



Resident Student Access

January 2019

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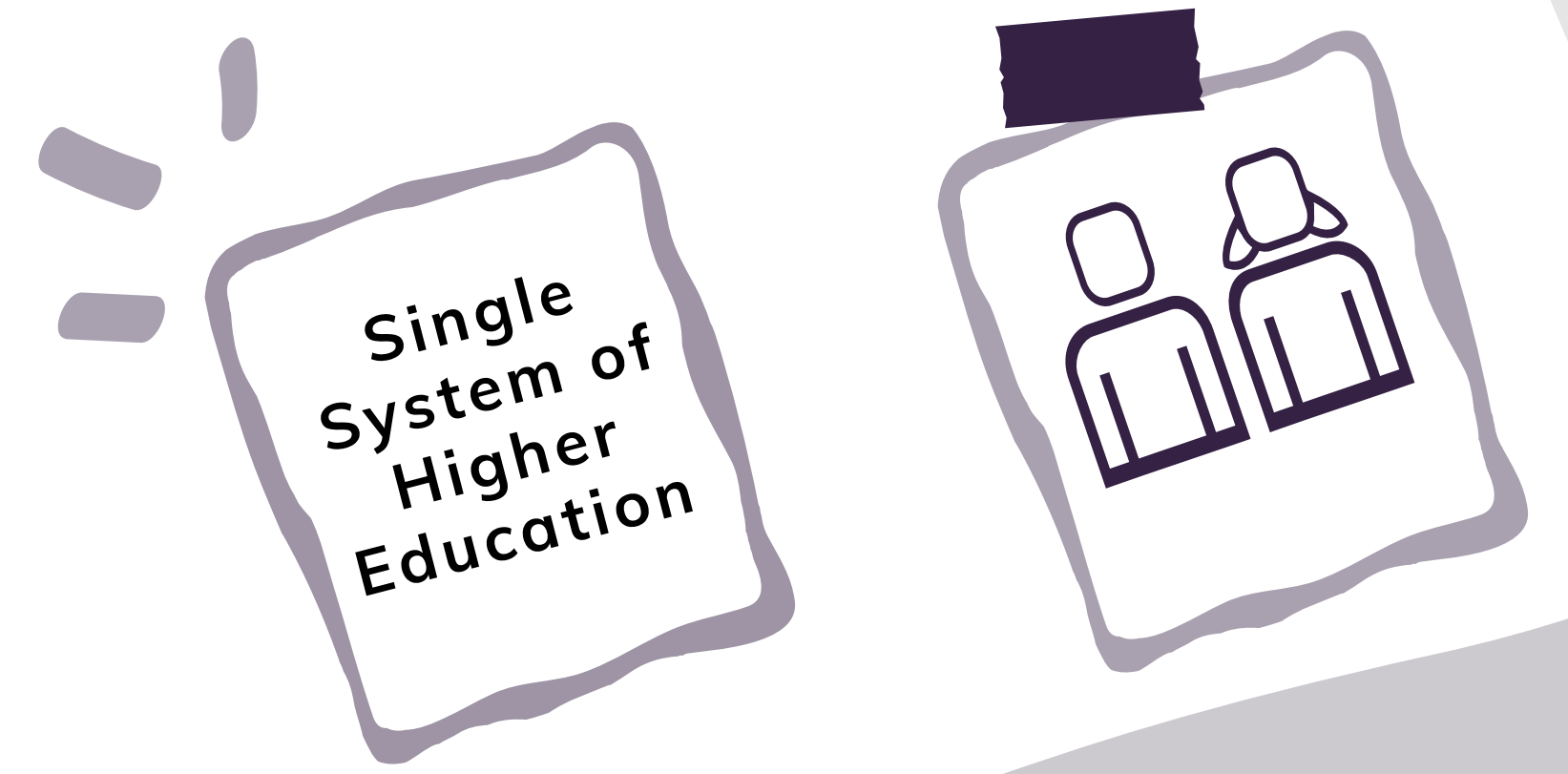
It All Begins with
RESIDENT
Student Access.

Resident students are at the heart of the Montana University System (MUS).

MUS Strategic Initiative:

Develop a unified approach to resident student recruitment, admissions, and financial aid.

Our goal is to increase the percentage of Montana high school graduates attending the MUS.



Montana University System

Fall 2018

28,000
resident
students

7,000
graduates

These graduates are critical to our economy & the communities that rely on MUS graduates to live and work within Montana.



