



## 2024 STRENGTHENING CAREER STUDENT TECHNICAL ORGANIZATION GRANTS September 2024

### OVERVIEW

As required by 20-7-320, MCA this report provides funding distribution information for the strengthening career and technical student organizations program and the outcomes reported by organizations.

The current biennial grant period for the Career Student Technical Organizations (CTSO) runs from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025. The Montana State Legislature provides \$1,806,000 total in grant funds for the two-year grant cycle. Year one of the grant for 2023-2024 required that the \$903,000 be split evenly between all seven CTSOs. Year two of the grant from 2024-2025 allocates \$553,000 for base funding to be split evenly between all seven CTSOs and \$350,000 for performance-based funding allocations.

### PURPOSE AND ELIGIBILITY

The purpose of this funding is to strengthen Montana CTSOs by increasing graduation rates, enhancing student leadership, developing workforce skills, and facilitating transitions for students from secondary to postsecondary education, apprenticeship, or employment for all participating students. The funding will ensure alignment of activities of local CTSOs with nationally affiliated programs, provide base funding for statewide coordination of CTSOs and distribute performance grants to CTSOs.

The CTSOs that are currently eligible for funding under section 3 of 20-7-320, MCA are:

- Montana Business Professionals of America (BPA)
- Montana DECA
- Montana FFA Association
- Montana Family Career and Community Leaders of America (FCCLA)
- Montana HOSA
- Montana SkillsUSA
- Montana Technical Student Association (TSA)

According to 20-7-320, MCA subsection (5) to be eligible for performance funding in the 2024-2025 grant, CTSO's were required to provide documentation of a minimum of \$20,000 in matching funds. The match must consist of a minimum of \$15,000 in cash donations and may include \$5,000 of in-kind contributions.

Six of the seven CTSOs were able to meet the performance funding requirement. Montana TSA reported that they would not be applying for the performance funding this year, instead they are working on restructuring the organization, and are working to meet the performance funding requirement in the 2025-2026 cycle. Among the seven CTSOs there was \$441,973.00 of cash and in-kind contributions during the 2023-2024 fiscal year, which did not account for scholarships, membership and registration costs for conferences.

**2023-2024 Sponsorships and Donations**

<b>CTSO</b>	<b>Cash Donations</b>	<b>In-kind Contributions</b>
<b>BPA</b>	\$23,900	\$6,650
<b>DECA</b>	\$30,806	\$0
<b>FCCLA</b>	\$40,439	\$7,115
<b>FFA</b>	\$242,984	\$5,000
<b>HOSA</b>	\$20,850	\$5,000
<b>SkillsUSA</b>	\$28,644	\$25,508
<b>TSA</b>	\$4,077	\$1,000
	\$391,700	\$50,273

**The sponsors and partnerships for the 2023-2024 year include the following:**

- ADF
- Allied Steel
- Bequet Confections
- Big Sky EDA
- Black Hills State
- Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Montana
- Carroll College
- Cassie Monaco
- Century Gaming Technologies
- City College- Billings
- CM CH CMR Partners LLC
- Dickinson State
- East Helena High School
- Flathead Electric Cooperative
- Gallatin College (FCCLA, TSA)
- Great Falls College (Multiple CTSO's)
- Hardin High School
- Harnish Group/ Tractor & Equipment
- Helena College
- Helena College
- Helena College
- High Country Technology Consultants
- Highlands College
- J2 Office Products
- Job Corps
- Lincoln Electric
- Lippert Wealth DA Davidson
- Lithia
- MDU Foundation
- Men's Warehouse
- Miles Community College (Multiple CTSO's)
- Miller
- Montana Beef Council
- Montana Bioscience Alliance
- Montana Chamber Foundation (Multiple CTSO's)
- Montana Contractors Association
- Montana Council for Economic Education
- Montana Dental Association
- Montana Department of Transportation
- Montana Digital Academy
- Montana FFA Foundation
- Montana Financial Education Coalition (Multiple CTSO's)
- Montana MCIS Career Lab
- Montana Mex

Montana Pork Producers  
 Montana Restaurant Association  
 Montana Society of CPA's  
 Montana Tech  
 Montana Western  
 Montana WWAMI Trust  
 Morton Building Inc.  
 Mr. Jeff Catron  
 MSU Billings  
 MSU Center for Research in Rural Education  
 MSU College of Education Health and  
 Human Development  
 MSU Mark and Robyn Jones College of  
 Nursing  
 MSUB  
 MT Auto Dealers  
 MT Steel Sheet Metal Workers  
 Murdoch's Ranch and Home Supply  
 National ProStart  
 Next Gen Personal Finance  
 Norco  
 Northwestern Energy

