

Crevier's Academy of Cosmetology Arts

Crevier's Academy of Cosmetology Arts has shaped students' futures in Kalispell since its founding in 1958. The academy stands out for its hands-on training and its focus on effective communication techniques, empowering students to build loyal clientele and establish a foundation for ongoing success. Kassaundra Flammond and Theresa Brininger are longtime instructors and alumni of the academy. When they learned the business was for sale, they knew they wanted to lead its next chapter, yet navigating the creation of a business plan and understanding financial projections posed challenges. So, they turned to the Montana Small Business Development Center for expert assistance.

Guided by the SBDC, Flammond and Brininger developed a comprehensive business plan and detailed financial projections while gaining a deep understanding of the business acquisition process. Regional Director Rob Driscoll played a pivotal role, facilitating meetings with key stakeholders and connecting the new owners to local bankers to secure funding for their women-owned small business. His tailored consultations provided valuable insights and instilled the confidence needed to manage business operations and make sound decisions.

Since acquiring the academy in February 2025, Flammond and Brininger have cultivated a vibrant, supportive staff, dedicated to fostering a positive and fun learning environment. With five full-time employees and plans to add more, they are excited to give back to their community and help others pursue their dreams. The Montana SBDC's support has been instrumental in this transition, equipping them to make a lasting impact on students' lives.

Regional Director Rob Driscoll remarked, "Working with Kassaundra and Theresa was inspiring. Their dedication to Crevier's Academy proves that they have what it takes to be at the top of their industry."

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- ★ Business Purchased
- ★ 5 Jobs Retained and 5 Jobs Created
- ★ \$680,000 Owner Financing
- ★ \$50,000 Additional Owner Investment



Rob Driscoll
Regional Director



"Rob helped us with the whole process from start to finish. By guiding us through the business buying processes, we were better prepared to be business owners."

Kassaundra Flammond and Theresa Brininger, owners of Crevier's Academy of Cosmetology Arts