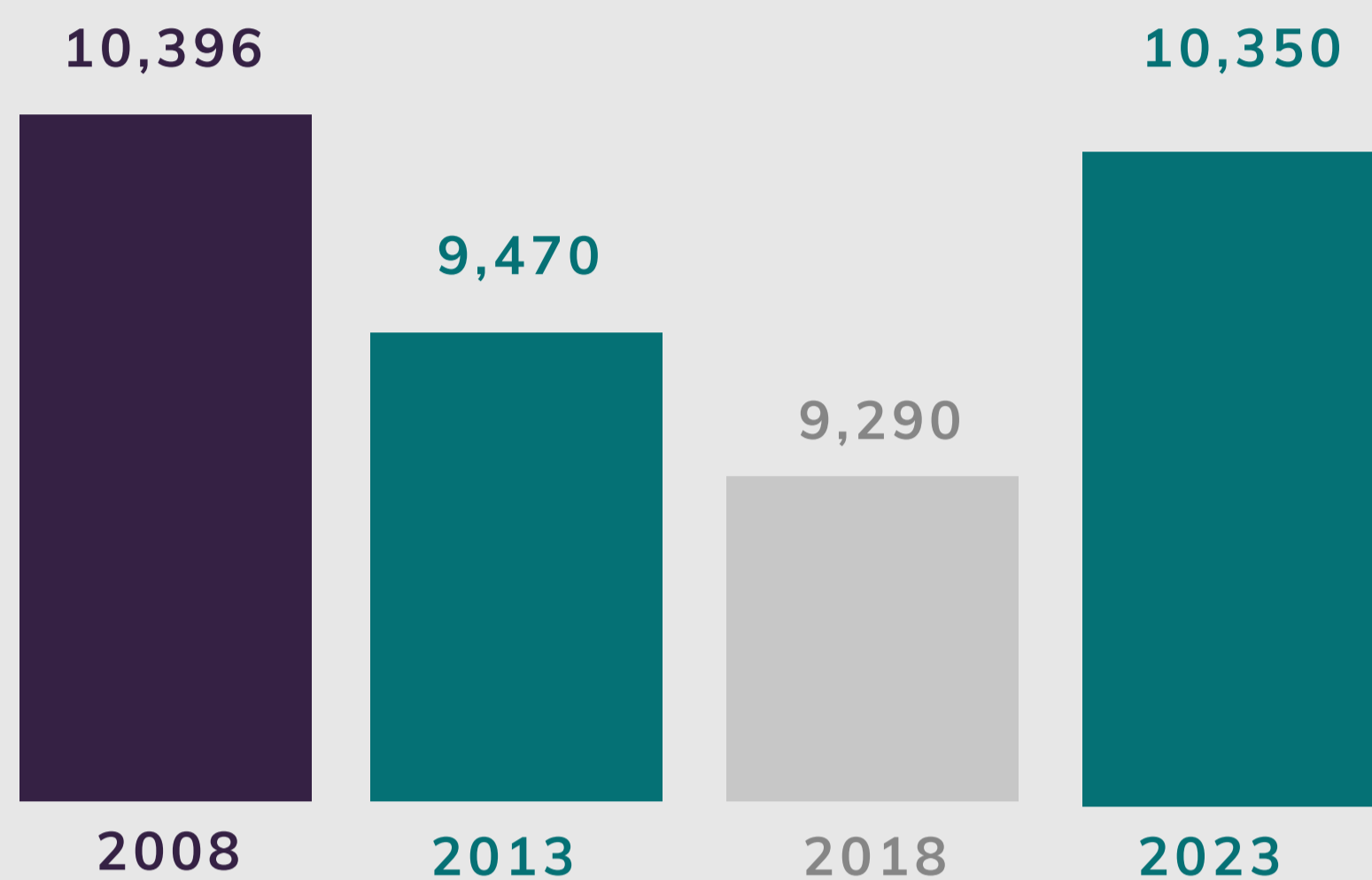
71%

of the student population is comprised of resident students.

Montana's Resident Students: Who are they & strategies for success.

HS Graduate Projections

Expected to increase by 1,000 students over the next five years.

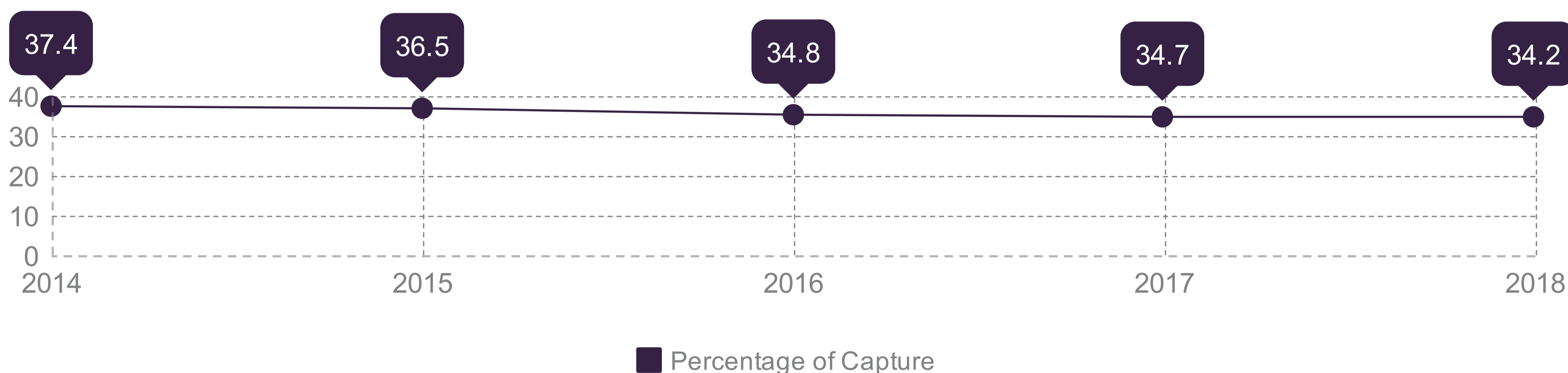


MT High School Graduates

Over the last decade, Montana, as well as the nation, has experienced a decline in the number of high school graduates. This reduction is due to the decline in births from 1991 through 2002.

