



Montana

CAREER RESOURCES

Great Falls School District Integrates Power School With MCIS

One of the new services available with MCIS this year is integration services. The Great Falls School District is the first school district to use this service to integrate Power School and MCIS. So, what does the integration actually do? It allows all of the students in Great Falls to log into MCIS automatically using their Power School login user name and password. This integration alleviates some of the hassles that schools experience with students forgetting their MCIS user name and password, especially since teachers and counselors can no longer see students' passwords.

Eventually, information can be shared between MCIS and Power School based on the school's needs. MCIS staff, intoCareers (University of Oregon) and the Great Falls School District will be working on the types of data that will be shared between the two systems.

If you use Power School in your school district and are interested in integrating with MCIS, contact our office at mcrn@mt.gov and provide your contact information. When we are sure that everything is working well with Great Falls, we'll start the process of adding additional schools into the integration. There is no additional charge to use the integration services.

Apprenticeship openings to be listed in MCIS

New this fall in MCIS, not only can students and clients seek employment in MCIS, they can find apprenticeship openings. Montana Registered Apprenticeship is full-time employment. It is an on-the-job training model that allows workers to earn while they learn by combining hands-on skills learning alongside a journeyman/mentor and related technical instruction in a classroom or on-line. To find open apprenticeships in Montana, open an occupation file and click on US Jobs under related information on the left hand side. All current job openings and apprenticeships will show if there are any openings. If you or your clients would like more information on the Montana Registered Apprenticeship program contact Kathy Johnson at 444-3998 or kjohnson2@mt.gov.

Upcoming Events

September 10th:

Great Falls Job Service training
(Upward Bound and Opportunity Inc. - HRDC)

September 11th:

Hamilton School training

September 15th:

Gallatin College training

September 22nd:

Great Falls School
(Inservice)

September 30th:

Havre HRDC training
(WIOA partners invited)

October 9th:

MCIS Academy Career Training Institute
(WIOA partners invited)

October 13th:

Glendive Community College training
(WIOA partners invited)

October 14-16th:

MACTE conference (presenter) and MCEL conference (presenter and vendor), Billings

October 15th:

