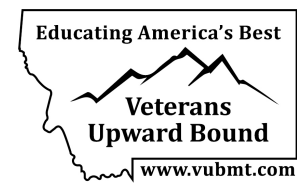


September/October 2026



College Readiness Assessments | Computer Laptop | Live Online Classes | Transition Assistance | Tutoring Support | Workshops

Veterans Upward Bound Staff

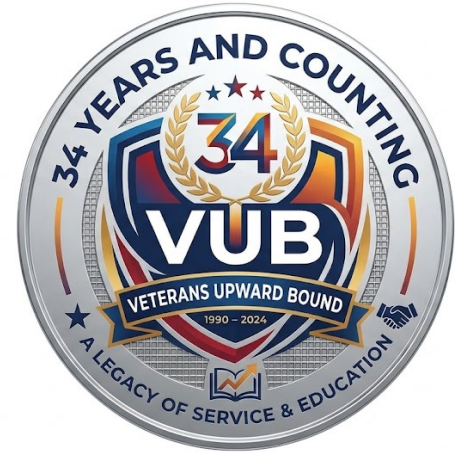
Lori Borth Director Billings (406) 272-5227	Michael Wolff Technology Services Billings (406) 272-5218	Michelle Watson Academic Services Billings (406) 272-6492	Laurie Nichols Academic Services Kalispell (406) 272-2504	Alex Satre-Hansen Office Support Billings (406) 200-8415
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Veterans Upward Bound Marks 34 Years Providing Services and Support

Assisting more than 6,000 veterans and service members since 1992
Funded by a 5-year \$2,110,820 grant from the U.S. Department of Education

VUB has grown from a program serving only Billings and Tribal Colleges to a truly statewide program with offices in Billings, Havre, and Kalispell, and online access everywhere to program services.

As the needs of Montana's veterans and services members change,
VUB will change along with them.



Director's News | Lori Borth



The beginning is the most important part of the work. ~Plato

I have always loved being on campus in the fall, so returning to VUB now (after my short retirement) feels exactly right to me. Besides being the only time I feel caught up, I love the potential of a new year. The VUB staff has spent the summer planning useful workshops, scheduling challenging prep classes, lining up exceptional tutors and instructors, and generally making sure everything is ready and easily accessible for new and continuing participants. We have always been very clear in our goal to help Montana's veterans and servicemembers transition smoothly into whatever comes next for them; our services and personalized support reflect that. Check out what we have planned.

Need-To-Know | Michael Wolff



August 29th, VUB attended the annual Food Truck Battle. The Food Truck Battle is a fundraiser where the proceeds go to various veteran organizations. It was nice to see other service providers and visit with so many veterans! The food was delicious and the weather couldn't have been any better!

Great Falls, here we come! 🇺🇸 VUB will be at the **Veterans Stand Down on September 18–19**. Whether you're a veteran, a service provider, or working alongside veterans, stop by our table to say hi and discover how our programs can help. We look forward to meeting you!

We have launched a new Facebook page! We invite you to visit facebook.com/vub.montana and give us a follow to stay up to date. We are currently updating all of our social media platforms and website to give them a refreshed look and offer you a better overall user experience. Stay tuned—we can't wait to roll out these upgrades!

Eastern Montana Update | Michelle Watson



Most colleges have started the fall 2026 semester or will start soon. If you could use some extra help with your college transition or would like assistance getting prepared for the spring, we can assist with career planning, college application assistance, financial aid and benefits, and much more. Call or email if you have questions or would like to get started.

Billings Office

1500 University Drive | Cisel Hall
Billings, MT 59101

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Kalispell Office

777 Grandview Drive | Student Services Building
Kalispell, MT 59901

September/October 2026

College Readiness Assessments | Computer Laptop | Live Online Classes | Transition Assistance | Tutoring Support | Workshops



Western Montana Update | Laurie Nichols

August 27th, the VUB office in Kalispell held an open house for campus veterans. Sandwiches from Jimmy Jones and light refreshments were served. Concluding the event, 4 backpacks with supplies were raffled off. Thank you to all who stopped by to visit our space and to grab some food.

Here we come Libby! 🇺🇸 VUB will be **Veterans Stand Down on October 3-4**. Stop by the VUB table and say hello to Laurie and learn about our fall classes and other services. We look forward to meeting with you.



VUB Classes & Services

VUB's Fall academic classes are just around the corner! Running from October through November, we're offering in-person daytime classes in Billings, in-person evening classes in Kalispell, and live online options for both day and night. Please look over the attached schedules and share them with veterans and other service providers.