MUS Capture Rate of Public HS Grads

A strong economy, reduction in state-funded aid, and the inability to acquire ACT data for recruiting are all factors in the MUS capture rate.



Strategies for Success

What can we do to increase resident student access and success?

Ensure Affordability

Create long-term, reliable, sustainable, and low-cost tuition rates through tuition freeze.

Improve Access

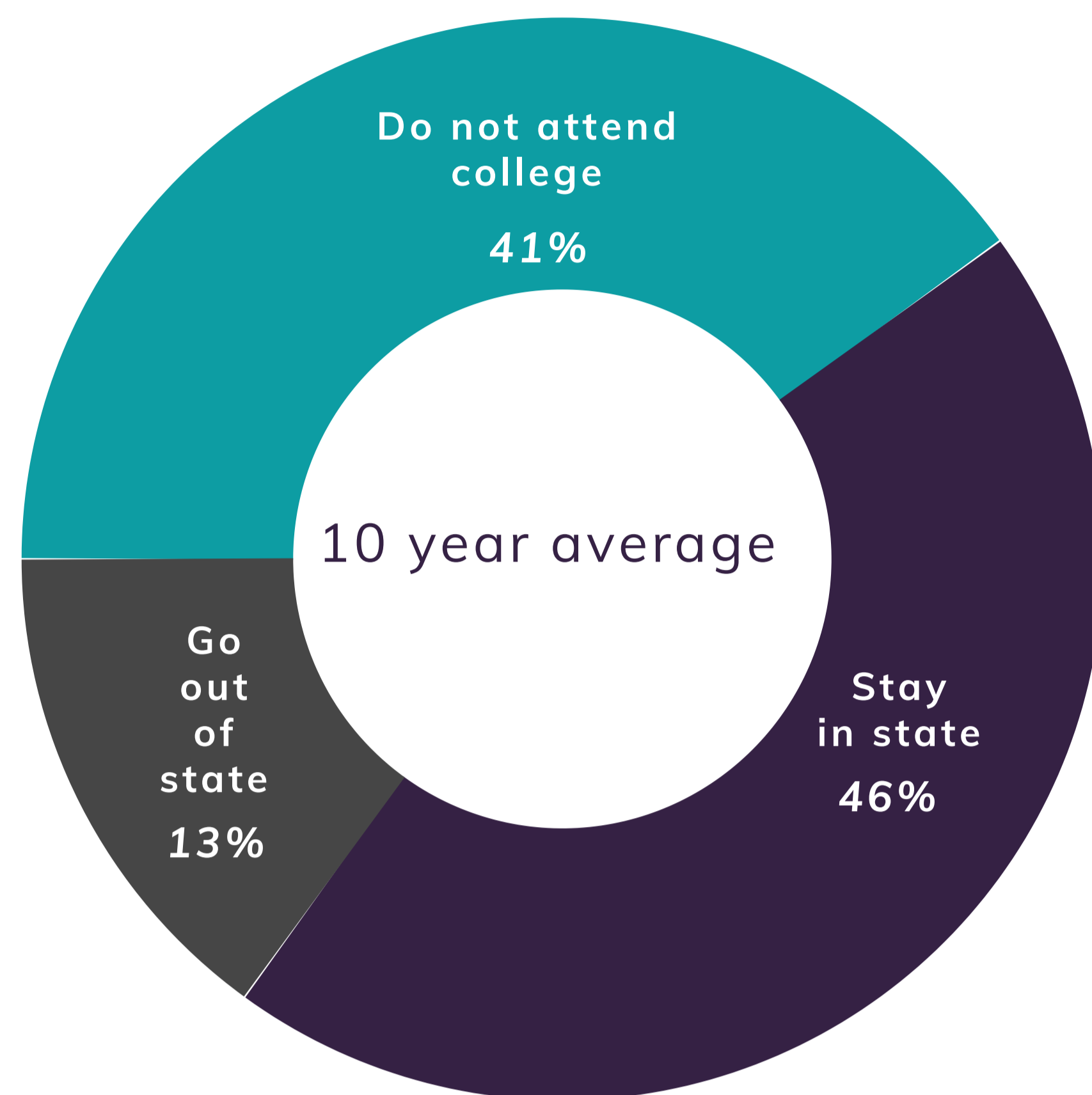
Provide financial aid to improve access for lower and middle income students, as well as adult learners.

Remove Barriers

Develop College Access Portal that offers a single point of access to the ACT, dual enrollment, college admissions, and financial aid.

College Continuation Rates

% of HS grads attending college in fall semester following graduation



On average 59% of Montana high school graduates attend college immediately following high school graduation. Of those 46% stay in state, while 13% leave Montana for school.

*National average for college continuation rate is 63%. In Montana it's 59%.

