MINIMUM NAMED ENDOWMENT & FUND LEVELS POLICY

The Montana State University Alumni Foundation (Alumni Foundation) Minimum Named Endowment & Fund Levels governance policy establishes the minimum contributions required to fund an endowment for a specific purpose intended to benefit faculty, students or programs.

Named endowments and funds of $25,000 or more create financial stability, allowing Montana State University (MSU) reliable sources of vital funding annually to offer support through scholarships and fellowships for students; professorships, chairs, and program support for distinguished individuals serving MSU in positions of distinction; and funds for programs, campus preservation and other uses. Consistent with the Alumni Foundation’s Board of Governors Fund Administration Policy, the Alumni Foundation adheres to guidelines set forth in the Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA).

Donors may designate endowments and funds to a particular college or area of study, provided the area is a priority for MSU and where applicable, may require approval by the President, Provost, Dean or other authority. Endowments may be named for the donor or someone the donor wishes to honor. Once established, donors may make supplemental contributions to endowments either to invested or spendable portions of the fund. Donors are encouraged to make current use contributions in support of the endowment’s designated intent in order to ensure immediate impact on students, faculty or programs.

In the event that efforts to raise funds toward a priority with a minimum endowment level do not reach that minimum, funds raised will be expended consistent with quasi-endowment or current-use practices noted above until balances have been exhausted.

The Minimum Named Endowment and Fund Levels policy is approved by the Alumni Foundation Board of Governors.

1.0 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose of the Named Minimum Endowment and Fund Levels Policy is to:

Ensure that named contributions to the Alumni Foundation in support of Montana State University have a significant and sustained impact on students, faculty and the community served. They also assist donor relations professionals when working with prospective donors interested in making gifts to the Alumni Foundation in furtherance of the objectives of the Alumni Foundation and MSU. By setting forth clear policies and procedures relating to endowment minimums, this document will guide Alumni Foundation staff and volunteers in cultivating and accepting gifts.

The terms set forth in this document are meant to supplement those set forth in the Alumni Foundation’s Gift Acceptance Policy.

2.0 ALUMNI FOUNDATION MISSION

“We cultivate lifelong relationships and secure private support to advance Montana State University.”
3.0 TERMS DEFINED

**Endowment Gift:** A gift made with donor-imposed stipulation that the principal be invested permanently. A portion of the investment income is used for purposes specified by the donor.

**Current Use Gift Held as Quasi-Endowment:** A gift designated for current use, however, either the Alumni Foundation or the University directs that the gift be treated similar to an endowment gift although there is no donor imposed stipulation that requires that the principal be invested permanently. Both income and principal may be used for the specified purpose to provide financial flexibility needed for large initiatives and capital projects.

**Current Use Gift:** A gift made for current spending. The gift may be restricted to a specific college, department, or program of the university or it may be made without any restriction. In any case, the entire gift is available for spending.

4.0 STUDENT SUPPORT

Funds for scholarships and fellowships are available to MSU in support of an enrolled student for the purpose of off-setting tuition, fees, charges levied by MSU and other expenses associated with advancing their education and research. Scholarships shall be awarded to undergraduate students and fellowships shall be awarded to graduate students.

4.1 Presidential Scholarships $250,000

The minimum endowment level for a Presidential Scholarship is $250,000. Scholarship recipients receive annual tuition waivers, a merit grant and other unique incentives for each of four years.

4.2 Presidential Emerging Scholar Grants $25,000

The minimum endowment level for a Presidential Emerging Scholar Grant is $25,000. Funds are provided for the purpose of off-setting allowable expenses associated with a prescribed, supervised academic purpose and/or sanctioned MSU activity. Emerging Scholar Grants are intended to support undergraduate potential in the manner that is most appropriate, timely and personally meaningful for the student recipient.

4.3 Post-Doctoral Fellowship $500,000

The minimum endowment level for a Post-Doctoral Fellowship is $500,000. Endowment revenues are used to provide salary to a post-doctoral student who has recently completed a doctorate degree and has come to MSU to undertake additional highly specialized research under a specific professor.
4.4 **Graduate Teaching Assistantship** $200,000

The minimum endowment level for a Graduate Teaching Assistantship is $200,000. Endowment revenues are used to provide tuition support and a small stipend for one graduate student each year. The graduate assistant will provide teaching assistance to full time faculty.

4.5 **Graduate Research Assistantship** $200,000

The minimum endowment level for a Graduate Research Assistantship is $200,000. Endowment revenues are used to provide tuition support and a small stipend for one graduate student each year. The graduate assistant will provide research support to full time faculty.

