

Journey to College



THREE STEPS

**CAN PUT YOU ON
A PATH TOWARD
EARNING A
CERTIFICATE OR
DEGREE.**

For more information, visit journeytocollege.mo.gov

The best time to apply to college is the fall of your senior year. Think about the kind of certificate or degree you want to earn and the type of school you need to attend.

APPLY MISSOURI

Many high schools host Apply Missouri events in September and October to allow students time to submit applications to college during the school day.

Things to Bring:

- ACT or SAT Score, GPA, Class Rank
- Official High School Transcript
- A USB with college essays or personal statements you have written.
- Credit/Debit card information to pay for college application fees (or fee waiver Information as obtained from your counselor).

For more information, visit journeystocollege.mo.gov/apply-missouri/.

College costs can vary depending on the school you attend and the type of certificate or degree you seek. Many students receive financial aid to help pay for college.

Be sure to fill out the FAFSA - the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The FAFSA is required for most federal, state, and college financial aid, including grants, scholarships, work-study, and student loans.

FAFSA FRENZY

You can receive free help filling out the FAFSA at the FAFSA Frenzy event near you. Events are held at high schools, colleges, and other locations in Missouri throughout the year.

Things to Bring:

- FSA ID - Before attending a FAFSA Frenzy event, students and parents should set up their Federal Student Aid Account (FSA ID) username and password at studentaid.gov.
- Social Security Number, alien registration number, or permanent resident card.
- Student and parent federal income tax forms and W-2 forms. Students classified as independent do not need parent information. (see studentaid.gov/apply-for/fafsa/filling-out/dependency/).
- Current bank statements and investment records.

For more information about filing out the FAFSA and finding a FAFSA Frenzy event near you, visit journeystocollege.mo.gov/fafsa-frenzy/.

Choosing a college that is the best fit for you will help you succeed in earning a certificate or degree. Once you have been admitted, you are ready to enroll in classes, finalize funding, and arrange for housing and transportation.

Be sure to meet all deadlines your college sets so you are ready to go when the semester begins.

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DECISION DAY

High schools throughout Missouri host Decision Day events on or near May 1 to celebrate seniors' plans for entering higher education, military service, apprenticeship programs, or the workforce.

If you have not applied to college by the end of your senior year, it is not too late. Talk with your high school counselor about opportunities that are still available.

For more information about finalizing your college decisions, visit journeystocollege.mo.gov/decision-day/.