Ensure Affordability:

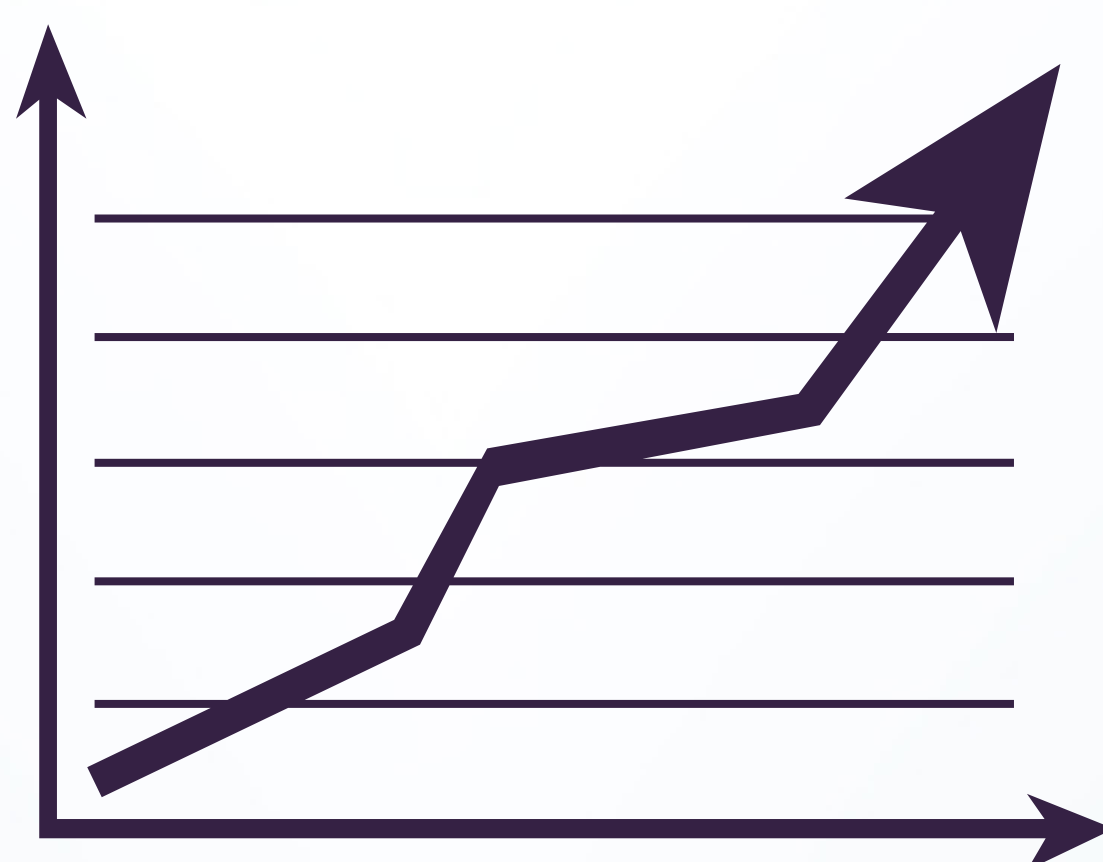
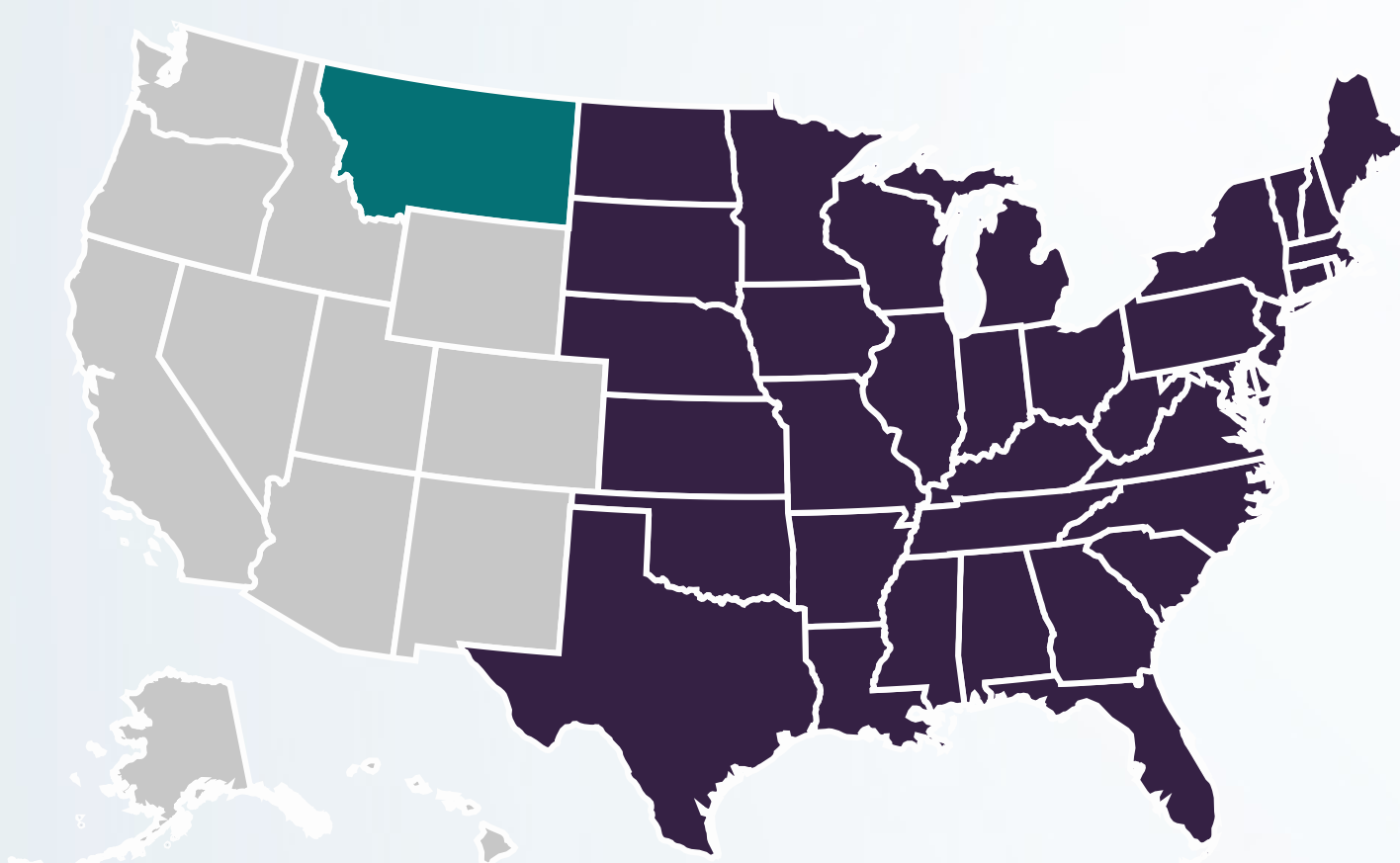
Create long-term sustainable low-cost resident tuition rates.