4.6 **Graduate Fellowship** $100,000

The minimum endowment level for a Graduate Fellowship is $100,000. Endowment revenues are used to provide tuition support for one graduate student each year.

4.7 **Undergraduate Research Endowment** $50,000

The minimum endowment level for Undergraduate Research is $50,000. Endowment revenues are used to provide support for one student to engage in advanced levels of research.

4.8 **Undergraduate Scholarship** $25,000

The minimum endowment level for an Undergraduate Scholarship is $25,000. Endowment revenues are used for the purpose of off-setting tuition, fees, charges levied by MSU and other expenses associated with advancing their education and research.

4.9 **Athletic Scholarship** $25,000

The minimum endowment level for an Athletic Scholarship is $25,000. Endowment revenues are used for the purpose of off-setting tuition, fees, charges levied by MSU and other expenses associated with advancing their education and research for a student-athlete for one year.

5.0 **FACULTY SUPPORT**

Guided by an ambitious Strategic Plan, MSU seeks to recruit and retain faculty of national and international prominence and recognize and reward our current teachers and scholars for their groundbreaking work. With the best interests of our students in mind, we will seek to ensure that MSU faculty are compensated at appropriate levels and have the needed program funding to advance their research and scholarship.
5.1 Presidential Chair $3,000,000
The minimum endowment level for a Presidential Chair is $3,000,000 with an annual disbursement of $120,000. The Presidential Chair is awarded to a very few, most highly esteemed faculty members. A rigorously selective process managed by the provost will result in the appointment of a faculty member who demonstrates an unusual and exceptional scholarly, creative, teaching or research record.

5.2 Faculty Chair $2,000,000
The minimum endowment level for a Faculty Chair is $2,000,000 with an annual disbursement of $80,000. Alumni Foundation endowed funds made available to MSU for Chairs shall be used to support a combination of a professorship, faculty grant and/or faculty award.

5.3 Professorship $1,000,000
The minimum endowment level for a Professorship is $1,000,000 with an annual disbursement of $40,000. Professorships are often funded through endowment gifts from many individuals who wish to honor a former faculty member. Donors who provide these gifts support and recognize MSU's most prominent scholars.

5.4 Visiting Professorship $500,000
The minimum endowment level for a Visiting Professorship is $500,000 with an annual disbursement of $20,000. These enduring financial resources, paired with University support, will enable MSU to attract a variety of preeminent teacher-scholars.

5.5 Faculty Leadership Grants $100,000
The minimum endowment level for a Faculty Leadership Grant is $100,000. Faculty Leadership Grant funds are available for the purpose of off-setting non-compensatory expenses associated with a prescribed scope of work that will have measured outcomes.

5.6 Faculty Awards $25,000
The minimum endowment level for a Faculty Award is $25,000. Funds available to MSU for Faculty Awards are for the purpose of providing compensation to an individual serving MSU in recognition of measured achievement.

6.0 PROGRAM SUPPORT

6.1 Individual, Artist, Executive or Entrepreneur In-Residence Program $1,500,000
The minimum endowment level for an Artist, Executive or Entrepreneur In-Residence is $1,500,000. Endowment revenues provide the financial flexibility that enables MSU to attract and bring to the MSU community individuals whose accomplishments are recognized in their respective fields.
6.2 **Program Endowment**

The minimum endowment level for Program Endowment is $750,000. Endowed revenues are used to directly support special project(s) at MSU, including funds to purchase needed equipment, travel or salary for research assistants.

6.3 **Lectureship**

The minimum endowment level for a Lectureship is $150,000. An endowed Lectureship provides funds to support an honorarium, travel costs, printing of program materials and other expenses incurred in bringing a distinguished person to campus to present a program for faculty and students in a particular discipline or relative to a particular issue of national or international importance.

6.4 **Unrestricted Endowment**

The minimum endowment level for an Unrestricted Endowment is $50,000. An unrestricted Endowment creates financial strength and flexibility to ensure effective allocation of resources where they will have the greatest impact.

6.5 **Dean’s Fund for Excellence**

The minimum endowment level for the Dean’s Fund for Excellence is $25,000. Endowment revenues provide unrestricted funds to the Dean who may use the funds at their discretion in support of the most pressing needs of the college.

6.6 **Book Fund**

The minimum endowment level for the Book Fund is $25,000. Endowment revenues provide funds to be used by the Dean of the Library to purchase resource materials in support of the most pressing needs of MSU.

6.7 **Campus Preservation Fund**

The minimum endowment level for the Campus Preservation Fund is $25,000. Endowment revenues provide MSU with funds to support projects that preserve and beautify the facilities and grounds of the campus to include gardens, small park settings, plantings, art and sculpture.