

# Missouri Department of Higher Education



**MDHE**<sup>TM</sup>

Missouri Department of Higher Education

*Building Missouri's future...  
by degrees<sup>®</sup>*

Fiscal Year 2017 Overview

# ACHIEVEMENT

We work with the state's colleges and universities to help students achieve their education and career goals and increase the percentage of Missourians with degrees and certificates to provide the skilled and knowledgeable workforce Missouri needs.

## Access

- The department's Journey to College initiative provided assistance and information about planning and paying for college to more than 50,000 high school and college students through social media, publications, and outreach events including Apply Missouri, FAFSA Frenzy, and Decision Day.

## Affordability

- More than \$129 million in state financial aid was awarded to 64,620 Missouri students through 10 grant and scholarship programs, including the A+ Scholarship, Access Missouri Grant, and Bright Flight Scholarship.
- The department developed a core curriculum of 42 credit hours that will transfer as equivalent credit among all public colleges and universities in the state. The core curriculum will improve course transfer, saving students time and money as they work toward a degree.

## Completion

- The state's public colleges and universities developed new math requirements for dozens of degree programs through the department's Math Pathways initiative. Courses such as statistics and number theory are better aligned to many degrees, including business, English, and history. Degrees in science, technology, engineering, and math will continue to require algebra-intensive courses.
- Ten colleges and universities began work on two pilot programs – Guided Pathways to Success and Concurrent Enrollment – to help more students complete a degree in less time and at less cost.
- The department launched a 15 to Finish initiative that encourages full-time students to complete 15 or more credit hours a semester to graduate on time.
- Missouri's remedial education rates continue to decrease as colleges and universities expand corequisite courses, which provide students with additional instruction to help them succeed in college-level, credit-bearing courses. The percentage of students enrolled in remedial education courses dropped from 35.6 percent in 2012 to 26.8 percent in 2017.



**370,000 students** were enrolled at Missouri's public two- and four-year and independent colleges and universities in 2017.

**100,700 certificates and degrees** were awarded by Missouri public and independent colleges and universities during the 2016-17 academic year.

We collaborate with education leaders across the state to strengthen Missouri's higher education system and ensure accountability and promote efficiency and effectiveness at the state's public colleges and universities.

## Statewide higher education system review

The department worked with a task force of college and university presidents and chancellors to consider how the schools can better meet Missouri's education and workforce needs. The group looked at the structure of the state's higher education system, degree programs offered, and geographic regions served. The task force also developed a framework for approving new degree programs at Missouri's higher education institutions.

## Academic program review

A review of academic programs offered at the state's public colleges and universities focused on identifying programs that are not meeting their goals. The review helps schools determine whether or not they should continue to offer programs that produce few graduates and ensures that Missouri's higher education resources are being invested wisely to provide high quality, cost-effective degree programs.

## Administrative costs workgroups

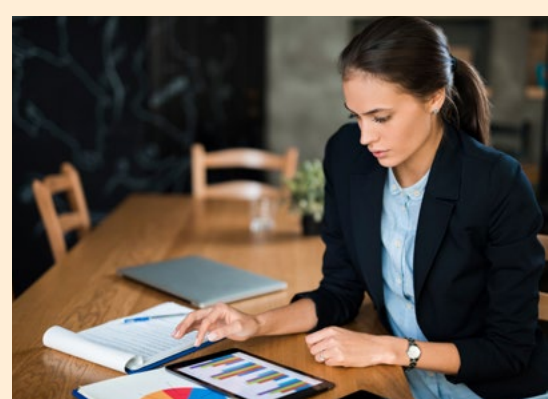
College and university presidents and chief financial aid officers worked with the department to identify ways the state's higher education institutions can reduce administrative costs. Two workgroups – one for community colleges and one for four-year universities – focused on potential savings through shared services and procurement. The groups also reviewed state regulations that pose a significant burden on Missouri's colleges and universities and, if eliminated, would allow the schools to operate more efficiently.

## Performance funding

A task force to revise the state's performance funding model developed more rigorous accountability measures – including college completion rates, affordability, and efficiency – for Missouri's public higher education institutions. The performance funding model is used to determine a portion of state funding for public colleges and universities.

## Program approval

The department approved the addition of 136 new academic programs and the deletion of 54 programs at Missouri's public colleges and universities. The department also reviewed 158 new academic programs offered by the state's independent colleges and universities.



## Our mission:

Collaborate with stakeholders to deliver a coordinated postsecondary education system that provides accessible, affordable, and innovative education that supports economic growth, enhances civic engagement, and improves the quality of life for all Missourians.

# Missouri's coordinated plan for higher education

The Coordinating Board for Higher Education is responsible for creating a coordinated plan for higher education in Missouri. *Preparing Missourians to Succeed: A Blueprint for Higher Education*, focuses on five goals:

## Goal 1: Attainment

Missouri will increase the proportion of working-age adults with high-quality, affordable postsecondary credentials to 60 percent by 2025.

## Goal 2: Affordability

Missouri will rank among the 10 most affordable states in which to obtain a postsecondary degree or certificate by 2025.

## Goal 3: Quality

Missouri will produce graduates with high quality postsecondary degrees and certificates that are valuable and relevant to individuals, employers, communities and the state.

## Goal 4: Research and innovation

Missouri will be a top 10 state for investment in academic research by 2025.

## Goal 5: Investment, advocacy and partnerships

Missouri will promote greater investment in a culture of postsecondary education through increased advocacy and powerful partnerships with education, business, government and communities.

Read more about Missouri's Blueprint for Higher Education at [dhe.mo.gov/blueprint.php](https://dhe.mo.gov/blueprint.php).



ATTAINMENT



AFFORDABILITY



QUALITY



RESEARCH & INNOVATION



INVESTMENT,  
ADVOCACY &  
PARTNERSHIPS



## More information

Visit [dhe.mo.gov/about/annualreports.php](https://dhe.mo.gov/about/annualreports.php) for more information about:

- Student enrollment
- Student persistence
- State financial aid
- Performance funding
- Academic program approval
- Proprietary school certification