24

 million dollars

in the Governor's proposed biennial budget is dedicated toward freezing tuition, equating to a potential 7% increase on resident tuition rates in both years of the biennium (representing a 2.6% increase in total operating funds).



History of Tuition Freeze in Montana.

since 2007

MUS ranks 1st in the West and among the top in the nation for the smallest percentage increase in tuition over the past 12 years.

MUS tuition rates are comparable to AK, ID, NV, NM, and UT.

The average loan debt for all four-year degree recipients is \$17,000.

60% of graduates borrow for an average of \$28,000.

A decade of funding reductions from 1992-2006 forced large increases in tuition, making the relationship of tuition to median income out of sync.

Thanks to recent tuition freezes, the ratio of tuition to income is stabilizing. Without prior freezes, tuition would be \$750-\$1,500 higher, depending on institution type.

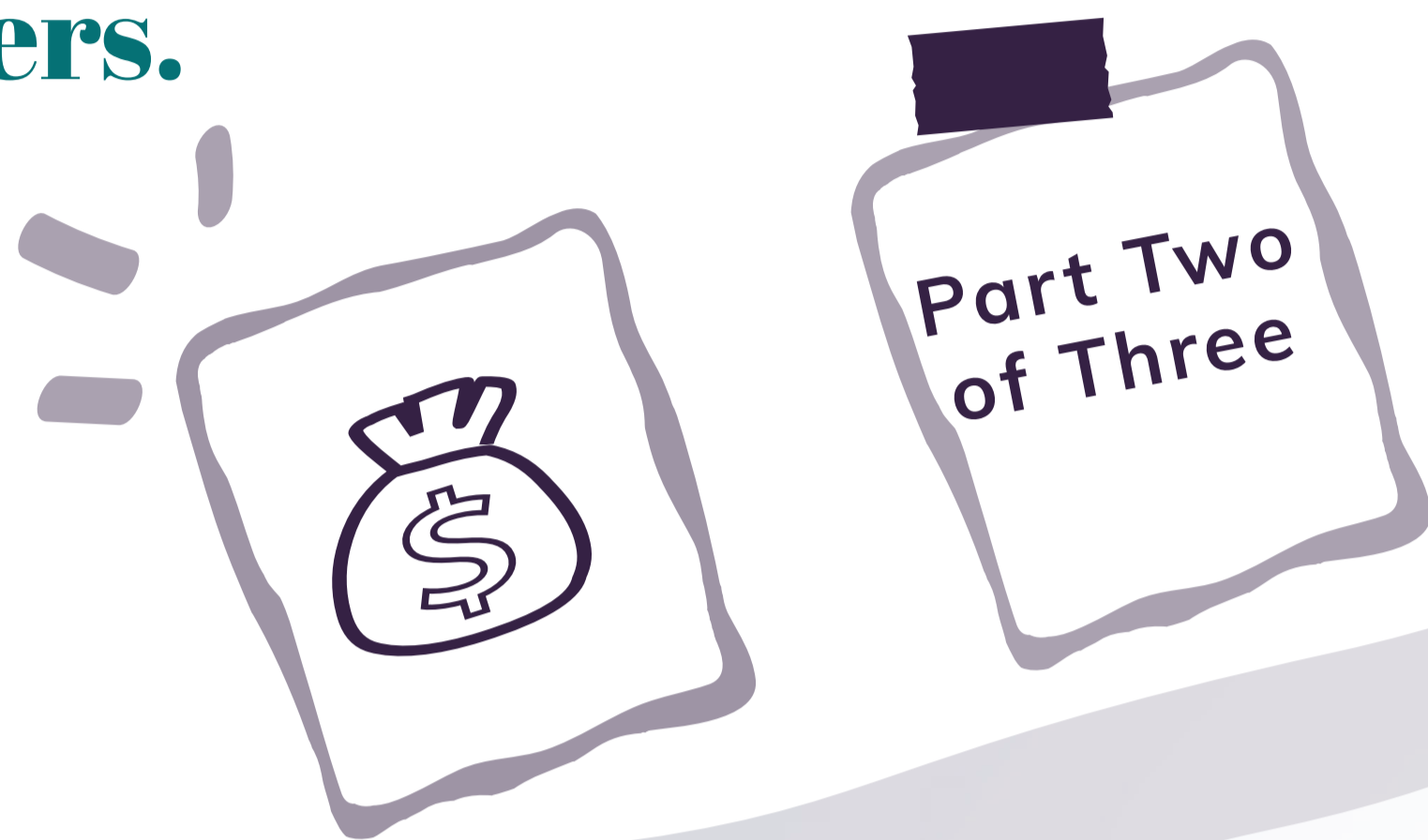
Tuition Freeze during **10** of the last **12** years.
Two-year Colleges

