

The FREE New CTE Professionals Hybrid Workshop 2021 Begins Next Week—Register Today

The first of two virtual sessions of the New CTE Professionals Hybrid Workshop 2021 will be held next week, Tuesday, September 21, via Zoom. If you are planning to participate and have not registered, you can [register today](#).

The Office of Public Instruction's Career and Technical Education Specialists will be conducting a New CTE Professionals Hybrid Workshop via three (3) sessions—two (2) virtually and one (1) live, in-person—beginning Tuesday, September 21, via Zoom.

The New CTE Professionals Hybrid Workshop 2021 focuses on early-career professionals—specifically Career & Technical Education professionals within the first five (5) years in a Montana Career & Technical Education classroom. Additionally, Montana CTE professionals who have participated in the past are invited to attend to enhance their classroom skills and knowledge of Career & Technical Education. School administrators and counselors who maybe new to or want to learn more about Career & Technical Education in Montana are also invited to attend.

This FREE professional learning opportunity will provide attendees with information on a variety of topics related to Career & Technical Education including

- Advisory committees,
- Classroom safety & liability,
- CTE and program-area standards and guidelines,
- Dual Enrollment,
- Instructional strategies for the CTE classroom,
- Managing and marketing local Career and Technical Student Organizations,
- Montana Career Pathways,
- Perkins funding,
- Professional development organizations,
- State CTE funding & data reporting,
- Work-Based Learning, and
- Workplace Skills through your CTSOs.

The hybrid workshop will be held virtually Tuesday afternoon September 21 and October 12, and live, in-person, on Wednesday, October 20 in Bozeman at the GranTree Inn.

The workshop is offered free of charge and up to seven (7) OPI Renewal Units will be offered.

Additional details about the New CTE Professionals Hybrid Workshop 2021, including a schedule of events, is available on the [Secondary CTE](#) page of the OPI website (scroll down the page to find and download the flyer).

Registration for the New CTE Professionals Hybrid Workshop 2021 can be completed and submitted online at bit.ly/NewCTE2021. Registrants will receive a packet of materials onsite in Bozeman on Wednesday, October 20. To be included in the materials count, please submit registration by the end of the day on Monday, September 20, 2021. Please note, materials cannot be guaranteed for registrations received after September 20.

For registration assistance or for more information, please contact Business Education: Eric Swenson at eswenson@mt.gov.

Early-Bird Registration for the Montana ACTE Fall Institute 2021 Ends Today

The Montana ACTE Fall Institute is the yearly state-level Career & Technical Education (CTE) event for all Montana CTE professionals. This year's [Fall Institute](#) will be held at Best Western Plus GranTree Inn in Bozeman, October 21-22.

The early-bird registration rate for ACTE members is \$145 and is valid through September 15. First-time attendees can register at a discounted rate of \$85 (if registered by September 15). Lodging can be booked at the GranTree Inn at \$95/per night plus taxes using the group code MACTE21. The conference room block ends September 30.

A complete [2021 Registration Packet](#) can be downloaded from the [Professional Development](#) page of the Montana ACTE website.

Updated CTSO Crosswalks for Framework for Business Education in Montana Available

The [crosswalks](#) within the Framework for the Business Professionals of America and DECA competitive events programs have been updated for the 2021-2022 membership year.

The updated crosswalks can be downloaded from the shared [Montana Business Education Curriculum Resources](#) Google Drive folder (item #3).

The shared [Framework for Business Education in Montana](#) (item #2) has also been updated to include the 2021-2022 competitive events crosswalks and can be downloaded from the folder.

The shared Montana Business Education Curriculum Resources Google Drive folder can be accessed at bit.ly/MTBusEd21-22.

Stock Market Game Registration for Fall Semester Open Now

Registration is open for teams for the Fall 2021 Stock Market Game which will run from October 4 to December 10, 2021

Glacier Bancorp and their family of Montana Banks will once again sponsor all team fees, (\$15/team) for all teams with 2 or more students enrolled, maximum size is 5 students per team.

