



2017/2018 MWS ADMISSION POLICIES

Final approval of an applicant by MWS for participation on an expedition is contingent upon receipt of the complete application (online 'Application Form', signed 'Admission policies', signed 'Liability Waiver', and signed 'Medical Form') and the full tuition balance.

MWS seeks motivated students who are in good physical and emotional health and are excited to spend prolonged periods of time in the wilderness, learn technical outdoor skills, and develop solid communication skills. MWS is not an appropriate choice for youth dealing with mental health, behavioral, or substance abuse issues. In keeping with MWS' primary mission to provide expedition opportunities to Montana youth, MWS gives expedition and scholarship preference to Montana students over students from out of state. We reserve the right to deny admission to anyone we believe to be unable to meet the physical, mental, or emotional demands of our expeditions.

Equal Opportunity

MWS does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, religion, sexual orientation, national origin or disability in the administration of its admission policies.

If MWS believes that an applicant's disability may endanger the safety of the applicant or group, MWS will not approve the application and will seek to identify alternative MWS activities in which the applicant can safely participate, when possible.

1- Montana Wilderness School Payment and Cancellation Policy

Registration Fee: All students are required to pay an Expedition Registration Fee at the time of their application. This registration fee, along with the complete application, is necessary to secure your spot on the course.

- This fee will be refunded if a student is not accepted on an expedition.
- This fee will be refunded if a course is cancelled by MWS and the student does not transfer to another expedition.

Deposit: All students need to pay their deposit right away once their application is accepted.

- Deposits constitute 25% of total tuition due, meaning 25% of the tuition amount not covered by scholarship. They are non-refundable.
- Full tuition scholarship students do not need to pay a deposit.
- If an expedition is cancelled by MWS, deposits will be fully refunded 100%, unless the student enrolls in another expedition.
- If a student does not pay the deposit upon his/her acceptance by MWS, the student loses their reserved spot.

Tuition Balance: Payment of total tuition balance (due by the student and not covered by scholarship) is expected at the latest 30 days before the start of the expedition.

- Any student enrolling within 30 days of the start of their expedition needs to pay the total tuition balance once their application is accepted.
- Balances can be refunded up to 30 days before the beginning of an expedition if student withdraws from the expedition. Within 30 days of the expedition start date, course balances become non-refundable and non-transferable.
- If a student does not pay the tuition balance more than 30 days before the start of the expedition, the student loses their reserved spot. The student can rollover the deposit towards

another spot on the same expedition or another expedition if there is availability at time of tuition balance payment, or use their deposit credit on an expedition the following year, if student's age allows for it.

Cancellation policy:

- **MWS reserves the right to cancel an expedition.** In this unlikely situation, **all tuition payments (including registration fee) will be refunded.** However, MWS is not responsible for other costs associated with these cases. MWS recommends to students to purchase a trip insurance to protect their investment in the unlikely case of an expedition cancellation.
- MWS reserves the right to change an expedition location up to the day of departure.
- MWS reserves the right to shorten an expedition's duration.
- If an enrolled student has an unforeseen accident making his/her participation on the expedition impossible, MWS will require a medical certification and fully refund his/her tuition when possible, on a case by case basis, depending on the circumstances and date of the accident.

2- Montana Wilderness School Evacuation, Expulsion and Behavioral Policy

- Should a participant need to leave the expedition early for any reason, the Montana Wilderness School reserves the right to charge the student for expenses incurred in the evacuation, and no refund will be provided.
- **The Montana Wilderness School will expel any student who exhibits behavior that is unsafe, disrupts or distracts from the educational mission of an expedition.** All forms of harassment, physical violence toward another student or staff, use of drugs and alcohol, theft or misuse of MWS equipment, egregious disregard of instructions or MWS procedures are examples of behavior that will lead to expulsion. If a student is expelled, there will be no refund.

Please read carefully the following section and sign in the box below:

"The information provided in this application is accurate and complete. I have read all of the MWS expedition information and admission policies and I understand an MWS expedition is physically and emotionally challenging, and involves living and traveling with a group of diverse participants.

Applicant (and parent/s or guardian/s), if the applicant is accepted, will:

- Abide by MWS admission policies
- Follow the Montana Wilderness school risk management procedures and environmental practices as explained by my instructors
- Engage each day as an expedition member and try my best throughout the course
- Be a reliable expedition member: by following directions, sharing in the work load and being a team player
- Be respectful and considerate towards other students and instructors
- Meet the expectation that students neither bring, obtain, nor use tobacco, alcohol or illegal drugs
- Refrain from any exclusive relationships, sexual activity, physical violence toward others, and/or any bullying

Applicant's signature: _____	Date ___ / ___ / ___
Applicant's Printed Name: _____	
Parent/Guardian's signature (required): _____	Date ___ / ___ / ___
Parent/Guardian's Printed Name: _____	



Permission to Use Photographs and Video

Photos and videos are used by Montana Wilderness School for purposes including educating students and parents about MWS expeditions and showing donors the positive impact their financial support has in making affordable outdoor experiences available to young people. MWS would appreciate your cooperation in these efforts by completing this form, however, please note that permission to use photographs and video is **not** a requirement for participation in an MWS expedition.

PLEASE READ THIS ENTIRE DOCUMENT CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING. All participants and a parent or legal guardian must sign this document.

____ I do ____ I do **not**

Grant the Montana Wilderness School the right to take photographs and video of me (my son or daughter.) I irrevocably grant the Montana Wilderness School, its assigns and transferees the royalty-free right to use the same world-wide in perpetuity, in any media now known or hereafter developed, for any lawful purpose including, but not limited, to publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content. I waive any right to inspect or approve such use.

Participant and Parent agree: I have carefully read, understand and voluntarily sign this Document and acknowledge that it shall be effective and binding upon me, my minor children and other family members, and my heirs, executors, representatives and estate. *Participant and Parent must sign below.*

Participant Signature (required) Date Print name here

Parent or Guardian Signature (required) Date Print name here

Address (street) (city) (state) (zip)

Phone number (with area code) E-mail