

FCC FORM 340
SECTION IV, QUESTION 3
Statewide Network

The Board of Regents of the Montana University System (“MUS”) submits the following documentation in support of its claim for statewide network points. MUS certifies that it has placed a copy of this documentation in the public inspection file for the proposed stations at Kalispell, Great Falls, and Billings, Montana in accordance with FCC rules.

Background Qualifications

MUS believes that it should qualify for statewide network credits based on Section 73.7003(b)(3) of the FCC’s Rules. MUS has a minimum of five full-time campuses in Montana that it serves, MUS’s stations regularly provide programming that is being used or will be used by schools and campuses, and the proposed stations will increase the number of campuses / schools MUS will regularly serve.

MUS administers the four full-time accredited university campuses of Montana State University (MSU-Billings, MSU-Bozeman, MSU-Northern, and MSU-Great Falls College of Technology), the four full-time accredited university campuses of the University of Montana (UM-Missoula, UM-Helena College of Technology, UM-Western, and Montana Tech), and three accredited community colleges, including Flathead Valley Community College (with campuses in Kalispell and Libby, Montana), Dawson Community College (Glendive, Montana) and Miles Community College (Miles City, Montana).¹ A list of MUS’s campuses and the accrediting bodies is attached at Attachment 1. All of the campuses administered by MUS are located within the state of Montana.

MUS’s current network of public television stations and TV translators encompasses five of MUS’s campuses. A list of the campuses currently served by MUS’s network of public television stations is attached at Attachment 2. The proposed stations at Kalispell, Great Falls, and Billings will increase the number of campuses and schools to be served by MUS’s combined broadcast service contours. In particular, the stations at Kalispell and Great Falls will provide broadcast television service to MUS’s Flathead Community College and MSU-Great Falls campuses, respectively, and the station at Billings will increase the level of service to MUS’s MSU-Billings campus from its current translator service to a full-power television service. All three proposed stations will increase the number of local schools served with over-the-air broadcast service from MUS’s network of stations.

MUS’s mission is to provide top-quality educational programming and resources to its campuses as well as to local schools, teachers, and parents of school-age children throughout the state of Montana. MUS accomplishes this goal, in part, by using its resources as a public broadcaster with full power and translator stations all over Montana to provide educational programming to students and teachers, and its resources as a statewide entity to provide additional non-broadcast educational resources to schools, teachers and parents.

¹ MUS also has administrative relationships with additional colleges in Montana not listed above.

Broadcast Programming

As an institution of higher education that administers numerous accredited university campuses, MUS uses its broadcast facilities to educate college students and prepare them for careers in broadcasting and television production. Each year the students of the University of Montana journalism school produce a one-hour documentary on current issues which is then broadcast in primetime by MUS's stations. Recent programs include *Meth: Dark Cloud Over the Big Sky*, *Montana Gambling: Hold it or Fold it?*, and *Montana's Energy Puzzle*. Other student productions which regularly air on MUS's stations include the series *Business: Made in MT*, *Montana Journal* and the *MontanaPBS News Brief*. Student produce on-air promotional elements for the station on a daily basis and provide technical assistance in nearly every production.

In addition to serving its own campuses with educational programming and hands-on learning opportunities, MUS provides valuable educational programming to parents and educators at the primary and secondary school level throughout the state of Montana. MUS's broadcast schedule consists of over 15 hours per week of programs that have instructional value to educators. A list of representative programs with instructional value is attached at Attachment 3. MUS places many of its educational programs in a regular weekday timeslot from 11:30am-1pm specifically for educators to record. Educators in Montana know that they can record MUS's broadcast programs during this time and that the associated "educational rights" are available to them. For example, the Great Falls Elementary School system, consisting of 11 schools in the Great Falls area, makes use of recordings of *Sesame Street* for use with "at risk" children to reinforce alphabet and numbers skills. Schools in Great Falls have regularly used *Bill Nye the Science Guy* and *Magic School Bus* in the past, and currently record the children's series *Dragon Tales* for use in classrooms. Bozeman High School, ranked as one of the top 1000 preparatory schools in the United States, records and uses programs such as *NOVA* and the numerous historical and educational documentaries broadcast by MUS in its classes and regularly records any programming with a mathematic or scientific subject for use in classes.

