or other classes of interest.

Minimum required credits: 2

### Career Development

Students participate in three, 10-week internship rotations.

Students attend the daily Project SEARCH Employability Skills class.

Students complete a final capstone project.

Minimum required credits: 6

### Campus Engagement

Students engage in a minimum of 10 activities each semester.

Minimum required hours: 60

### Self-determination and Independent Living

Students identify individual goals through the STAR Person-Centered Planning process.

Minimum required hours: N/A

### Co-curricular Learning

Students may participate in supplemental learning opportunities.

Minimum required hours: N/A

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### LIFE Scholars Supports

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic advising                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling support   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Executive functioning support                   | <input type="checkbox"/> ODS – (e.g., testing accommodations, notetaker, digital texts) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Course specific audit agreements                | <input type="checkbox"/> Assistive technology   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Partner in-class support for academics     | <input type="checkbox"/> Supported part-time employment on campus                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Partner out-of-class support for academics | <input type="checkbox"/> Project SEARCH internships                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peer Partner social engagement support          |   |

**STUDENT ADMISSIONS PROCESS**

1. Students complete an application packet that includes the following:

- Completed and Signed Application
- Student Inventory (pages 9-10)
- Parent / Guardian Inventory (pages 11-12)
- Documentation of Disability (one or more of the following):
  - Individualized Education Plan (IEP)
  - Personal Support Plan (PSP)
  - Other official evaluation
- Postsecondary Program Records, if applicable
- MSU Immunization Documentation (pages 13-15)
- 2 Letters of Recommendation
  - One Personal Letter
  - One Professional (non-relative) Letter
    - Letters must include the name and contact information of person writing the letter and the relationship to applicant
- Current Student Photograph
- Application for a scholarship, if applicable.

2. Students submit a \$30 non-refundable check made out to MSU and the completed application packet to:

**MSU LIFE Scholars  
College of Education, Health & Human Development  
C/O Christy Sofianek  
311 Reid Hall  
P.O. Box 172940  
Bozeman, MT 59717-2940**

3. A selection committee will review complete applications and invite eligible applicants and their parents or guardians to campus for an interview.

4. Applicants will be notified of the acceptance decision by mail within two weeks of the interview.

*Information on orientation and registration will be sent in June. Students beginning in the fall 2020 should plan to attend a mid-July orientation session.*



## LIFE Scholars Application

Term of enrollment:  Fall  Spring Year \_\_\_\_\_

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### PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: First \_\_\_\_\_ Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ Country of Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

If not a U.S. citizen, are you a permanent resident of the U.S.?  Yes  No

Student is his/her own guardian  Yes  No\*

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### PARENT CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### \* GUARDIAN CONTACT INFORMATION (if different from parent)

Guardian's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ \* Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION HISTORY (include high school(s) and colleges or universities)**

Name of School	City, State	Dates Attended	Graduation Date or Reason for Leaving

Name of diploma or certificate received: \_\_\_\_\_

Date received: \_\_\_\_\_

**MSU SAFETY AND SECURITY INFORMATION**

1. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? (Please include instance of deferred sentencing)?  Yes  No

*A felony in Montana State law is defined as a crime for which more than one year in prison may be imposed.*

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Have you ever been subjected to court-ordered confinement for threatening or causing physical or emotional injury to persons or property?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Have you ever been disciplined by, suspended from, or placed on probation at any educational institution for nonacademic reasons?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Have you ever been required to register as a sexual or violent offender?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

*If you answered yes to any of these questions, you may be asked by MSU to provide additional information, which will be reviewed to ensure campus safety.*

**SUPPORT SERVICES**

Student receives support or services from: (Please check those that apply and indicate if you are on a waiting list for services.)

MT Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)

MT Developmental Disabilities Program (DDP)

Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)

Other \_\_\_\_\_

Did you participate in general education classes during high school?  Yes  No

If yes, please list inclusive classes:

Please describe your academic strengths and challenges.

How do you think you learn best?



Please describe any accommodations used in school.

