9:00 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.  WELCOME

Becky Dunn, Assistant Commissioner  
Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

JOURNEY TO COLLEGE – WHAT’S NEW FOR 2020

Site Coordinator Registration & Expectations  
Sarah Schedler, Program Coordinator  
Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

Volunteer Management  
Sarah Schedler, Program Coordinator  
Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

Resource Manual  
Kim Howe, Outreach Services Coordinator  
Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

Journey to College Kindergarten – 8th Grade Update  
Ashley Heidbreder, Program Coordinator  
Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.  APPLY MISSOURI

Overview of Apply Missouri  
Lisa Wilson, Outreach Services Coordinator  
Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

Best Practices  
Ashley Ray, Counselor, Odessa High School

School of Excellence  
Melissa Caperton, Director  
American College Application Campaign (ACAC)

FAFSA FRENZY

Overview of FAFSA Frenzy  
Kim Howe, Outreach Services Coordinator  
Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

Best Practices  
Shelley Gerringer, Counselor, Liberty High School

Scholarship Central Update  
Kaitlyn Venta, Manager  
Scholarship Central
10:00 A.M. - 11:30 P.M. DECISION DAY

*Overview of Decision Day*
Ashley Heidbreder, Program Coordinator
Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

*Best Practices*
Andrea Simily, Counselor, St. Francois County

11:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. LUNCH BREAK

1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M. MISSOURI COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK UPDATE

Francine Pratt, Executive Director
Missouri College Access Network (MOCAN)

Kerri Gilbert, Senior Associate Director
Missouri College Access Network (MOCAN)

FAFSA FILING INITIATIVE

Kara Oberkrom, FAFSA Outreach Coordinator
Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

FAFSA, FSA ID, AND FEDERAL UPDATES

Will Shaffner, Director Business Development and Government Relations
Missouri Higher Education Loan Authority (MOHELA)

Rob Moore, Director of Financial Aid
Missouri State University

MASFAP – HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR WORKSHOPS

Alex Miller, Interim Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management
Stephens College

Kayla Klein, Financial Aid Advisor
University of Missouri-Columbia
MISSOURI STATE AID UPDATES

Leroy Wade, Deputy Commissioner
Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

Kelli Reed, Student Assistance Associate
Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

RECORDED SESSIONS

WORKKEYS AND WIOA

Melissa Woltkamp, Manager of Workforce Programs
Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

APPRENTICESHIP MISSOURI & INTERNSHIP CONNECT PORTALS

Jeanna Caldwell, Apprenticeship and Work-Based Learning Manager
Office of Apprenticeship and Work-Based Learning, DHEWD

Kelly Dyer, Director of Intern and Business Engagement
Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry

PATHWAY FOR ALL MISSOURI YOUTH

Sally Gaines, Program Development Specialist
Department of Social Services

Kelly Evans, Associate Director
Missouri State University

ACT UPDATE

Debra Fitzgerald, District Manager
ACT State Organizations, ACT, Inc.

Chris Mitchell, Account Executive
ACT State Organizations, ACT, Inc.
Kelly Dyer
MO Intern Connect
Kelly is the Intern & Business Engagement Director at the Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry. This position is in partnership with the Missouri Small Business Development Center. For the past 10 years, Kelly has provided one-on-one counseling to people who want to start a business as well as existing business owners who want to grow their business. She is now the director of the Missouri Intern Connect program. Her duties include partnering with colleges and universities, recruiting businesses and students, monitoring the website content, and building partnerships with key organizations. Kelly coordinated the development of the Missouri Apprentice Connect program that will launch in August 2020. She will serve as manager of the portal.

Deb Fitzgerald
ACT Updates
Deb FitzGerald is a District Manager for ACT State Organizations; she covers 15 states including Missouri. ACT State Organizations work to advance college and career readiness for all – supporting the mission of “Building a community of educators and workplace professionals to help people achieve education and workplace success.” The Missouri Council serves in a leadership capacity for the state organization and works closely with ACT to determine activities and initiatives, including the annual Missouri ACT Conference. Deb has spent 13 years with ACT in both ACT State Organizations and Client Relations.

Chris Mitchell
ACT Updates
Chris Mitchell is an Account Executive for ACT. His 16 years at ACT coupled with his experience in middle school and high school education and program administration, bring a broad perspective to post-secondary discussions and preparation. He works with K-12 educators across Missouri and emphasizes a holistic conversation around data and preparation for successful transitions.

Francine Micheline Pratt
MOCAN
Ms. Pratt serves as the Executive Director for MOCAN. She served as the Prosper Springfield Director for a Springfield, MO community collective impact model, charged with reducing poverty by five percentage points and increasing postsecondary educational attainment to 60 percent, both by 2025. Ms. Pratt is an accomplished Project/Program Director with over 25 years of experience in leading government, private, public, and non-profit organizations with a focus on developing sustainability, customer service, and addressing organizational behavior to increase program performance in the public and private sectors. Her past positions include Multicultural Programs Executive Director, Missouri State University; Diversity Coordinator, Drury University; NAACP President, Springfield Chapter; Executive Director, Isabel’s House; Deputy Director, Missouri Department of Social Services; and other private industry and State of California leadership positions.

Jeanna Caldwell
Apprenticeship Missouri
Jeanna has been instrumental in leading the efforts to expand and modernize Missouri’s apprenticeship programs since November 2016. In the Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development’s Office of Apprenticeship and Work-Based Learning, Jeanna has served as the connection point between Missouri’s apprenticeship stakeholders including higher and secondary Education partners, Local Workforce Development Boards, state agencies, and community partners. Jeanna has managed multiple projects including ApprenticeshipUSA, the State Apprenticeship Expansion grant (SAE), and the Missouri Registered Apprenticeship Program (MORAP), and the Apprenticeship State Expansion (ASE). Jeanna holds a Bachelor of Science in Education in Speech Communication and Theatre from the University of Central Missouri.

