

TO: **ALL ARCHITECTS/ENGINEERS OF RECORD**

FROM: Russ Katherman, Administrator
Architecture & Engineering Division
1500 East Sixth Avenue
P O Box 200103
Helena MT 59620-0103

DATE: April 21, 2026

RE: **REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

Firms interested in being considered for an interview for project on the attached pages must follow these procedures:

- Submit Form 115 through the State's eMACS system, <https://solutions.sciquest.com/apps/Router/SupplierLogin?CustOrg=StateOfMontana>. Information in addition to the 115 is acceptable.
- Submissions must be submitted no later than **2:00 p.m. on Thursday, May 14, 2026**
- Submissions received after the deadline may result in rejection.
- The procedure for selection will be in accordance with 18-8-204 MCA.

Firms selected for an interview:

- Will be given project-specific initial information, interview topics/questions, and the interview schedule.
- Will be asked to present their credentials before an interview committee. The committee will then submit the names of three (3) qualified firms to the Dept. of Administration Director, who will appoint one firm for each project in accordance with 18-2-112 MCA.

The State of Montana makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with an applicant's ability to compete in the application and selection process or that may interfere with an applicant's ability to perform the essential duties of the job. In order for the State to make such accommodations, applicants must make known any needed accommodation to the individual project managers or agency contacts listed. Persons using TDD may call the Montana Relay Service at 1-800-253-4091.

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) FOR A/E SERVICES
MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
MSU-B NEW ART BUILDING
A/E #2025-03-03**

Project Budget: \$13,400,000

The Architecture & Engineering Division is accepting qualifications for architectural and engineering services for the New Art Building at MSU-B in Billings, Montana.

Project Scope:

MSU Billings' Art Annex is scheduled for demolition, leaving the Department of Art without a dedicated space for teaching visual art. The current annex is both outdated and too small, resulting in cramped classrooms and limited gallery areas. Without a new facility, learning conditions will decline and the program may become less attractive to prospective students. The proposed 12,500-square-foot art building will resolve these issues by providing modern workshops for metal, wood, and ceramics; student studios; gallery spaces; and faculty offices. Its location near the Liberal Arts Building will also support interdisciplinary collaboration. Overall, the new facility will enhance academic quality and help MSU Billings remain competitive in art education. The New Art Building will comply with High-Performance Building Standards. Commissioning will be required for project.

Construction Cost Estimate:

The construction cost is estimated at \$11,000,000.

Submittal & Selection Process (Ref: MCA 18-2-112):

Firm shall submit their Statement of Qualification (Form 115).

Qualifications submittals are due through eMACS on the time and date shown in the eMACS System.

Construction Execution:

This project will be bid and executed as a design-bid-build.

Additional Documentation and Contact Information:

- Contact: Nate Cummings A&E Div., (406)202-4415, Nathaniel.Cummings@mt.gov

PRIORITY CD-72

NEW ART BUILDING

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY - BILLINGS

\$13,400,000

Project Highlights

- Provides permanent instructional spaces for the Department of Art that will soon be displaced.
- A project that supports student learning, creation and enjoyment of art within a functional, engaging and innovative environment.



Current Challenges

With the Art Annex slated for demolition in 2024, the MSU Billings Department of Art will soon lack a dedicated space “to educate students in the understanding, production, and analysis of visual art and culture.” In addition to the condition of the annex, the size was unable to meet the growing needs of the department, resulting in cramped instructional space to support the small group settings important to the program and few gallery areas immediately adjacent to instructional areas to display completed work. Without a new facility, students and faculty will face compromised learning conditions hindering academic success and reducing the department’s appeal to prospective students.

Proposed Solution

The new art building will address these challenges by providing a modern, purpose-built facility designed to meet the Department of Art’s expanding needs. The 12,500 square foot building will feature workshops for metal, wood, and ceramics, student studio space, informal and formal galleries, and faculty offices creating an environment that supports creative exploration and innovation. The new building’s proximity to the Liberal Arts Building will also foster interdisciplinary collaboration, helping to integrate the arts more fully into the broader academic community. The new facility will ensure that MSU Billings remains competitive in offering high quality art education.



FUNDING	
Authority	\$13,400,000
TOTAL	\$13,400,000
ESTIMATED PROJECT COSTS	
Construction Costs	\$11,000,000
Architecture / Engineering Services	\$1,000,000
Non-Construction Costs	\$1,400,000
TOTAL	\$13,400,000