Student Highlight

The VUB classes gave me the opportunity to catch up on the knowledge needed for my upcoming college classes this fall, along with reminding me of the things I have forgotten over the years. For example, I had to take a math placement test, which I was worried about and ended up scoring a couple levels above what is required for my program. Then, I was able to see how people are using the newer computer programs and applications to their advantage, compared to what I was aware of. Plus, of course, I was kindly schooled on my writing skills which needed a bit of work. Those commas can be difficult.

VUB assisted me with every step of getting ready for the college prep courses. They even mailed all the materials needed to do the courses at no expense to me. Afterwards they helped me get registered for my college program. We even went through the financial aid process and I had help applying.

I would like to thank Michelle, Frank, Buffy, JoAnn, and Michael for their support and knowledge they shared. Veterans Upward Bound cares about Veterans and provides the help needed.

Paul Beagley



VUB Student Tip

Are you a veteran ready for your next step? Whether you are considering college, a trade program, a professional certificate, or workforce development, the team at Veterans Upward Bound is here to support you. We specialize in helping veterans map out their education and career pathways. Call us at 800-356-8387 to discuss your goals or learn about this free program at www.vubmt.com.



Veteran Resource Shout

Veterans Upward Bound extends its sincere appreciation to the team at Vets Inc. for their continued support and outreach programs benefiting military members and their families throughout Montana.

Thank you for your tireless dedication, service, and collaboration. Your commitment to supporting Montana's military community is truly valued and appreciated.



Wednesday Workshop Schedule

Veterans Upward Bound conducts monthly open workshops structured in a question-and-answer format. We invite veterans and service providers to participate in these 30-minute discussions. **Link: <https://meet.google.com/eoa-czhp-kbv>**

- **Third Wednesday of the month:** How can Veterans Upward Bound help you? Have a specific question, let's talk!

Starting again in October!

Billings Office

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Kalispell Office

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VETERANS UPWARD BOUND

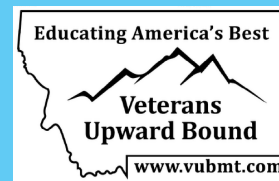
Fall 2026 CLASSES

In Person in Billings & Live Online

October 26th – November 19th

No class Wednesday, November 11th – Veterans Day

Please sign up by Friday, October 16th



In Person Billings & Online Everywhere

Intro to College Writing – James McCann

Monday & Wednesday 9:15-10:45am

Learn the rules of English grammar, sentence structure and mechanics. Become familiar with the steps in the writing process and move through writing effective paragraphs to essays. Students will also learn citation techniques for research papers and begin a research paper process.

Math Basics – Frank No Runner

Tuesday & Thursday 9:15-10:45am

Brush up on pre-algebra and algebra skills. This is a great starting point if it has been a while since you have done math.

Pathway to College Math – Frank No Runner

Mondays-Thursdays 11am-Noon

Review math skills touching on Algebra, Geometry, and Algebra 2. This will prepare you for college level math.

College Planning & Success – Michelle Watson

Mondays & Wednesdays 1-2:15pm

Walk through the process of applying to school, understanding your benefits, complete the FAFSA, get connected to resources, and learn about helpful skills like note taking, organization, studying, and AI for college.

Computer Basics– Michael Wolff

Tuesdays & Thursdays 12:45-2:15pm

This course covers basic computer skills, including using a mouse and keyboard, navigating Windows, managing files, saving to a flash drive, and safely using the internet to find information and avoid misleading content.

Spanish- Lori Borth

Tuesdays & Wednesdays 2:25-3:55pm

Learn the basic grammar, vocabulary, and pronunciation needed to communicate simply -but effectively- in Spanish. This is an opportunity to get a head start on material covered in an intro college class.

Online Only

Computer Skills – Buffy Smith

Mondays & Wednesdays 4-5:30pm

Strengthen your understanding of essential tools like Microsoft Word and Excel. Learn how to create more polished, professional documents for both college and the workplace. Whether you're starting from the basics or refining existing skills, these sessions will help you feel more confident using technology in any setting.

Intro To College Math & Algebra – Steve Phillips

Tuesday & Thursday 5-7pm

Brush up on pre-algebra and algebra skills. This is a great starting point if it has been a while since you have done math.

Intro to College Writing -James McCann

Tuesdays & Thursdays 5:45-7:15pm

Learn the rules of English grammar, sentence structure and mechanics. Become familiar with the steps in the writing process and move through writing effective paragraphs to essays. Students will also learn citation techniques for research papers and begin a research paper process.