MUS's commitment to lifelong learning is further demonstrated by the over 13 hours of how-to and personal development programming broadcast each week. These weekly programs range from instructional arts programs in painting, scrap booking, sewing/quilting, woodworking and piano lessons, to cooking programs. In addition, MUS produces a unique series covering agricultural issues called *Montana Ag Live*, which deals with issues from lawn and garden care up to commercial crop and livestock operations and airs weekly on MUS's stations.

Non-Programming Educational Outreach Efforts

MUS's dedication to providing educational resources to schools within (and outside of) its broadcast service area is not limited to its broadcast of educational programming. MUS provides special educational outreach initiatives to children at all educational levels throughout the state of Montana.

For educators of pre-school age children, MUS offers "Ready To Learn" workshops to parents and child care professionals throughout Montana on a variety of topics, including anger management, conflict resolution, literacy, math readiness, teaching science, and how to use

television as a part of a total educational package, among others. These workshops (of which MUS conducts approximately 70 per year) are offered throughout Montana, regardless of whether the community falls within MUS's existing broadcast station contours. In fact, MUS has received positive feedback from citizens in areas where MUS's broadcast signals do not yet reach but that MUS nevertheless serves due to its operation as a true statewide educational resource for parents, teachers and citizens. Most workshops are conducted by MUS's Director of Outreach for its broadcasting operations, who has a Masters degree in Human Development and is an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Health and Human Development at Montana State University.

MUS has also distributed several thousand children's books to low income children throughout Montana, including Native American children living on tribal lands. A special focus for MUS in 2006 is an early literacy project focusing on the 4- and 5-year old Head Start classrooms on the Rocky Boy Reservation in central Montana. MUS, in conjunction with Station WGBH in Boston, provided training and materials for classroom teachers. The program has been a tremendous success and teachers have already agreed to continue to use the program for the upcoming school year. MUS is also collaborating with the state Office of Public Instruction and the State Collaboration Head Start Office on this with hopes of conducting training for all Tribal Head Start teachers in the summer of 2007.

Montana teachers of school age children (including parents who home-school their children) can sign up for a monthly educator's packet from MUS that includes information about using programming offered on air in the classroom or home-school environment. The packet also includes web information, lesson plans, teachers' guides, and other pertinent information. MUS distributes approximately 350-400 such packets per year. In addition, MUS participates in various educational conferences and workshops, and sponsors educational contests for school children such as the annual "*Reading Rainbow* Young Writers and Illustrators Contest" for children in grades K-3. MUS has also hosted "Family Literacy Nights" for several elementary schools in Butte, Hardin, Bozeman, and Vaughn, where MUS presents hands-on literacy activities for elementary age children and their parents. MUS offers professional development training in the area of using video in the classroom effectively to school districts and pre-service classes at Montana State University. The basic framework of this training is based on the former NTTI (National Teacher Training Institute) format and teaches educators to use internet and video effectively in the classroom. This program enables MUS to train teachers throughout Montana who in turn contribute lesson plans to the NTTI site and conducted annual trainings for other school districts.

Conclusion

MUS's long experience as a public broadcaster, coupled with its mission to educate and enrich the lives of all Montanans, will ensure that the parents, teachers, and citizens to be served by the proposed stations at Kalispell, Great Falls, and Billings, Montana will enjoy the same kind of educational support and resources that MUS continues to provide in communities across Montana. Accordingly, MUS submits that it meets the statewide network qualifications as set forth in Section 73.7003(b)(3) of the FCC's rules.