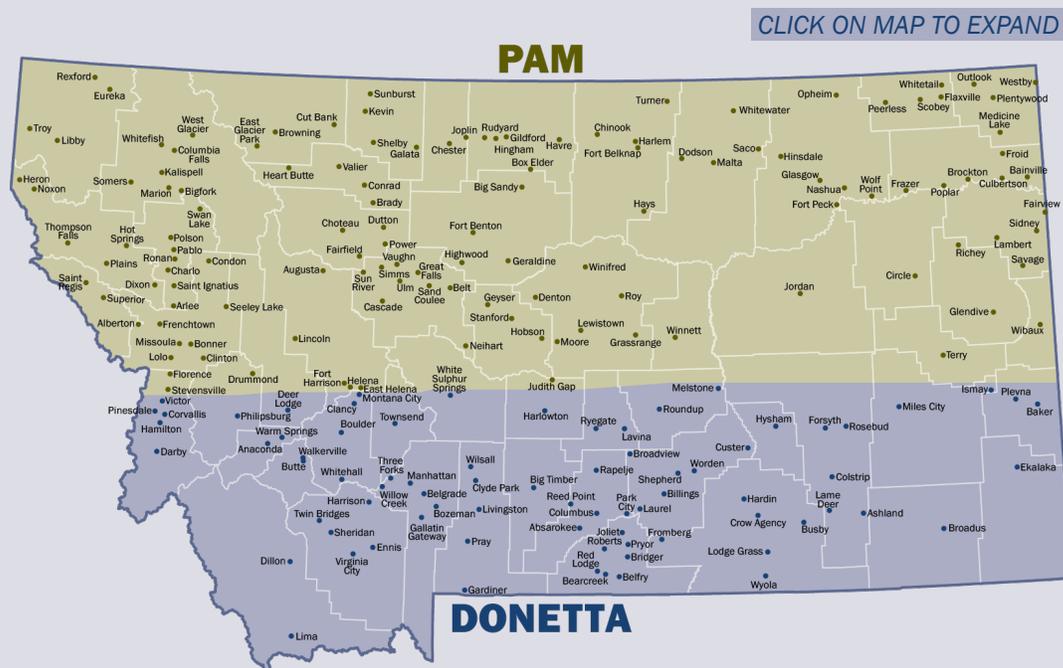
Big Sky High School training, Missoula



Training News

There are now over 700 sites in Montana using MCIS and over 97,000 active portfolios. With so many sites we have decided to divide the training between our two MCIS trainers, Pam Boggs and Donetta McDowell. Pam will be training areas north from Helena and Donetta will be training south from Montana City. View the map below to see which trainer to contact for your area. They will both be training on adult, college, high school, and middle school sites.

Get your training requests in early! You can contact by emailing mcrcn@mt.gov, or call 800-541-3904. You can also contact them directly: Pam (pboggs@mt.gov) 444-3239 and Donetta (dmcdowell@mt.gov) 444-7019.



Clarification on Publication Orders

All of our publications are available at no cost, however shipping costs have gotten to be quite expensive when shipping larger orders. In order to contain costs we are providing free shipping on the first box of publications and charging for shipping for additional boxes. We highly recommend for anyone needing large quantities of publications to coordinate with someone traveling to Helena or with our trainers coming to your area to conduct training to alleviate the need to pay for shipping. When submitting your publication orders, our office will let you know how many publications will fit in a box and if more than one box is needed will let you know the costs up front. Working together to manage shipping costs will allow us to produce enough publications for everyone's needs.

CONTACT OUR TRAINERS

Pam Boggs

pboggs@mt.gov
(406) 444-3239

Donetta McDowell

dmcdowell@mt.gov
(406) 444-7019

MCIS INTERFACE CHANGES

Site Administration Tools:

Portfolios can now be updated (as well as created) using a batch upload. The new **Export for Upload** function allows staff or site administrators to quickly modify selections such as usernames and passwords for multiple portfolios.

The feature works similarly to the uploading of portfolios. Simply select the portfolios you want to edit and export them to an Excel spreadsheet. Make the edits in Excel, then use the **Upload Several Portfolios** function to upload them back into the system.

When using **Export for Upload** or **Upload Several Portfolios**, the password entered will now be their permanent password rather than a temporary one they will need to reset.

The best part is you will now have a spreadsheet with the information on it for reference.

Pathways Tab

A new Pathways tab consolidates all the Montana-specific pathways information in one place. Updated graphics and enhanced content will make this information easier to find and to use.



What is WIOA?

WIOA is the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act that replaces WIA, the Workforce Investment Act. The act was signed into law in July 2014. It is designed to help job seekers access employment, education, training, and support services to succeed in the labor market and to match employers with the skilled workers they need to compete in today and tomorrow's economies. One of the key pieces is bringing all of the agencies that work in adult workforce development together such as Job Service, One-Stops, Vocational Rehabilitation, Adult Basic Education, and others. Over 300 people from across the state from multiple agencies came together August 18-20 to learn more about WIOA and the network of resources available.

Under WIOA labor market information and career counseling play a larger role than ever before. How is Montana going to provide this important information? By using MCIS as the delivery method for both labor market and career information along with PEP Talk for assisting clients with the instructions to use the appropriate parts of MCIS for creating their employment plans. We are asking everyone who is going to be working with clients under WIOA to contact us to set up regional or community training sessions so we can quickly get everyone up to speed on how best use MCIS and PEP Talk to assist their clients. Contact us at mcrn@mt.gov or 800-541-3904 to set up training. Please try and include as many community partners as possible in your training.

Password Reset

Users who can't answer their security questions can now have a reset link sent to the e-mail for their account.

Video Enhancement

Occupation videos have been updated to a newer format. This will make the viewing experience easier and better.

MCIS CONTENT CHANGES

Portfolio deletion

Users can now delete portfolios in Account Settings.

Occupations

Standard MCIS will be updated in September; Junior will be updated in October.

Application Tracker

Checklist activity records are now based upon item status.