Glacier Bancorp will also provide prize money to the top 5 winning teams again this semester.

You can learn more and register at www.stockmarketgame.org.

Big Sky Biz Sim Registration Open—New and Improved Online Format

Fall 2021 Registration is Open. The [Montana Council on Economic Education](#) (MCEE) is pleased to launch the Big Sky Biz Sim by First Interstate Bank. This is an in-class business simulation where students make all of the operating decisions for their business to produce, sell and distribute widgets.

The decision inputs are then matched against other teams competing across Montana for the highest stock market price at the end of eight quarters, (weeks in the simulation). The fall semester program will run from September 29 (first input due October 6) to December 8, 2021.

New this year MCEE will offer additional resources for teacher and student success. The resources have been revised and additional support [videos](#) developed. In addition, the software is now available online that can better coach and keep the students on the right track for their decision making.

Advance registration is required, there is no cost per team as the fees have been generously covered by First Interstate Bank Foundation.

Learn more [here](#) or register with this [form](#).

Because this will be a new format for teachers, MCEE is offering a practice time frame (September 22-29) for students and teachers to have a scrimmage week to familiarize themselves with the log-ins, software and rules and guidance. The official competition will then start September 29th. Register your teams before September 22 to use the practice time. Once the official competition starts on September 29 and industry and teams are set, more teams cannot be added. MCEE will reset and offer the competition again in the spring.

FutureSmart—Free Digital Financial Education Program for Middle School Students

Montana educators now have access to fully sponsored financial literacy curriculum for students, families, and teachers thanks to The MassMutual Foundation and [EVERFI](#).

Middle School teachers can leverage standards-aligned digital lessons to teach career readiness, social studies, business, and economics skills through [FutureSmart](#), with additional free resources available for use by families and teachers to build their own financial capability.

Sign up for [digital lesson access here](#).

Questions? Contact Implementation Lead Sean Thomas at stthomas@everfi.com or book a meeting with him [here](#).

NICE K12 Cybersecurity Education Conference Stipend Opportunity

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and [CYBER.ORG](#) are proud to support the [2021 NICE K12 Cybersecurity Education Conference](#) by providing educators a [stipend](#) to attend this conference and professional development opportunity.

Stipends will cover the registration cost for the virtual conference, December 6-7, 2021.

The deadline for stipend applications is September 30, 2021. [Learn more and apply now](#).

TEAMS is Now Open & will Close November 1 for Fall & Spring Course Data Reporting

The Office of Public Instruction's [Terms of Employment, Accreditation, and Master Schedule](#) (TEAMS) system is now open. Data reported in TEAMS includes all courses being taught for the 2021-2022 school year, number students enrolled, and the length of extended contracts, if offered. TEAMS will close for data entry on November 1.

For Career & Technical Education programs, TEAMS data is used to determine State CTE/VoEd funding allocations and Montana Career Pathways. Therefore, it is imperative the CTE data schools report is complete and correct.

All local courses taught are aligned to a national course code when entered into TEAMS. To ensure all courses are correctly reported, please work with you school's officials on coding courses to the correct codes. The complete listing of [Montana OPI TEAMS K-12 Course Codes](#), and a [worksheet](#) for sharing your courses, can be downloaded from the [Montana Business Education 21-22](#) shared Google folder at bit.ly/MTBusEd21-22.

If you teach more than one course during the same class period, be to list each course and its enrollment separately. In the fall, all courses to be taught for the year must be entered; in the spring, only the enrollments for second semester or second & third trimesters can be updated—no new courses can be added following the November 1 closing of TEAMS.

If you have questions about coding your courses, please let me know.

Additional information and resources for TEAMS can be found on the [TEAMS page](#) of the OPI website.

AVID and Code.org: Bring Computer Science to Your Classroom via New Website

AVID (Montana’s regional Code.org partner) and Code.org have created a [one-stop website](#) for workshop dates, scholarship information, and updates.

