STUDENT SUCCESS FUNDS
Hilleman Scholars Program

BUILDING ON OUR COMMITMENT

WHAT IT TAKES
The Campaign for MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
GRADUATION MATTERS.

In line with our mission as a land grant institution, MSU is launching an innovative student achievement program to make graduation a reality for students from across Montana.

The MSU Hilleman Scholars Program, in memory of one of MSU’s most acclaimed alumni, supports recent Montana high school grads who demonstrate great potential but need a little extra help. The program combines academic and financial assistance with incentives to keep students engaged and on track to graduate.

HARNESSING UNTAPPED POTENTIAL.

Dr. Maurice Hilleman, a 1941 graduate of Montana State, is credited with saving more human lives in the 20th century than any other scientist. Born in Miles City of humble origins, Hilleman was on the fence about attending college. As is the case for many Montana students, without substantial financial aid, Hilleman might not have earned his degree in microbiology.

The Hilleman Scholars Program provides scholarship support in addition to federal financial aid, but with incentives to inspire students to stay determined and earn their college degree.
COMMITMENT FROM THE TOP.

President Cruzado and her team are committed to prioritizing support for students’ success as they pursue college degrees. Operational costs for the Hilleman Scholars Program will be covered by MSU, and federal financial aid dollars will also be allocated for program enrollees. Montana State invites alumni and friends to partner with the university where private philanthropy can make a difference by providing incentive for a Montana student with great potential and significant financial need, and who may be the first in her/his family to attend or graduate from college. Financial support for Hilleman Scholars is an investment in Montana’s future.

ELEMENTS LEADING TO SUCCESS.

The MSU Hilleman Scholars Program begins with the month-long Summer Success Academy, an intensive summer bridge program designed to boost college-level math, writing and critical thinking skills and to equip students with effective learning strategies.

The intensive academic support continues for MSU Hilleman Scholars throughout their college careers. Beyond access to top faculty, this includes tutoring, mentoring, success advising and more. By their third year, Hilleman Scholars are expected to pass this support on by serving as mentors and tutors to new students.

During the school year, Hilleman Scholars are required to engage in 10 hours per week of structured activity designed to help them gain an understanding of how to be a successful student, intern or employee. The focus of these experiences will shift each year as students progress through college.

Privately funded support for Hilleman Scholars will enable MSU to:

1. Equip more Montanans to meet the challenges of the future.
2. Increase access to higher education.
3. Increase graduation rates.
4. Expand career opportunities.

Transforming Montana’s future through access and achievement.
Dear alumni and friends,

The MSU Hilleman Scholars Program provides us with the opportunity to honor one of the great sons of Montana while investing in the potential of Montana students—students who, with similar financial and personal support, will also be able to shape their communities for the better.

Dr. Maurice Hilleman's story is profound and offers inspiration for how we might identify and invest in future Bobcats from all corners of Montana.

MSU is committed to using innovative programs to advance the futures of the residents we serve. We know there are emerging world-class scientists, teachers, artists, engineers, counselors, nurses, writers, doctors, farmers, ranchers and entrepreneurs in our towns, cities and countryside who want to realize their potential, just like Dr. Hilleman.

As the state's land grant institution, we believe the future rests with our sons and daughters and their ability to advance Montana, the nation and the world.

The MSU Hilleman Scholars Program constitutes an ambitious effort to reframe the mission of the land grant institution for the 21st century. This work is important to MSU and our state as we strive to meet the Complete College Montana goal of increasing the number of citizens who have college degrees.

Go Bobcats!

Waded Cruzado
President

INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF MONTANA

Join us in ensuring that students excel through to degree attainment. Programming and incentives for each student require $5,000 per academic year.

Choose to support a student for one year, or see a student through to graduation with a $20,000 contribution.

You can be confident that your gift is an investment in the future of Montana that will be life-changing for the student-recipient.

NUTS AND BOLTS OF EXCELLENCE

Hilleman Scholars will devote 10 hours per week to structured activities designed to keep them engaged and successful, with a different focus each academic year.

YEAR 1
Academic foundations

YEAR 2
Major and career exploration

YEAR 3
Skills application & taking responsibility

YEAR 4
Role of the citizen