Are there any assistive tools that you use regularly?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain:

**WORK HISTORY**

Volunteer (V) Paid (P)	Name of Employer or Organization	Job Title	Job Duties	Start-End Dates

Have you received job coaching during your work experience?  Yes  No

Have you ever been fired from a job?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever quit a job?  Yes  No

If yes, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever had difficulty getting along with a supervisor, co-worker or customer on a job?

Yes  No

If yes, how did you handle that? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Please list how you are currently occupied (school, work, volunteer, support services activities, etc.):

ACTIVITY	TIME (Day of week, Hrs.)	Provider (if applicable)

**VOLUNTARY INFORMATION**Gender:  Female  Male  Self Identify \_\_\_\_\_Have either of your parents or guardian(s) completed a bachelor's degree?  Yes  NoIf so, is this a degree from Montana State University in Bozeman?  Yes  No

Please indicate if you are:

 Hispanic or Latino Black or African American American Indian or Alaska Native Asian Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander White Race/Ethnicity unknown Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_

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**SIGNATURE** (required)**This application for admission is not legally binding.**

*I certify that the information submitted in this application is true and complete. If I enroll at Montana State University, I agree to pay to the University all tuition, fees, fines, and debts that I may incur by the assigned due dates. If I fail to make acceptable payment arrangements to bring my account current, Montana State University will take action against me to collect any unpaid debts including withholding of registration and transcript(s) and assignment of the debt for collection. I understand that I will then be responsible for paying the principal plus collection agency fees of a maximum of 33% of my delinquent account balance, including costs, expenses and reasonable attorney's fees necessary for the collection of my delinquent account. Collection accounts are reported to one or more of the national credit bureaus.*

**Applicant's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_**Legal Guardian or Conservator (if applicable):** \_\_\_\_\_**Name of person assisting student with the application:** \_\_\_\_\_**Relationship to student:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE**

Why do you want to be a MSU LIFE Scholar?

What classes are you interested in taking?

What social activities, clubs or events are of interest to you?

What are your future career goals after college? *(What type of job would you like?)*

How do you want to be employed in the community upon completion of your college experience?

Full-time  Part-time (16+ hrs./week)

What are your future living goals? *(Do you want to live on your own, with a roommate or your family?)*

Please use this space to share anything else about yourself that you'd like us to know.

**MSU LIFE Scholars  
Student Inventory**

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*How well do you know your skills? Please rate yourself and tell us how you do in the following areas.*

**1 = I need total support.**

**2 = I need some support.**

**3 = I am independent.**

				<b>Comments</b>
Academics				
Read	1	2	3	
Write	1	2	3	
Basic Math	1	2	3	
Money	1	2	3	
Take notes in class	1	2	3	
Study and homework skills	1	2	3	
Communication / Social Skills				
Introduce yourself	1	2	3	
Follow directions	1	2	3	
Follow a schedule	1	2	3	
Show up on time	1	2	3	
Communicate what you need	1	2	3	
Engage in a conversation	1	2	3	
Accept feedback	1	2	3	
Disagree politely	1	2	3	

				Comments
<b>Technology</b>				
Phone - Make calls, answer the phone, take messages	1	2	3	
Send and receive texts	1	2	3	
Use social media (FB, snapchat, etc.)	1	2	3	
Computer – search the web, email, create documents	1	2	3	
Type	1	2	3	
<b>Transportation / Navigation</b>				
Use Public Transportation	1	2	3	
Navigate places (campus)	1	2	3	
Ask for directions or help	1	2	3	
Set up rides, read bus schedule	1	2	3	
Make plans and go places with friends or family	1	2	3	
Careful around strangers	1	2	3	
<b>Hygiene and Grooming</b>				
Take a bath or shower every day and use deodorant	1	2	3	
Brush teeth daily	1	2	3	
Keep your hair clean and neat	1	2	3	
Dress for the weather	1	2	3	

## MSU LIFE Scholars

## Parent or Guardian Personal Support Inventory

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person completing form: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Please use the following scale to represent the applicant's skill level in each area.

