



The **Academic Learning Integrated Volunteer Experience (ALIVE)** program is an innovative and unique program that utilizes resources at The University of Montana (UM) to support the civic, academic and professional development of AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps*VISTA members across the state. ALIVE offers full-time national service members the opportunity to earn graduate credit at the University of Montana through various credit options, including conducting independent studies at service sites, online courses, and more. Participants earn credit towards a Master's of Interdisciplinary Studies (M.I.S.) or can earn non-degree graduate credit.

Credit Options:

ALIVE students gain graduate credit during their national service year by electing one or more of the following options:

- **CBI:** One credit for the Community Building Institute training session
- **INTERNSHIP:** Up to six internship credits per semester for national service work
- **SERVICE LEARNING:** Up to six credits conducting an independent study with a UM faculty member consisting of a community analysis and/or applied research project at the service site
- **ONLINE COURSES:** Up to five credits for various online courses in the Nonprofit Management program at UM.

After a year of national service and the completion of the options listed above (to a maximum of 16 graduate-level credits), national service participants can earn a **Master's of Interdisciplinary Studies (MIS)** degree from The University of Montana by finishing an additional year of coursework on campus. The MIS degree program allows students to work with faculty in the design of a graduate curriculum tailored to their unique academic, creative and professional needs, combining the curricula of two or more programs.

Applying to ALIVE

- Turn in an ALIVE information sheet by the Friday before classes are scheduled to begin for the semester.
- If you are an out-of-state resident and are seeking in-state tuition rates, take immediate steps to secure Montana residency. Out-of-state residents will take ALIVE credits informally until they obtain in-state status, and will then enroll in either M.I.S. or as a non-degree graduate student to record official credits.
- If you are an in-state resident, apply as a non-degree graduate student OR apply to the Master of Interdisciplinary Studies program by the end of the first week of the academic semester. In-state residents then enroll/register for their ALIVE courses by UM's official add/drop date.

Tuition and Payments

- ALIVE participants may apply for UM's Presidential Loans to defray tuition costs until they receive their education awards.
- Out-of-state residents may defray official enrollment until in-state residency takes effect.
- Program staff will work with individual ALIVE students to develop an appropriate course of action.
- UM tuition is \$288.50 per graduate credit for an in-state resident and \$763.40 for non-residents.

For more information, contact:

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