Tuition Freeze during **8** of the last **12** years.
Four-year Colleges

Tuition Freeze during **6** of the last **12** years.
Flagship Campuses

Improve Access:

Provide financial aid to improve access for lower and middle income students as well as adult learners.



State-Sponsored Financial Aid Then and Now

	FY 2015	FY 2019
Governor's Post-secondary	\$2,372,000	\$279,000
Baker Grants- MT Tuition Assist	\$2,018,775	\$0
MT Higher Education Grants	\$624,872	\$0
State Work Study Program	\$863,001	\$815,781
Teacher Loan Forgiveness	\$494,890	\$0
Nursing Loan Reimbursement	\$56,237	\$43,388
Supplement Ed Opportunity Grants	\$458,160	\$458,160
	\$6,887,935	\$1,596,329

\$5.3m reduction.

\$786

The U.S. average of state-funded aid per student.

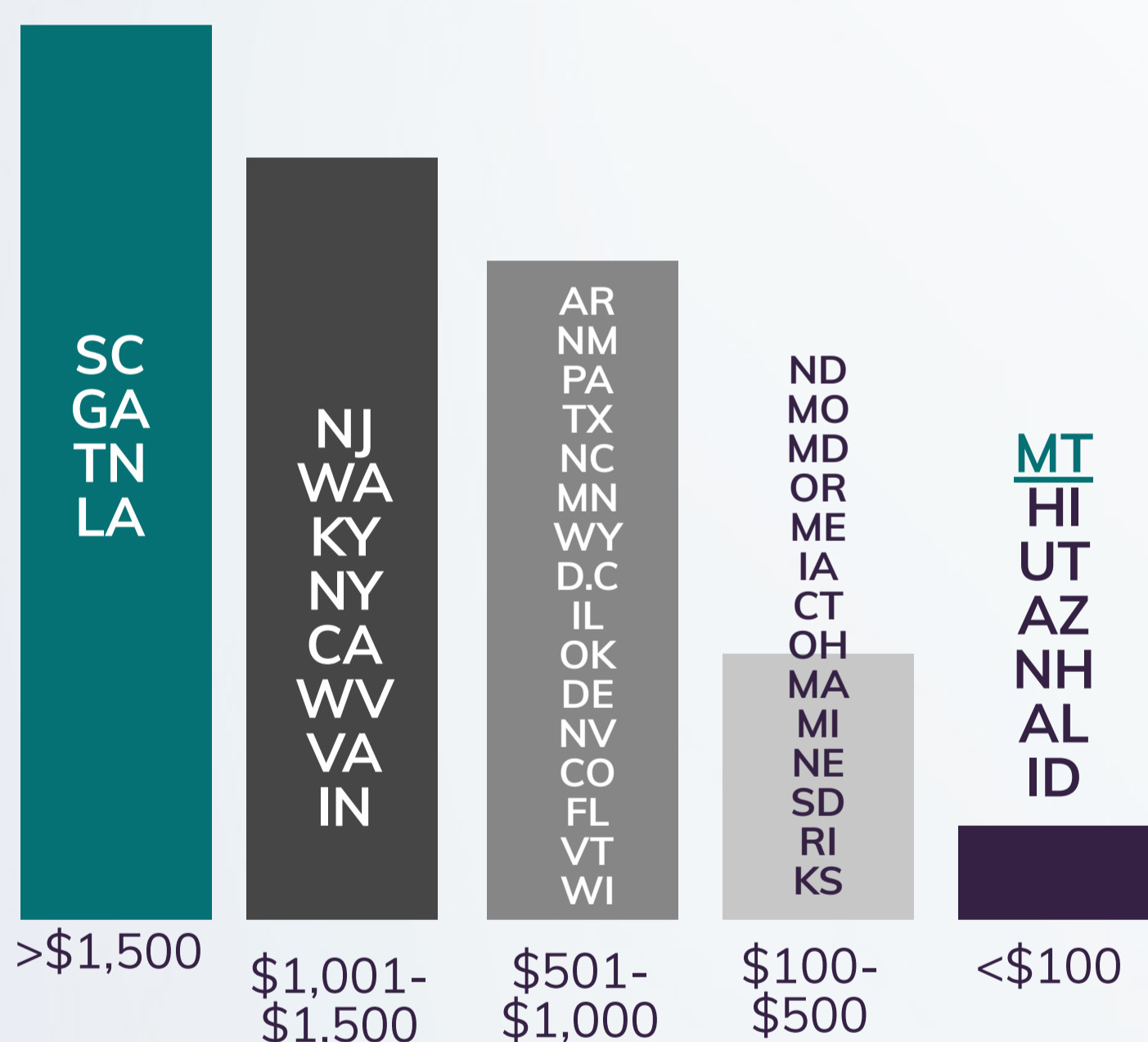
\$44

The amount of state-funded aid per student in Montana.

49th

Montana's ranking in level of state-funded aid per student.

State-Funded Aid Per Student



MUS Continues to Invest

\$7 million in continued annual MUS scholarships geared towards keeping top learners in state (MUS honors scholars) and American Indian students (tuition waiver) for increased affordable access.

\$5 million saved annually by families when taking advantage of dual enrollment.

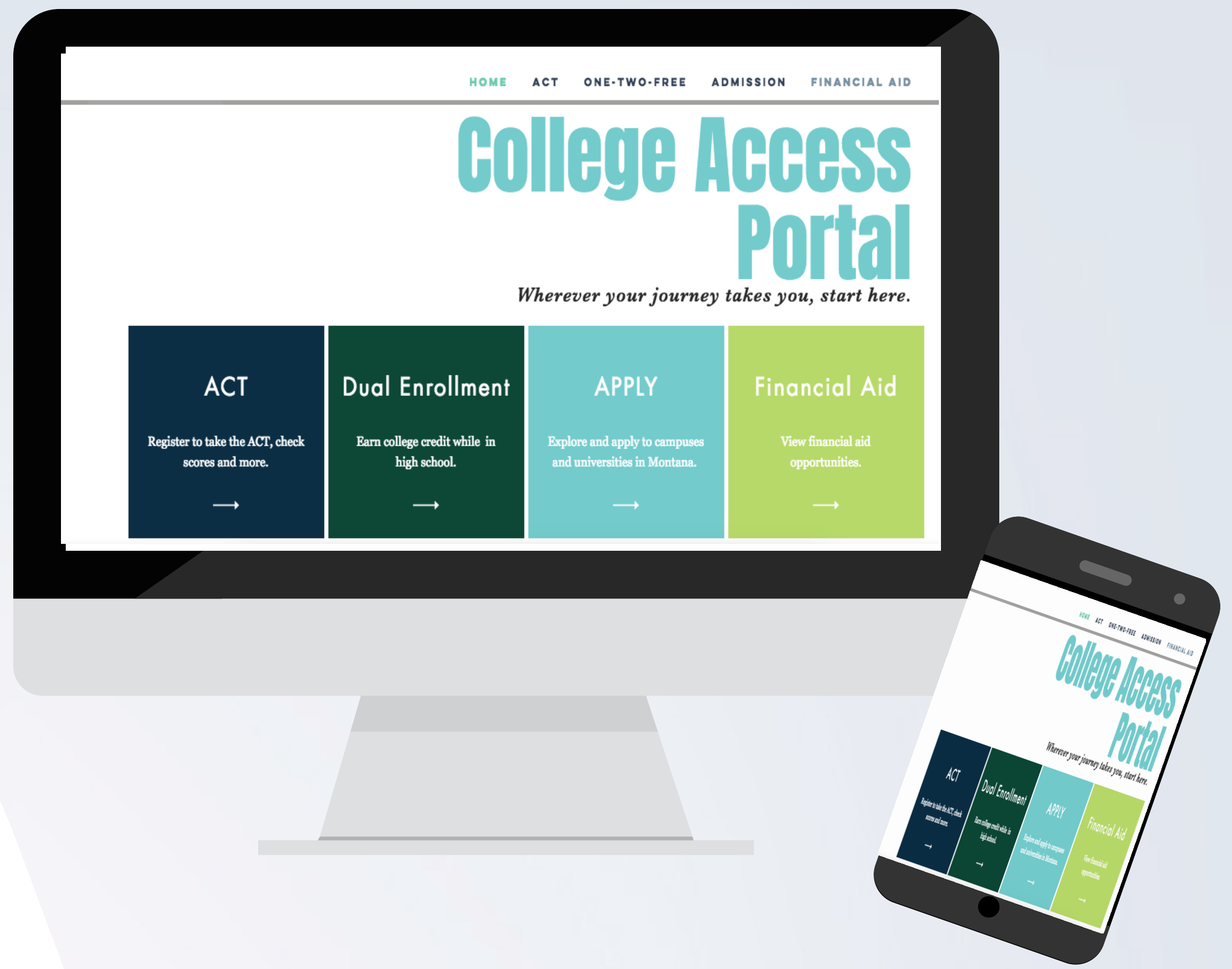
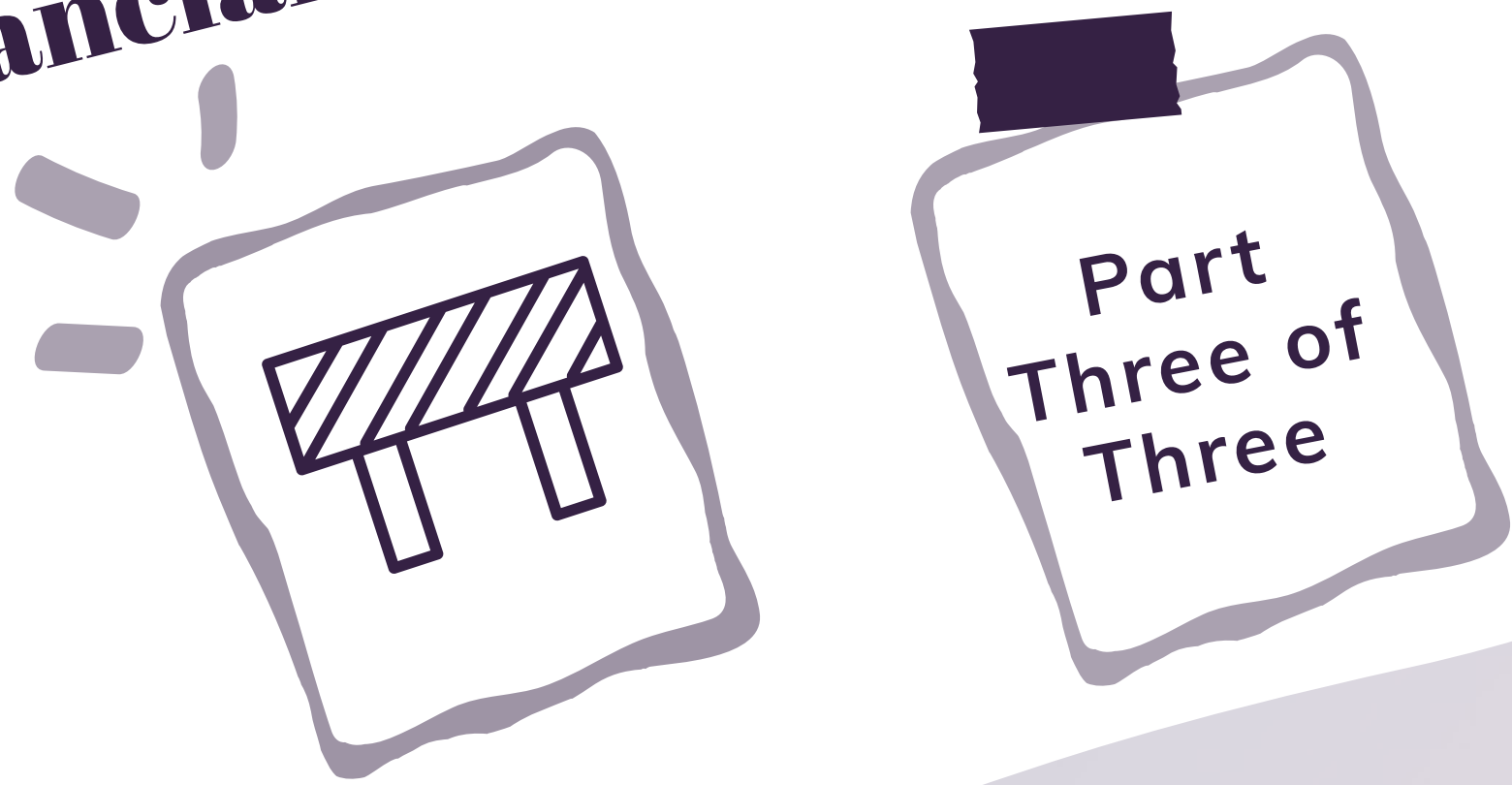
Funding Opportunity:

\$10M

million potential biennial investment through the Governor's proposed budget and a funding match from foundations to improve access for low and middle income, as well as adult learners.

Remove Barriers:

Develop College Access Portal which offers a single point of access to the ACT, Dual Enrollment, college admissions, and financial aid.



ACT Information

- Communicate logistics, data confidentiality & and usage, opportunities & savings
- Tell parents & students about data usage and opt-out methods
- Strengthen connection of ACT to college prep, recruiting, and admissions.



Dual Enrollment

- One- Two- Free
- Future potential: One-stop enrollment



College Admissions

- Links to campuses, College Application Week
- Future potential: Single application to MUS



Financial Aid

- State Funded Programs (Work Study, SEOG, STEM)
- MUS Programs (MUS Honors, American Indian Tuition)
- Links to Campuses

Future potential: Grow state/system funded financial aid; creating a cohesive policy driven financial aid program aimed at resident students.



Resident Student Access: Key Takeaways



Growth

The number of high school graduates is set to increase.



Portal

MUS is working on a strategy to increase our capture rate through a single access point.

Success

MUS is focused on student success.

- CCA Initiatives
- Retention Strategies
- 15 to Finish
- Co-requisite-Remedial Redesign
- Academic Maps Degree Works
- Performance Funding

Freeze

A tuition freeze is needed to help maintain long-term affordability.



Access

Funding for access aid to improve college participation rates of low and middle income students, as well as adult learners.