**1 = Needs complete assistance****2 = Needs some assistance****3 = Total independence**

	1	2	3	Comments
<b>Academics</b>				
Reading				
Writing				
Basic Math				
Money				
Note Taking				
Study / Homework Skills				
<b>Communication / Social Skills</b>				
Introduces self				
Follows directions				
Follows a schedule				
On Time				
Communicates needs appropriately				
Engages in conversation				
Accepts feedback				
Disagrees politely				



	1	2	3	Comments
<b>Technology</b>				
Phone etiquette – make calls, answer phone, take messages				
Send and receive texts				
Appropriate use of social media (FB, snapchat, etc.)				
Computer – search the web, email, create documents				
Typing				
<b>Transportation / Navigation</b>				
Uses Public Transportation				
Navigate places (campus)				
Asks for directions or help				
Handles logistics of transportation (sets up rides, looks at bus schedule)				
Arranges outings				
Uses caution with strangers				
<b>Hygiene and Grooming</b>				
Toileting needs				
Daily Bath / showering with deodorant use				
Brushes teeth daily				
Maintains clean and neat hair				
Appropriate dress for season				

## IMMUNIZATIONS

Montana State University requires all students to meet the following immunization requirements before registering for classes.

### REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS

#### 1. MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella)

- Students need to submit official documentation showing two MMR vaccinations that meet the following requirements:
  - Two doses started after 12 months of age
  - Must be at least 28 days between dose 1 and 2
  - Can be combined or individual vaccines
  - The second dose must be after 1980
  - Students can have titers to prove immunity to measles, mumps, and rubella in place of MMR vaccination records.

##### Examples of Official Documentation

- Immunization record from doctor's office
- State certificate of immunizations
- High school transcript including immunizations
- Military immunization record
- Yellow immunization card
- Childhood immunization booklet
- Lab results of titers showing immunity to measles, mumps, and rubella
- UHP - Medical Services immunization form to be completed by a health care provider

#### 2. Tuberculosis Screening

- Please read and complete the Tuberculosis Screening Form and return with application.

### RECOMMENDED VACCINATIONS (Discuss with your health care provider)

- Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis (TDAP)
- Hepatitis A
- Hepatitis B
- Polio. Student complies if primary series completed (2 oral Polio or 3 intramuscular vaccinations)
- Meningococcal Meningitis
- Human Papillomavirus Vaccine (HPV2 or HPV4)
- Influenza (annually)
- Varicella (chicken pox)



**MSU University Health Partners Immunization Record**

MSU-Bozeman PO Box 173260  
 Bozeman, MT 59717-3260  
[www.montana.edu/health](http://www.montana.edu/health)

Telephone: (406) 994-2311  
 Fax: (406) 994-2504  
 E-mail: [immune@montana.edu](mailto:immune@montana.edu)

**SECTION - I**

Student's Name:	Date of Birth:	Student ID#:
Address:	Phone Number:	Parent name:

**SECTION - II**

Required Vaccines	Month, Day and Year of Each Dose		
MMR	1	2	
28 days apart for students born after January 1, 1957			

\*\*Tuberculosis Screening Form ~See form. Testing may not be required~

See our website for more immunization details

**SECTION - III**

Elective immunizations	Month, Day and Year of Each Dose				
	1	2	3	4	5
Meningococcal(MCV) ACYW- 135					
Meningococcal B					
Tetanus, Most Recent (circle which one) Tdap or Td					
Hepatitis A					
Hepatitis B					
Human Papilomavirus (HPV)					
Varicella					
Last Flu Shot					
Pneumococcal 23 (PCV) or Prevnar 13 (circle the one given)					

**TO BE FILLED OUT BY HEALTH CARE PROVIDER**

Medical Professional's Official Name:	<b>Office Stamp:</b>
Medical Professional's Official Signature:	
Date Signed:	

Rev. 9/2017



**TUBERCULOSIS SCREENING FORM**

MSU- Bozeman PO Box 173260  
 Bozeman, MT 59717-3260  
[www.montana.edu/health](http://www.montana.edu/health)

Telephone: (406) 994-2311  
 Fax: (406) 994-2504  
 E-mail: [immune@montana.edu](mailto:immune@montana.edu)

Please complete form & send or bring into the University Health Partners before registration.

