

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Monday, Jan. 26, 2009.

**CONTACT:**

Carolynn Bright  
SAF Media Relations Coordinator  
(406) 495-7506  
or  
Brandi Payne  
MSU Financial Aid Director  
(406) 994-2845

**MSU to Receive \$281,806 from SAF for Student Grants**

(HELENA) Montana State University will receive \$281,806 in Acce\$\$ Grant funds from nonprofit Student Assistance Foundation (SAF) on Thursday, Jan. 29. Since 2000, the university has received nearly \$1.5 million through this program.

President Geoff Gamble, Vice President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students Dr. Allen Yarnell and Financial Aid Director Brandi Payne will accept the award from Kelly Chapman, executive vice president of Foundation Activities for SAF, at the Brick Breeden Fieldhouse after 7 p.m. during the MSU Bobcat basketball game against Eastern Washington.

Acce\$\$ Grants are awarded each year by SAF through financial aid offices at all Montana postsecondary schools, including tribal and private institutions, and two-year and four-year schools. The amount awarded to each school is determined by enrollment numbers. Financial aid officers use the grants to help students in need pay for their education. Individual award amounts vary by individual and are determined by the financial aid office.

This academic year, the total award amount being distributed to colleges and universities is \$1.2 million, bringing the grand total of Acce\$\$ funds provided by SAF since the program's inception in 2000 to \$5.7 million.

*Student Assistance Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit Montana corporation that provides students with knowledge and tools to finance and pursue their postsecondary education. Funds generated by SAF are returned to Montanans in the form of education grants and public benefit programs - to date more than \$14.7 million. For more information, visit [www.SmartAboutCollege.org](http://www.SmartAboutCollege.org) or [www.safmt.org](http://www.safmt.org).*