Opportunity Bank, Billings  
 Pacific Steel  
 Paris Gibson School  
 Reach Higher Montana (Multiple CTSO's)  
 Rocky Mountain College  
 Sheridan College  
 Silverstone Systems, LLC (DAKTIC)  
 Sky Federal Credit Union  
 Snap-On  
 St. John's United  
 Steel Ect.  
 Success N Fundraising  
 Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine  
 Trio Educational Opportunity Centers  
 University of Montana  
 University of Montana Western  
 University of Providence (Multiple CTSO's)  
 Vitalant  
 YSA  
 Zero to Five Montana  
 Zwilling/JA Henckels

**CTSO'S FOCUS AREAS:**

**STUDENT LEADERSHIP**

The CTSOs hosted a variety of events including state officer training, Fall Leadership Conferences, Peer to Peer Leadership trainings, State Leadership Conferences, workshops and virtual trainings for middle school, high school, and post-secondary students. The student participation numbers by CTSO are reflected in the chart below.

**2023-2024 Student Participation in Leadership Opportunities**

<b>CTSO</b>	<b>HS/MS Student Participation</b>
<b>BPA</b>	3,375
<b>DECA</b>	886
<b>FCCLA</b>	2,646
<b>FFA</b>	2,664
<b>HOSA</b>	1,103
<b>SkillsUSA</b>	650
<b>TSA</b>	3
<b>Total</b>	11,327

- FFA hosted eight regional District Leadership School events. State officers conducted workshops for younger members and one for older members consisting of 1,491 students.
- Two CTSOs restarted Fall Leadership Conferences and meetings. SkillsUSA provided leadership opportunities for more rural chapters, state officers and students not familiar with SkillsUSA. There were 74 students from 23 SkillsUSA Chapters who participated.
- FCCLA supported nine districts at a fall meeting. There were 668 middle school and high school students from 55 chapters who participated. FCCLA plans to bring back a statewide rally in September 2024. This event has not been held since fall of 2021 due to budget restrictions.

## MEMBERSHIP RETENTION AND GROWTH

There were multiple activities designed to increase CTSO membership opportunities for students from middle school through post-secondary education. The chart below compares the membership numbers between the last two school years.

**Two-year CTSO Membership Comparison**

CTSO	Membership	Membership
	22-23	23-24
BPA	1,633	1,641
DECA*	616	667
FCCLA	1,062	1,302
FFA	6,597	6,890
HOSA*	600	673
SkillsUSA	429	525
TSA*	1,595	1,762
	<b>12,532</b>	<b>13,460</b>

\*Does not currently have middle school membership

- DECA provided back to school kits for all Montana DECA Chapter advisors with promotional materials, posters and recruitment materials.
- FCCLA was able to implement a chapter affiliation program, where chapters were able to pay one price for a range of memberships rather than per individual.
- SkillsUSA increased their Middle School membership by 10%.
- HOSA reactivated two chapters for a total of twenty-four chapters.
- FFA has a 100 percent affiliation for high school students. Every student enrolled in an agricultural class is also identified as an FFA member. There were 1, 003 middle school student members and 52 collegiate FFA members at Montana State University.

## WORKFORCE EXPERIENCE

Workforce activities and events were designed to provide career awareness and exploration opportunities for career preparation. The CTSOs hosted a variety of events from education symposiums, virtual trainings, career development events, and career and college fairs. CTSO's

also hosted events on college campuses alongside industry partners to expose students to a variety of career opportunities.

- SkillsUSA added 2 new Career Clusters, STEM and public safety, to their programming.-. Work experience events included robotics, urban search and rescue, cybersecurity, related technical math and STEM middle school team engineering challenges. During the SkillsUSA state conference, public safety career awareness and exploration opportunities were provided for crime scene investigation, criminal justice, and firefighting.
- HOSA hosted 10 different symposiums during their Spring State Conference. There were 393 members from 23 HOSA chapters who participated in the symposiums. HOSA added two new industry recognized competitive events to the conference-phlebotomy and respiratory therapy. 21 students participated in the training and competition, with Phlebotomy becoming the largest event and three members earning certifications.
- TSA worked with local chapters to participate in Manufacturing Days across the state. TSA also hosted Fernworks at the State Conference to educate students on Drones and Esports.
- BPA members participated in the BPA Certification Lab to earn Industry Certifications. 35 students received Certiport national certification, and 29 students received You Science certification.

### 2023-2024 Student Participation in Workforce Experience Opportunities

CTSO	HS/MS Student Participation
BPA	2,194
DECA	
FCCLA	2,406
FFA	3,972
HOSA	1,281
SkillsUSA	1,449
TSA	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,319</b>

### COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT

Community and business engagement activities incorporated business and industry partners either as speakers, judges or guests. Highlights of engagement opportunities are listed below.