Attention K-5 educators: Be sure to explore K-5 offerings (Intro and Deep Dive trainings, curriculum, etc.) here: [Computer Science Fundamentals \(K-5\)](#).

Attention 6-12 educators: Applications for the Computer Science Discoveries (CSD) and Computer Science Principles (CSP) workshop series for 6-12 educators will be available by mid-fall. In the meantime, feel free to explore available CSD and CSP resources at the links provided here: [CSD Resources](#), [CSP Resources](#).

Code.org has also released a new self-paced professional learning support for [CS Discoveries](#) (grades 6-10). There are four self-paced modules available which will allow educators to familiarize themselves with the platform, build confidence in the course (at no cost), and adopt the full course in the coming year and attend a facilitator-led professional learning program.

Checkout the modules on the [Teaching CS Discoveries](#) page.

For questions or to get more information about bringing computer science to your students via Code.org, contact AVID at code@avid.org.

New CS Journeys Program Helps Students Explore CS Beyond the Classroom

[Code.org](#) is excited to announce a new program that brings computer science to life for students of all ages: CS Journeys.

[CS Journeys](#) is designed for students to explore how computer science impacts their world and envision their own future possibilities.

The most impactful learning often happens beyond the classroom lesson, perhaps during a memorable field trip or from a visiting speaker. Connecting what students are learning in the classroom to the real world not only enables them to better understand and recall concepts, but also excites and inspires them to continue learning.

The program has three primary objectives:

- excite and inspire students to learn CS,
- encourage students to continue learning by engaging parents and diverse role models,
- and eventually, empower students to take control of their CS journeys with a variety of resources.

[CS Journeys](#) extends what students learn in their classroom computer science curriculum to uncover CS in unexpected places, fueling curiosity and imagination. The program offers a variety of learning

opportunities from our partners, including [unique virtual field trips](#) from partners like NASA, Amazon Future Engineer, and the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences as well as [live class chats](#) with professionals—from companies like Roblox, Lucasfilm, Google, and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art—whose jobs are touched by CS in a wide range of ways.

Read the [full announcement](#) to learn more about the program.

Code.org hopes these unique experiences will help excite, encourage, and empower students to continue their CS journey, both in the classroom and beyond.

Sketchup Available for Schools for Free

[SketchUp](#) is professional and full-featured 3D modeling and design software that is used by various industries and makers to visualize and design everything from buildings to 3D printed parts. Trimble, the company that offers Sketchup, offers two no-cost options for public K-12 schools to use this product.

Option 1: Obtain FREE [Sketchup Pro](#) Licenses by visiting the OPI's School Discount Programs web page and click on the Request FREE Sketchup Pro Licenses [request form](#) and follow the instructions to obtain FREE licenses for your district. Keep in mind Sketchup Pro is a full-featured desktop-based application that requires a relatively robust Windows- or Apple-based PC to run. Click [here](#) for more information on requirements.

Option 2: Obtain FREE [Sketchup for Schools](#) access if your district uses either Google G Suite for Education or Microsoft Education accounts. Click [here](#) to get started and see if you are eligible. Sketchup for Schools is a web-based application that runs on a web-browser, no computer needed.

Visit the OPI's School Discount Programs [page](#) for more information and other discounts available to districts.

Questions? Contact Michael Sweeney, OPI Chief Data Officer, at 406.444.4411 or msweeney@mt.gov.

Applications Now Being Accepted for the National Center for Women and Information Technology

This is the 10th year.

For a number of years, the NCWIT (National Center for Women and Information Technology) has given national awards to high school girls. The [NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing](#) is for young women with aspirations and achievements in technology and computing.

This year will be the tenth year that there also will be a Montana contest for Montana girls. The time to submit applications is September 1-November 5 and application materials can be found [here](#).