Student's Name:	Date of Birth:	Student ID #:
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Address:	Phone number:	Today's Date:
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**Past History:**

- Have you lived in any of the following countries for six months or more?**

Afganistan, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Cambodia, China, Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, South Africa, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Viet Nam, Zambia, Zimbabwe

(Sources: WHO Report 2014: Global Tuberculosis Control, P. 9, Table 2.1 listing "High TB Burden Countries, and MSU Statistics.)

**Yes      No**
- Have you used intravenous drugs or had a history of alcoholism?**

**YES      NO**
- Do you have cancer, Leukemia, kidney disease, Diabetes, AIDS/HIV or take immunosuppressive medications such as prednisone?**

**YES      NO**
- Have you been in close contact with someone with Tuberculosis?**

**YES      NO**
- Have you resided, worked or volunteered in a prison, homeless shelter, hospital, nursing home or other long-term treatment facility?**

**YES      NO**

**If you answered -yes- to any of the above questions. Please complete the rest of the form.**

Because you answered -Yes- to one or more of the above questions, you are required to have a PPD skin test before you register for classes at MSU-Bozeman. This PPD must be completed within the 12 month period before your class start date. You can receive the PPD skin test from your local healthcare provider or at MSU UHP Medical Services.

**Did you receive BCG? (Vaccination for Tuberculosis often given in foreign countries)      YES      NO**

TB Skin Test	
Date PPD Applied:	Medical Professional's Office Stamp:
Date PPD Read:	
Size of Induration: <span style="float: right;">mm</span>	
Medical Professional's Official Name:	Medical Professional's Official Signature:
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Rev. 3/2018

**MSU LIFE SCHOLARS ESTIMATED PROGRAM COSTS**

The anticipated costs for the MSU LIFE Scholars program includes MSU tuition and fees, a LIFE Scholars program fee, supplies and optional meal plan. **Students are required to provide their own technology.** The costs listed do not include any applicable course or online learning fees. Student payment options may include private pay, scholarships, grants, vocational rehabilitation benefits and social security work incentives. The LIFE Scholars program anticipates earning the designation of a Comprehensive Transition Program (CTP) by the fall of 2020, which will allow students to apply for federal financial aid, namely Pell Grants. If interested in student scholarships, please download and complete a scholarship application and submit it with the application.

<b>STUDENT COSTS</b>	<b>MSU 3 credits (1 class)</b>	<b>MSU 6 credits (2 classes)</b>	<b>MSU 9 credits (3 classes)</b>
MSU Tuition	\$706.80	\$1,413.60	\$2,120.40
MSU Fees	\$163.80	\$240.00	\$735.19
Student Access Fee	\$418.99	\$418.99	\$0 *
LIFE Scholars Program Fee - \$1000/yr.	\$500	\$500	\$500
Books/Supplies	\$50	\$100	\$150
MSU Student ID card -one time only	\$15	\$15	\$15
New Student Fee - one time only	\$90	\$90	\$90
Meal Plan - optional	-	-	-
<b>TOTAL COST – 1 semester</b>	<b>\$ 1,944.59</b>	<b>\$2,777.59</b>	<b>\$3,610.59</b>
<b>TOTAL COST – 2 semesters</b>	<b>\$3,789.18</b>	<b>\$5,445.18</b>	<b>\$7,121.18</b>

**LIFE Scholars Student Access Fees**

\*When a student takes 7 or more credits, the Student Access Fee is included in the MSU fees.

Students registered for less than 7 credits are responsible for paying this fee.

ASMSU Fees - Access to the gym	\$113.24
Health / Dental Fees - Access to campus clinic	\$ 227.00
Athletic Fee - Access to sporting events	<u>\$ 78.75</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$418.99</b>

**LIFE Scholars Program Fee** – Provides funds for monthly peer partner events, peer partner training, regular meeting supplies, student accommodations, etc.

**Meal Plan Pricing**

25 meals	\$225
50 meals	\$425
75 meals	\$581.25
100 meals	\$700

**Student Technology** – All students are required to provide and bring the technology of their choice (iPad, tablet, etc.) to campus on a daily basis.