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### Important Dates to Remember

**April 22:** Late registration deadline for May 7 **SAT**

**April 30:** **Kids' Chance scholarship** and **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** deadline

**May 6:** Registration deadline for June 11 **ACT**

**May 10:** Registration deadline for June 4 **SAT**

## College Students

- Take charge during **Financial Literacy Month**. Learn more about your money management skills by playing **Financial Football**, a fast-paced, interactive, multiple-choice question game. Created by Visa and the National Football League, Financial Football allows you to earn yardage and score touchdowns by answering financial questions provided in four training camp lesson modules:
  - o The Fundamentals of Investment
  - o Strength Training
  - o Defensive Spending
  - o The Game Plan
- Spring break has come and gone, and you can see the light at the end of this semester's tunnel. Make sure you ride out that spring fever and adequately prepare for upcoming final exams.
- To be eligible to renew a **Bright Flight scholarship**, you must attend college full time (excluding summer terms) receive the scholarship award at least one semester each academic year at an approved Missouri postsecondary institution and maintain satisfactory academic progress as well as a 2.5 cumulative grade point average.
- Have you considered taking summer coursework? It may not have been in your original game plan, but summer classes do offer some benefits. It may help you better focus and get through a difficult course or even help you pull ahead in your program of study.

## High School Seniors

- April is **Financial Literacy Month**. Learn more about your money management skills by playing **Financial Football**, a fast-paced, interactive, multiple-choice question game. Created by Visa and the National Football League, Financial Football allows you to earn yardage and score touchdowns by answering financial questions provided in four training camp lesson modules:
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- It's not too late to achieve an **ACT** or **SAT** score that qualifies you for the Bright Flight scholarship. Your eligibility will be based on the highest score you achieve on or before the June 11, 2011, national test date. A qualifying score achieved as a sophomore or junior on a national test date will also be accepted.

Award Tier	ACT	SAT
Top 3 percent	31	800 Critical Reading 790 Math
Top 4th and 5th percentiles	30	770-799 Critical Reading 770-789 Math

- Don't let senioritis wreck all the time and effort you've invested in your four years of high school. Keep your grades a high priority. Some colleges request grades from your entire high school career and scholarship opportunities may also look at grades that include your last semester.
- Watch the mail for acceptance letters, as well as financial assistance award letters. Compare the financial aid package offered to you and the cost of attendance (COA) at each school to help you make the decision that's best for you.
- Contact a school's financial aid office if you have any questions about the aid that school has offered you.
- When you decide which school you attend, notify that school and submit any required financial deposit.

## High School Juniors

- Meet with your high school counselor to make sure you're on track for your senior year and graduation. Make sure your courses meet college admission standards. A list of **recommended core courses** is available on the MDHE website.
- April is **Financial Literacy Month**. Learn more about your money management skills by playing **Financial Football**, a fast-paced, interactive, multiple-choice question game. Created by Visa and the National Football League, Financial Football allows you to earn yardage and score touchdowns by answering financial questions provided in four training camp lesson modules:
  - The Fundamentals of Investment
  - Strength Training
  - Defensive Spending

## o The Game Plan

- Note registration deadlines for upcoming ACT and SAT exams. Taking these exams now may help you get ready to make decisions about college. Check with your high school counselor to see if there is still time to take the **PSAT**. The PSAT gives juniors a chance to enter National Merit Scholarship Corporation scholarship programs. It also allows you to get some feedback on your strengths and weaknesses.
- Get a jumpstart on your future financial aid possibilities. Check out the U.S. Department of Education's **FAFSA4caster**. This website will provide you and your family with an early estimate of the kinds of federal student aid you might be eligible for.
- Check out the MDHE's *Journey to College* page on Facebook. Developed and maintained by MDHE high school interns, *Journey to College* provides an avenue in which to obtain a variety of information geared toward future and current college students. If you're interested in planning and paying for college, receiving financial aid updates and learning more about financial literacy, "Like" *Journey to College* at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com).

If you prefer to tweet, the MDHE recently created a Twitter account to assist students just like you. Receive short updates regarding various scholarship opportunities, federal and state aid deadlines, and money management tips by following *Journey to College* at <http://twitter.com/#!/Journey2College>.

## Younger Teens

- April is **Financial Literacy Month**. Learn more about your money management skills by playing **Financial Football**, a fast-paced, interactive, multiple-choice question game. Created by Visa and the National Football League, Financial Football allows you to earn yardage and score touchdowns by answering financial questions provided in four training camp lesson modules:
  - o The Fundamentals of Investment
  - o Strength Training
  - o Defensive Spending
  - o The Game Plan
- Are you heading to high school next year? This spring, work with your guidance counselor and parents to start planning the classes you'll take. Check out the **recommended core classes** for high school students on the MDHE's website to make sure your schedule is working to get you the credits you'll need when you go to enroll in a Missouri college or university at end of high school.

- Check out the MDHE's *Journey to College* page on Facebook. Developed and maintained by MDHE high school interns, *Journey to College* provides an avenue in which to obtain a variety of information geared toward future and current college students. If you're interested in planning and paying for college, receiving financial aid updates and learning more about financial literacy, "Like" *Journey to College* at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com).

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## Nontraditional Students

- In honor of **Financial Literacy Month**, do the right thing and be smart with your money. Explore your **options for investing or saving** a portion of your income. Be sure to put money away for rainy days as well as sunny days.
- Make sure you are achieving satisfactory academic progress to maintain eligibility for financial assistance and/or scholarships.

## Parents

### If your student is a high school senior...

- Decision time is here. Help your student compare financial assistance packages and make a final decision about which postsecondary institution to attend. Don't forget to incorporate any outside financial aid your student may be receiving (e.g., private scholarships) when evaluating schools' financial assistance offers and cost of attendance.
- Deposits for enrollment, if required, are usually due in May.
- Don't panic if your student didn't meet application deadlines or get into the school they had originally hoped for. Some schools will still consider applications after published deadlines. Call the admissions office to find out and encourage your student to consider other schools and programs.
- April is **Financial Literacy** Month. Take the time to talk to your high schooler about smart money management skills, and make a **plan** that addresses financial situations they may encounter as they head off to college.

## If your student is a high school junior...

- Follow up to ensure that your student is on track with courses for his/her senior year. Make sure eligibility requirements are met for graduation and that the course work meets college admission standards. Check out the **recommended core courses** on the MDHE's website for guidance.
- This is a busy time of year for students with a lot of testing taking place. Help your student stay on top of upcoming testing deadlines and dates.

## Scholarship Opportunities

- If you are between 17 and 22 years old and have a parent that was seriously injured or killed in a work-related accident compensable by worker's compensation, you may be eligible for the **Kids' Chance Scholarship program**.

To apply, you must have your **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** on file *and* submit a completed scholarship application to Kids' Chance of Missouri by **April 30**. You may obtain an application at [www.mokidschance.org](http://www.mokidschance.org).