There are many qualified high school girls that would apply if they just had a little push from a leader like you. Any interested female high school student would need to fill in the online application, and get a parent and a school official to approve it to be entered into both the national and Montana contests.

Montana has had winners from high schools in Absarokee, Anaconda, Arlee, Beaverhead, Billings Senior, Billings West, Bozeman, Bozeman Petra, Broadwater, Butte, Cascade, Cut Bank, Great Fall High, Hamilton, Helena Capital, Helena High, Hobson, Jefferson High, Libby, Missoula Big Sky, Missoula

Hellgate, Missoula Sentinel, Noxon, Park County, Red Lodge, Seeley-Swan, Sidney, Simms, and Whitefish High Schools.

The NCWIT hopes your school will be represented on the winners list this year, but girls have to apply.

We are looking forward to recognizing Montana's talent, and hope that you would encourage the young women that you know to apply. Sometimes all they need is a little encouragement and you are the person to provide that.

P.S. There also is a Montana educator award (with \$250 for professional development) given each year. Do you know a good teacher that you should encourage to apply (maybe you?)? Encourage them to go to [apply](#).

Questions? Visit the Aspirations in Computing [FAQ](#) page.

Presidential Scholars Nominations Now Open

Nominations are now open for the [2022 Presidential Scholars program](#). You may nominate up to 10 males and 10 females for a total of 20 students for the general component of the program, and an additional five students for the Career and Technical Education (CTE) portion.

In the general category, nominations are encouraged for students who demonstrate outstanding scholarship, but might not otherwise be nominated through the current SAT/ACT, Arts, or CTE recognition processes. All high school seniors graduating between January and August 2022, who are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents, and who attend public, parochial, independent schools, or home schools are eligible. The 2022 U.S. Presidential Scholars will be selected by the Commission on Presidential Scholars and receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion.

In the CTE category, all high school seniors who are participants of a CTE program graduating between January and August 2022, who are U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents, who attend public, parochial, independent, or home schools are eligible. Candidates will be reviewed by a committee of qualified individuals experienced in CTE; 60 applicants to be named as semifinalists. The 60 CTE semifinalist applications will then be reviewed by the Commission on Presidential Scholars. All 2022 U.S. Presidential Scholars will be selected by the Commission on Presidential Scholars and will receive the Presidential Scholars Medallion.

Nominations are due November 24, 2021. Contact the U.S. Presidential Scholar program staff in October for follow-up submissions instructions. All nominees will be announced and invited to apply in January 2022 by the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program Office; therefore, you do not need to contact your candidate(s). Completed applications will be due in February 2022; Scholars will be announced by mid-May 2022.

To learn more about the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program, its criteria, and the Commission on Presidential Scholars, click [here](#).

Questions? Contact Executive Director Simone Olson at 202.205.8719 or Simone.Olson@ed.gov.

Updated Business Ed & CTE Resources Available for Download & for Your Binder

Over the summer, the [Framework for Business Education in Montana](#) (item #2 in the shared folder) was updated for the *new National Standards for Business Education* released September 2020. The Framework includes both a vertical alignment to the new national standards as well as a crosswalk.

The Framework also includes crosswalks for the Business Professionals of America and DECA competitive events

Also this summer, the new [Montana K-12 Content Standards for Career and Technical Education](#) (item #8 in the shared folder) became official as of July 1. To assist in utilizing the new CTE standards, I have developed a guide with some information and background details regarding the rewriting of the standards and it includes a listing of the standards by each standard to see the progression from grades K-12 and a listing of the grade-level specific standards. Thank you to our Montana Business & Marketing Education professionals who were part of the writing team for the new CTE standards, Tara Berg (Harlowton) and Dana Grupenhoff (Noxon).

As the new Montana CTE Standards are based upon the 12 Career Ready Practices of the [Common Career Technical Core](#), I am updating Montana Business Education Curriculum Resources binders to include the Montana CTE Standards as the fourth section, replacing the Common Career Technical Core. Feel free to keep the Common Career Technical Core in your binders as reference and to aid in pathway development.