Kayla Klein
MASFAP Updates
Kayla Klein joined the Financial Aid team at the University of Missouri in 2015. A graduate of the University of Missouri, Kayla enjoys working with students in making their dream to be a tiger come true by helping them understand the Financial Aid piece of attending a postsecondary school. As the Chair of MASFAP’s Early Awareness Committee for the past three years, Kayla’s and her team have been able to expand high school counselor workshops, award scholarships, and provide support to counselors across the state. Kayla loves to spend time with her family, tailgating on Saturdays, and spending time with friends.

Alex Miller
MASFAP Updates
Alex received her Bachelor of Science in Accounting with a minor in business administration in 2014, and in 2016, graduated with her Master of Business Administration from William Woods University. Since 2013, she has been working in Financial Aid, starting her career as a work-study student. Higher education just feels right and it brings Alex great joy each day to come into the office. Alex has grown a deep passion for helping students navigate the difficulties of the financial aid world as they pursue their dream degrees. Alex loves to travel, spend time with family and friends, and always looks forward to her “dance-mom” experiences with her daughter.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION: @JOURNEY2COLLEGE #J2CDAY
ANDREA SIMLY
High School Counselor

Andrea has been a Professional School Counselor & School Psychological Examiner for the past 16 years. Her first fifteen years were spent as an Elementary Counselor at North St. Francois County School District, where I served students in grades K-4th grade. She just completed my first year as the High School Counselor at West St. Francois County School District. West County is a small rural school district with an average of 300 total students in grades 9-12. Andrea and her husband Bobby have been married for 18 years. They have two children; Alivia, 15, and Brody, 12.

ASHLEY RAY
High School Counselor

Ashley just completed my 15th year as a School Counselor for Odessa High School. She has a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Culver-Stockton College, a Master's Degree in Counseling from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, and completed her School Psychological Examiner Certification at the University of Central Missouri. I live in Odessa with my husband, Patrick, who is Active Duty Army National Guard and our two kids; Cooper, 10, and Harper, 8. I have participated in the Journey to College programs for several years and really value the partnership between schools and the MDHEWD. They provide excellent resources that really help us assist our students and families as they navigate their postsecondary options.

MELISSA WOLTKAMP
WiOA & Workkeys Assessment

Melissa Woltkamp is the Manager of Workforce Programs for Missouri's Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development. She manages many of the programs and services offered at the Missouri Job Centers, which includes the Title I Workforce Opportunity and Innovation Act programs. Her career with Employment and Training programs began in 1982 and she has been with the Division for almost 20 years.

SALLY GAINES
Pathway for All Missouri Youth

Sally Gaines is the Older Youth Program Development Specialist for the Department of Social Services, Children's Division. Sally has worked for the Children’s Division for 26 years and has been in her current position since 2007. Sally has her Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in Social Work and lives and works in Boonville. In her role with the Children’s Division, she oversees programs, services, and placement settings for youth transitioning from foster care at the state and federal level.

KELLY EVANS
Pathway for All Missouri Youth

Kelly Evans is the Associate Director of Financial Aid at Missouri State University. She received a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, Advertising and Public Relations from Drury University in 2005. She has worked, specifically, in Financial Aid at Missouri State since 2009, but has worked in higher education for 22 years. Kelly loves the ability to assist students from the first time they step on campus through graduation, graduate school, and as they grow in their careers. Kelly has had the opportunity to live all over the world, but now enjoys her little spot in the world with her two rescue fur kids Maggie and Eleanor. Her next travel goal is to visit every National Park.

WILL SHAFFNER
FAFSA, FSA ID, Updates

Will Shaffner serves as MOHELA’s Director of Business Development and Government Relations. He is responsible for School and Lender Channel Relations, Pathway Loan Program, Marketing, Sales, Social Media, External, Public and Government Relations. At MOHELA, Mr. Shaffner is a member of the Authority’s Executive Steering Committee, working with other executives to establish and maintain strategic direction, corporate culture, resource allocation, and other executive management issues. Mr. Shaffner has served as a Federal Negotiator as part of the Negotiated Rulemaking process for the Department of Education. He currently serves on the National Council of Higher Education Resources (NCHER) and the Education Finance Council’s Government Relations Committees. He currently serves on the NCHER board as Delegate-at-Large and on the MASFAP Executive Committee as Co-Chair of their Legislative Committee. He has served NCHER in a variety of past roles including board chair; and as chair of NCHER’s Government Relations Committee. Mr. Shaffner also serves on boards for Missouri Scholarship and Loan Foundation, Infinite Scholars, and Stray Dog Theatre.

ROB MOORE
FAFSA, FSA ID, Updates

Rob graduated from a rural school north of Springfield and attended both my undergraduate and graduate programs at Missouri State University. While in graduate school, Rob served as a graduate assistant in the Office of Student Financial Aid, which is how he started in the industry. Upon graduation Rob began employment at Missouri State University as a Financial Aid Counselor. He later became the Assistant Director of the Loan Unit and later the Associate Director. In 2019, Rob was very fortunate to become the Director of Financial Aid for Missouri State University. Rob is married to his college sweetheart and the proud father of a 4-year-old and a 1-year-old. Rob loves being out and about, but lately he’s become very familiar with the office in his basement.