ORIENTATION

Please pick one of the following **MANDATORY**
Dates to attend.

Wednesday, October 21st 2-4pm

or

Thursday, October 22nd 10am-Noon

This is an opportunity to verify class enrollment in VUB, talk about class expectations, ask questions, setup Microsoft Office, and learn how to use the online class portal.

REGISTER BY CALLING: (406) 272-6492

VUB is a TRIO program funded by the U.S. Department of Education and administered through MSU Northern.

Fall 2026
In Person in Billings and ONLINE Everywhere
Veterans Upward Bound - Class Schedule
October 26th - November 19th

In Person in Billings & Live Online Everywhere throughout Montana

Please call the office to register for classes and orientation.

(406)272-6492 – **No Class on Veterans Day – 11/11/26**



Orientation

*Please pick one of the following **MANDATORY** dates to attend.*

Wednesday, October 21st – 2-4pm or Thursday, October 22nd – 10am-Noon

This is an opportunity to verify class enrollment in VUB, talk about class expectations, ask questions, set-up Microsoft Office, and learn how to use the Canvas class portal.

Please sign up by Friday, October 16th

Class Schedule

Mondays	Tuesdays	Wednesdays	Thursdays	Fridays
Offices Open & Staff is Available 8:00am	Offices Open & Staff is Available 8:00am	Offices Open & Staff is Available 8:00am	Offices Open & Staff is Available 8:00am	Staff Development & Outreach
Intro to College Writing James McCann 9:15-10:45am	Math Basics Frank No Runner 9:15-10:45am	Intro to College Writing James McCann 9:15-10:45am	Math Basics Frank No Runner 9:15-10:45am	
Pathway to College Math Frank No Runner 11am-Noon	Pathway to College Math Frank No Runner 11am-Noon	Pathway to College Math Frank No Runner 11am-Noon	Pathway to College Math Frank No Runner 11am-Noon	
College Planning/Success Michelle Watson 1-2:15pm	Computer Basics Michael Wolff 12:45-2:15pm	College Planning/Success Michelle Watson 1-2:15pm	Computer Basics Michael Wolff 12:45-2:15pm	
	Intro to Spanish Lori Borth 2:25-3:55pm	Intro to Spanish Lori Borth 2:25-3:55pm		Educating America's Best Veterans Upward Bound www.vubmt.com
Computer Skills Online ONLY Buffy Smith 4-5:30pm	Intro to College Math & Algebra Online ONLY Steve Phillips 5-7pm	Computer Skills Online ONLY Buffy Smith 4-5:30pm	Intro to College Math & Algebra Online ONLY Steve Phillips 5-7pm	
Intro to College Writing Online ONLY James McCann 5:45-7:15pm		Intro to College Writing Online ONLY James McCann 5-6:30pm		

VUB is a TRIO program funded through the Department of Education and is administered through MSU Northern.

Flathead Valley Community College
Continuing Education Center

Veterans Upward Bound



Free College Prep Classes—Veterans Upward Bound is a Department of Education program designed to help military veterans refresh their academic skills so they can successfully complete postsecondary education. These classes are also open to veterans who are seeking to build personal skills. Services are free to eligible veterans. Please Sign up by October 19.

INTRO TO COLLEGE MATH & ALGEBRA

Review basic math skills and receive an introduction to algebraic concepts. Learn mathematical symbols and vocabulary and how to use a graphing calculator. Using an online homework platform, apply these tools to functions and graphing concepts that are critical to success in college-level math classes. (8 Sessions) ***VUB Math available in person or online.***

Instructor: Steve Phillips Tue & Thu Oct 27-Nov 19 5-7pm

INTRO TO COLLEGE WRITING & GRAMMAR REVIEW

Learn the rules of English grammar, sentence structure and mechanics. Become familiar with the steps in the writing process, and move through writing effective paragraphs to essays. Students will also learn citation techniques for research papers and begin a research paper process. (6 Sessions) ***VUB Writing available in person only.***

Instructor: Lindsey Groves Mon & Wed Nov 2-18 5-7pm

INTRO TO COMPUTERS

Basics of Windows 11 Operating System and Microsoft Office 365 suite. Learn core computer terminology to select the right computer and increase your computer confidence! Class will cover Windows settings, file management, the web, cloud services, online safety and email. (6 Sessions) ***VUB Computers available in person only.***

Instructor: Amelia Ward Tue & Thu Nov 3-19 3-5pm

For more information or to register, please contact the Center for Veterans Education and Training Services at 406-272-6492 or visit www.vubmt.com.