ATTACHMENT 1

Campuses Administered by the Board of Regents of the Montana University System

Campus	Accrediting Bodies
Montana State University – Bozeman (Bozeman, Montana)	American Association of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS)
Montana State University – Billings (Billings, Montana)	Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education National Association of Schools of Music National Association of Schools of Art and Design Council on Rehabilitation Education National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence Montana Board of Nursing
Montana State University - Great Falls College of Technology (Great Falls, Montana)	Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities Montana State Board of Nursing American Dental Association American Health Information Management Association (AHIMA) Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM) Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) Accreditation Review Committee on Education in Surgical Technology(ARC-ST)
Montana State University – Northern (Havre, Montana)	Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) National League of Nursing Accreditation Commission Northwest Commission on Colleges & Universities (NWCCU) State Board of Public Education (BPE)

Campus	Accrediting Bodies
The University of Montana – Missoula (Missoula, Montana)	American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB-International) American Bar Association American Society of Health System Pharmacists (ASHSP) National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC) Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) American Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC) American Chemical Society (ACS) Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) National Association of Schools of Theater (NAST) Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE) American Council of Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE)
The University of Montana - Helena College of Technology (Helena, Montana)	Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)
Montana Tech (Butte, Montana)	National League for Nursing Accreditation Commission (NLNAC)
The University of Montana – Western (Dillon, Montana)	National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) State Board of Public Education
Dawson Community College (Glendive, Montana)	Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities
Flathead Valley Community College (Kalispell and Libby, Montana)	Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges
Miles Community College (Miles City, Montana)	Northwest Commission on Colleges National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission (NLNAC)

ATTACHMENT 2

Campuses Encompassed By Current Broadcast Service Contours

<u>Campus</u>	<u>Station</u>
Montana State University – Billings (Billings, Montana)	K20HB
Montana State University – Bozeman (Bozeman, Montana)	KUSM(TV)
The University of Montana – Missoula (Missoula, Montana)	KUFM(TV)
The University of Montana - Helena College of Technology (Helena, Montana)	K49EH
Montana Tech (Butte, Montana)	K43DU

ATTACHMENT 3

Educational Programs Broadcast by University Stations

The following is a representative list of programs currently or previously broadcast by the University's network of public television stations and translators that have instructional value for educators in Montana.

Preschool Children's Educational Programming

- *Sesame Street* (early child development, basic literacy)
- *Dragon Tales* (early child development)
- *It's a Big, Big World* (natural world/science)
- *Between the Lions* (early literacy)

Elementary, High School and Secondary Education

- *NOVA* (science and mathematics)
- *Nature* (natural sciences)
- *The American Experience* (American history)
- *The Story of 1* (mathematics)
- *Bill Nye The Science Guy* (science)
- *French In Action* (foreign language)
- *Destinos* (foreign language)
- *Magic School Bus* (science and general education)
- *Cyberchase* (mathematics)
- *DragonflyTV* (science)
- *Fetch! With Ruff Ruffman* (science)
- *Signing Time* (sign language)
- *Maya & Miguel* (Spanish language and child development)
- *Postcards From Buster* (geography, cultural awareness, child development)

Montana Culture and History Programming

- *11th and Grant with Erik Funk* (local performing arts)
- *The Backroads of Montana* (Montana history and travel)
- *Montana Ag Live* (agricultural education)
- *For This & Future Generations: Montana's 1972 Constitutional Convention* (history)
- *Sacred Journey of the Nez Perce* (history)
- *Last Stronghold: The Miles City Bucking Horse Sale* (culture/history)
- *Evelyn Cameron: Pictures from a Worthy Life* (Montana history)

Adult Life-Long Learning Programming

- *Real Moms, Real Stories, Real Savvy* (pregnancy/motherhood education)
- *Keeping Kids Healthy* (family health)
- *Quilt in a Day* (sewing/quilting)
- *Gary Spetz's Painting Wild Places! with Watercolors* (Local, How-To painting)