Our Mission

EconoQuest is an international economics program that culminates in a multi-day conference which provides a unique opportunity for Montana high school students to engage with local businesses, government leaders and international leaders. They explore and discuss the impact of global dynamics on Montana’s economy and learn about career opportunities in Montana. In 2023, we anticipate over 150 students from all corners of Montana as far as Blaine and Ravalli Counties to gain knowledge and understanding of basic economic theory, business investment planning, international trade and the impact of global dynamics on our economy. Montana students are also introduced to career pathways in the technology and photonics industry as well as a variety of other careers.
Virtual Platform

Educators statewide report that very little economics is formally taught in classrooms and often only touched upon briefly. The Montana World Affairs Council developed the EconoQuest Virtual Platform to help fill this gap - to support teachers in expanding students' knowledge of basic economics, business planning, and how global dynamics impact Montana's economy.

In-Person Conference

EconoQuest Conference is a multi-day conference for high school students to engage with local companies and government leaders about economics, business investment planning, international trade, and future career paths. Day one of EconoQuest focuses on career opportunities available in Montana. Students learn more about what local companies are developing such as laser systems, quantum technologies, aerospace, and much more!

On day two of EconoQuest, students learn how global dynamics impact Montana's economy. Students will participate in a trade game that will demonstrate how international trade works and how vital trade is to local Montana companies. Students also engage with state government leaders as well as international diplomats.
EconoQuest Competition

In teams of 3, students **develop a business investment plan** for a product inspired by their own communities and informed by their studies, that can be internationally traded with countries of focus. Business investment plans are then judged on creativity, practicality, and overall pitch.

The winning team will receive $1000 scholarship for college.

2023 countries of focus will be Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea.

School Scholarships

**Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, EconoQuest is completely FREE to all students!** Scholarships are provided to traveling schools, with priority to rural and reservation schools, to cover the expenses of transportation, lodging, and substitute teachers. All meals will be provided for students during the conference. We never want a student to be denied the opportunity to attend the EconoQuest Conference due to the ever-increasing budget restrictions our schools are facing. By providing EconoQuest at no cost to schools, we provide the opportunity for these students to take part in an impactful and enjoyable event.
Monday, October 23rd

- **Montana State University Campus and Lab Tour**
- **Montana Photonics Industry Alliance Luncheon and Career Expo**
  Panel Discussion with Jason Yager, President of MPIA, and Dr. Joe Shaw, Professor at MSU
- **Museum of the Rockies with Planetarium Show**
  Students will meet with all departments at MOR to learn more about various careers in Museum and nonprofit work
- **Discussion Program**
  These dynamic presentations will cover international topics of interest and be led or facilitated by highly experienced and engaging speakers
- **EconoQuest Banquet**
Tuesday, October 24th

Discussion Program
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International Trade Game

Montana's trade relationship with Taiwan, Japan, and South Korea

Consul General Luncheon
Delegates from Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea as well as Montana government officials will join students for lunch.

EconoQuest Competition
When your company becomes a premium sponsor of EconoQuest, you will receive the highest promotional exposure for your company including: table at MPIA luncheon to engage with students, company profile on our virtual platform, and premium logo visibility on all marketing and event materials. You will also be invited to attend the EconoQuest competition to engage with students who may in turn become future employees within your industry!

**Student Scholarships $10,000**

Help us ensure no student is denied an opportunity to attend by providing scholarships to cover school expenses such as lodging, transportation, and substitute teachers for traveling schools. By being the top sponsor of EconoQuest, you will receive an invite to all meals (up to 6 people), Sponsor Reception (up to 8 people), a video option on the virtual platform, and an opportunity to have a virtual program about your company or organization before the conference. Verbal recognition will be given before all virtual programs and during the conference as well as have the opportunity to provide opening remarks at the competition awards ceremony.

**Virtual Platform $10,000**

The virtual platform will engage students for two months prior to the conference. Your company or organization will have a full profile and video presentation on this virtual platform as well as host your own virtual program. This will give you the opportunity to engage inclusively with the students and provide them an in-depth look into your company, helping your company to become a household name throughout the state. In addition, you have a table (up to 6 people) for Monday dinner, a table (up to 6 people) for Monday Lunch, Sponsor Reception (up to 6 people), receive verbal recognition before all virtual programs and during the conference, and make opening remarks for Monday Lunch.
By sponsoring a meal, you and your employees can connect with students, teachers and other local businesses and organizations to provide additional information about your company. Students and participants will be able to network with individuals around the state, chat with local government officials, international diplomats and enhance their knowledge about future career opportunities and Montana's connection to the world.

### Monday Dinner

Be the sponsor for Monday dinner and invite your employees to engage with students during dinner at your own table (up to 6 people) and provide additional information about your company. You will have the opportunity to provide the opening remarks for dinner. You are also invited to the Sponsor Reception (up to 6 people).

### Monday Lunch

Be the sponsor of Monday’s Lunch and participate in and enjoy the student Q&A with Jason Yager, President of MPIA, and Dr. Joe Shaw, regarding the future of Photonics opportunities in Montana. Your company will have the opportunity to make the closing remarks. You are also invited to the Sponsor Reception (up to 4 people).

### Tuesday Lunch

Be the sponsor for Tuesday lunch and invite your employees to engage with students and the Consuls General at your own table (up to 6 people). Your company will also have the opportunity to make the opening remarks. You are also invited to the Sponsor Reception (up to 4 people).
Become a sponsor of EconoQuest and help us provide an exceptional opportunity to Montana students to learn about economics, business investment planning, international trade, and future career paths.

Your sponsorship will help us with additional costs such as participant items, snacks, marketing materials, in-person school promotion, and so much more!

All sponsors will have their logo placed on the EconoQuest virtual platform, MWAC and MPIA websites, and marketing materials.

**Gold Level**  
$2,500  
- Invitation to Monday Dinner (up to 4 people) and your pick of Monday or Tuesday Lunch (up to 2 people)  
- Invitation to Sponsor Appreciation Party (up to 4 people)

**Silver Level**  
$1,000  
- Invitation to Monday or Tuesday Lunch (up to 2 people)  
- Invitation to Sponsor Appreciation Party (up to 2 people)

**Bronze Level**  
$500  
- Invitation to Sponsor Appreciation Party (up to 2 people)
Thank You

For supporting education opportunities for Montana students to learn about economics, business planning, international trade, and future career paths.

Montana World Affairs Council

The Montana World Affairs Council is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering global understanding and awareness in Montana’s communities and classrooms.

Montana Photonics Industry Alliance

The Montana Photonics Industry Alliance serves as a hub for Montana’s optics, photonics, and quantum companies, entrepreneurs, laboratories, and universities to commercialize, grow and sustain globally leading organizations that create high quality jobs and economic opportunity in Montana.

montanaworldaffairs.org/econoquest

Nikki Geiszler, Programs Director
ngeiszler@montanaworldaffairs.org