

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

FLATHEAD VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE & THE PHYLLIS J. WASHINGTON  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SCIENCES-UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA

MAY 25, 2017

In the interest of increasing the number of Montanans prepared to teach in K-8 schools and attend to the impending teacher shortage, faculty and staff members from Flathead Valley Community College and the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences at the University of Montana have created a 2+2 plan of study for students interested in studying elementary education and matriculating from an Associate of Arts (AA) program at Flathead Valley Community College to the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences to obtain a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Elementary Education (ELED).

The plan of study requires the student to:

1. Complete the Associate of Arts degree program with an emphasis in Elementary Education
2. Complete the ELED "Lower Core" requirements with grades of "C-" or higher
3. Attain 60 or more credits
4. Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or higher
5. If completing the AA during the fall semester or during the spring semester:
  - a. Complete the application paperwork to become a University of Montana student by February 15; and
  - b. Contact the ELED Advising Office at UM to ensure that all of the requirements have been met, and then:
    - i. Apply for admission to the Teacher Education Program by February 15, at which time the ELED Advising Office will verify that the above admission requirements have been met, including satisfactory background check results; and
    - ii. Attend a group or individual advising session for that chosen major, where the student will receive an advising PIN.

Upon completion of these requirements, the student will be accepted into the Teacher Education Program in Elementary Education with junior standing.

This MOU is intended to be a “transfer” plan for students seeking two degree levels—an AA followed by a BA in Elementary Education—and does not apply to other associate degrees. Students who do not adhere to the plan will likely delay attaining their AA and/or BA in ELED.

To ensure ongoing communication and to refine the agreement and advising documents, representatives from Flathead Valley Community College and the Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences at the University of Montana will meet annually, on a mutually agreeable date, to review and refine the agreement and the attendant advising plan. Such review may include review of course syllabi, changes to courses required in the plan, sequencing of courses in the plan, or other changes to align the 2+2 with the BA ELED requirements.

This MOU may be discontinued by either unit by written notice provided by September 1 in the academic year prior to termination of the agreement. Notification of this memorandum will be provided to all relevant faculty and campus committees.

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**Jane Karas**

President  
Flathead Valley Community College

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**Chris Clouse**

VP of Academic and Student Affairs  
Flathead Valley Community College

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**Beverly Edmond**

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