



March 1, 2024

Mr. Greg Kegel
Chancellor
Montana State University - Northern
300 13th Street West
Havre, MT 59501

Dear Chancellor Kegel:

This letter serves as formal notification and official record of action taken by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) at its meeting on January 30-February 2, 2024, concerning the Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness of Montana State University - Northern.

Accreditation

Reaffirm Accreditation

Status of Previous Recommendations Addressed in this Evaluation

- Recommendation 2: Fall 2016 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Fulfilled
- Recommendation 5: Fall 2016 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Fulfilled
- Recommendation 6: Fall 2016 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Fulfilled
- Recommendation 7: Fall 2016 Mission Fulfillment and Sustainability - Fulfilled

Commendations

The Commission commends Montana State University - Northern for:

1. An immense amount of pride and care across every level of the institution. Each person the peer evaluation team met at Northern expressed their deep affection for their students.
2. Community engagement as demonstrated by significant participation in campus events and impressive fundraising support.
3. The deep devotion to their institution and appreciation for all the faculty and staff do to support their academic, professional, and personal success.
4. Their outstanding commitment to first generation college students, lower income students, and, in particular, Native American students.

Recommendations Substantially in Compliance but in Need of Improvement

The Commission recommends that Montana State University - Northern:

- Recommendation 1: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Employ faculty and staff sufficient in role and number to achieve its organizational responsibilities, educational objectives, and ensure the integrity and continuity of its academic programs. (2020 Standard(s) 2.F.3)
- Recommendation 2: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Ensure its financial planning includes meaningful opportunities and transparency for broad participation by relevant stakeholders. (2020 Standard(s) 2.E.2)
- Recommendation 3: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Compare itself to regional and national peer institutions and establish and share widely a set of indicators for student achievement including, but not limited to persistence, completion, retention, and postgraduation success. (2020 Standard(s) 1.D.2;1.D.3)
- Recommendation 4: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness - Publish all expected program and degree learning outcomes and ensure information on expected student learning outcomes for all courses is provided to enrolled students. (2020 Standard(s) 1.C.3)

Future Evaluations

- Ad Hoc Report Spring 2025
 - Recommendation 1: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
 - Recommendation 2: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
 - Recommendation 3: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
 - Recommendation 4: Fall 2023 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness
- Mid-Cycle Review Fall 2026
- Year 6 - Standard 2 - Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review Fall 2029
- Year 7 - Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness Fall 2030

NWCCU is committed to an accreditation process that adds value to institutions while contributing to public accountability, and we thank you for your continued support of this process. If you have questions about any of the information in this letter, please contact your staff liaison, Dr. Gita Bangera, at gbangera@nwccu.org.

Sincerely,



Sonny Ramaswamy
President

cc: Dr. Jennifer Brown, VCAA and Provost
Ms. Brianne Rogers, BOR Chair
Dr. Daniel Bubb, Associate Professor in Residence, Coordinator of Academic Affairs, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
Mr. Clayton Christian, Commissioner of Higher Education, Montana University System