You can download this resources, as well as the Montana Business Education Planner Calendar for 2021-2022 and the Montana OPI TEAMS K-12 Course Codes, Business & Marketing Education Reference Manual at bit.ly/MTBusEd21-22.

[NICE K-12 Cybersecurity Virtual Conference—Early-Bird Registration Opens Today, Sept. 1](#)

The 2021 National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE) [K12 Virtual Cybersecurity Education Conference](#) takes place December 6-7, 2021. Pre-Conference Workshops will take place on December 4-5.

This year's event will provide you with education and learning tools you can use immediately in your classroom. You can access it all from the convenience of your home or office.

THE [2021 NICE K12 Conference](#) will be jam-packed with keynote speakers, presentations, panels, and break-out sessions covering five tracks:

- Track 1: Increasing Cybersecurity Career Awareness
- Track 2: Engaging Students Where Disciplines Converge
- Track 3: Stimulating Innovative Cybersecurity Educational Approaches
- Track 4: Promoting Cybersecurity Career Pathways
- Track 5: Promoting Cyber Awareness

The conference agenda will include both live virtual sessions and on-demand video content. All of the content will be available to attendees for up to a year post-event. Plus, abundant networking opportunities including discussion boards, social groups, one-on-one meetups, gamification, and more.

Join your fellow educators, administrators, school counselors, students, and representatives from government and industry at what is sure to be an awesome event. The [\\$125 Early Bird Registration](#) pricing lasts only until October 31, 2021. Full price tickets are \$150.

[Fun Facts & Trivia](#)

The Aggravation board game was first marketed in 1962 as a game for children.

Before the introduction of the Aggravation game by the CO-5 Company of Benton Harbor, Michigan, families in the Appalachian Mountains and Southwestern parts of the United States played the game Wahoo on handcrafted wooden boards.

A member of the cross and circle family of games, Wahoo is generally a very strategic and intense game.

When Aggravation was introduced by CO-5, it was based on a simplified version of Wahoo and played with Parcheesi style rules.

Since the introduction of the CO-5 version of Aggravation, the game has been published by several toy and game companies including Milton Bradley, Hasbro, Lakeside, Selchow & Righter, and Parker Brothers.

Over the decades there have been many editions of the game Aggravation published.

The original classic edition of the board game Aggravation was made for 2-4 players and included beautiful glass marbles in four colors.

Deluxe Aggravation changed the game board to include two additional players making the game for 2-6 players.

Later regular editions of the Aggravation game boards were made for 2-6 players.

In 1971 the Lakeside company introduced a split-level edition of the game.

CO-5 introduced a junior edition of Aggravation for 2-3 players called Joltz Aggravation.

On older game boards, the playing field is formed in a symmetrical shape similar to an asterisk.

On the newer editions of the game, there are still the same number of spaces for each player, but the symmetry of the game board has been replaced with different shapes and irregular patterns for each of the players.

The hole in the center of the board is known as the "short cut" and a player who is able to land a marble in this location by exact count has the option of taking a route even faster to home; however, there is a drawback as the short cut may only be exited by rolling a 1.

A player who lands a marble on a space occupied by an opponent's marble "aggravates" that player's piece and sends it back to that player's base.

The Unicorn Club has an annual season in which 30 games plus a series of two championship games (total 32 games) are played. Rather than using a board with marbles, a replica of the board is used on a field.

Issues of the Wednesday Reader are archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at www.mbea.info. The Wednesday Readers are under the Newsletter section and listed most-recent first.

Eric Swenson
Business Education Specialist
Montana Office of Public Instruction
PO Box 202501
Helena, MT 59620-2501
406.444.7991
406.444.1373 (Fax)
eswenson@mt.gov



"You don't make decisions because they are easy; you don't make them because they are cheap; you don't make them because they're popular; you make them because they're right." ~Rev. Theodore Hesburgh