- FCCLA plans to continue partnership with the Montana Department of Transportation and the Montana Restaurant Association.
- DECA worked with industry partners to provide an opportunity for business students to participate in the Game-Of-Life, which included education on financial literacy.

- BPA partnered with the Montana Special Olympics to raise awareness and funding. The members raised and donated \$9,904.30 to Special Olympics Montana. Colstrip High School, Glasgow High School, Hellgate High School, Joliet High School, and Laurel High School were recognized for their generous donations.

FFA state director and board created a policy that offers homeschool and online students' options to participate in Montana FFA.

- SkillsUSA, TSA, and OPI co-hosted a summer conference for industrial technology teachers. There were 19 attendees at the three-day conference
- HOSA collaborated with industry partners to add 5 skill tutorial videos to the website, covering topics such as phlebotomy and respiratory care.

### 2023-2024 Student Participation in Community and Business Engagement Opportunities

CTSO	HS/MS Student Participation
BPA	4,176
DECA	
FCCLA	2,280
FFA	6,215
HOSA	362
SkillsUSA	626
TSA	
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,659</b>

### PROJECTED FUNDING FOR 2024-2025 YEAR

The funding formula for the 2024-2025 SY is shown below. The formula takes the \$350,000 and breaks it into four equal amounts of \$87,500 for each of the target areas: Student Leadership, Membership Retention and Growth, Workforce Experience and Community and Business Engagement. A scoring rubric was used for the CTSO applications to determine the amount of the \$87,000 that each CTSO received in the four areas. The results are outlined in the chart below. Award letters with the determined funding were sent to the State CTSO directors at the end of August.

## 2024-2025 CTSO Funding

	Base funding	2024 Members	Leadership	\$ 6,058.30	Membership	\$ 6,123.59	Workforce	\$ 6,016.23	Community	\$ 6,446.62	Total	Overall Total	2023-2024	Difference
BPA	\$ 79,000.00	1583	2.55	\$ 15,448.66	2.188	\$ 13,398.42	2.64	\$ 15,882.84	2.473	\$15,942.50	\$ 60,672.41	\$ 139,672.41	\$ 129,000.00	\$ 10,672.41
DECA	\$ 79,000.00	660	2.293	\$ 13,891.68	2.187	\$ 13,392.29	2.12	\$ 12,754.40	2.28	\$14,698.30	\$ 54,736.67	\$ 133,736.67	\$ 129,000.00	\$ 4,736.67
FCCLA	\$ 79,000.00	1046	2.133	\$ 12,922.35	2.64	\$ 16,166.28	2.467	\$ 14,842.03	2.425	\$15,633.06	\$ 59,563.72	\$ 138,563.72	\$ 129,000.00	\$ 9,563.72
FFA	\$ 79,000.00	6521	2.4	\$ 14,539.92	2.68	\$ 16,411.23	2.3	\$ 13,837.32	1.97	\$12,699.85	\$ 57,488.31	\$ 136,488.31	\$ 129,000.00	\$ 7,488.31
HOSA	\$ 79,000.00	524	2.667	\$ 16,157.48	2.371	\$ 14,519.04	2.45	\$ 14,739.76	2.2	\$14,182.57	\$ 59,598.84	\$ 138,598.84	\$ 129,000.00	\$ 9,598.84
Skills	\$ 79,000.00	407	2.4	\$ 14,539.92	2.223	\$ 13,612.74	2.567	\$ 15,443.65	2.225	\$14,343.73	\$ 57,940.05	\$ 136,940.05	\$ 129,000.00	\$ 7,940.05
TSA	\$ 79,000.00	540		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 79,000.00	\$ 129,000.00	\$ (50,000.00)
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$553,000.00</b>	<b>11281</b>	<b>14.443</b>	<b>\$ 87,500.00</b>	<b>14.289</b>	<b>\$ 87,500.00</b>	<b>14.544</b>	<b>\$ 87,500.00</b>	<b>13.573</b>	<b>\$87,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 350,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 903,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 903,000.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

There is \$350,000 for performance goals with four goal areas that allows for \$87,500 for each area. Each goal column reflects a 0-3 scoring average based on evaluators scores. Goal attainment based on 0 (not conducted), 1 (Did not meet), 2 (Met Goal), 3 (Exceeded Goal) rubric. The total is then calculated for each goal- Membership total is 14.443 that number is used as a multiplier for Membership funding (25%) \$87,500/14.443= \$6,058.30. That amount is then multiplied by the average for the membership goal for each CTSO. A score of 3 for Membership would award \$15,049.02 for the CTSO. This total and fund per goal is set for each of the four categories and the final column of the sheet shows the total of all performance funding.

This report was prepared by:

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