

## Table of Contents

High School Seniors.....	2
High School Juniors.....	3
High School Students.....	3
Parents.....	4
Scholarship Opportunity.....	5

### Important Dates to Remember

**November 16:** Late registration for December 8 **ACT**

**November 16:** Late registration deadline for December 1 **SAT**

## High School Seniors

- If you'd like a little help filling out the **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**, make plans to attend a **FAFSA Frenzy event** in your area. Financial aid professionals will be available at various locations statewide in January, February and March to help students and parents fill out the application and answer financial aid-related questions.

To find a FF location or other financial aid workshop near you, check out the Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel's (MASFAP) **Show-Me to College events calendar**. The MDHE will also provide a list of sites and dates in the December Monthly Student Reminder.

- If you have yet to narrow down your school choices, schedule school visits for your top three picks. Consider characteristics such as the size of each school and its classes, location, campus environment, housing, social activities, facilities, job availability, and financial assistance. Our **Institution, Program, and Degree Search** can also help determine the schools that have programs in fields that interest you.
- Have you created a schedule or master calendar so you don't overlook important admission or financial aid deadlines? If not, it's not too late.
- Explore the wide variety of financial aid opportunities available to students. The MDHE administers **several grant and scholarship programs**, and many private and community organizations also provide scholarship funds ([www.dhe.mo.gov/ppc/grants/scholarshipsearchtips.php](http://www.dhe.mo.gov/ppc/grants/scholarshipsearchtips.php)) based on such items as course study, academic merit, or individual talents. Be aware that you should never have to pay a fee for scholarship money. Additionally, you may also visit the MDHE's Facebook page, **Journey to College**, and review the "Scholarships" tab. Visit and "Like" this page at <https://www.facebook.com/journeycastle>.
- Visit the MDHE's website to learn more about the **Advanced Placement Incentive Grant**, a new program created for students who score well on advanced placements exams in math and science while attending a Missouri public high school.
- Don't forget to register to take the ACT or SAT exam in October. 2013 seniors must have an ACT score of 31 or an SAT critical reading score of 725 and an SAT math score of 755 to be in the top three percent for the **Bright Flight Scholarship**. Final award amounts for students in the top three percent will be announced in August 2013. Students scoring a 30 on the ACT or between 700 to 724 on the critical reading section of the SAT and between 720 to 754 on the math section of the SAT will qualify in the top fourth and fifth percentiles. Awards for the top fourth and fifth percentiles are not likely to be funded for the 2013-2014 college academic year.

- If you are participating in the **A+ Scholarship program** make sure you're on track to meet all of the high school eligibility criteria before you graduate. If you are planning to graduate in December, check with your A+ coordinator to see if you will be able to receive the scholarship in spring 2013. Information about the **A+ Scholarship** is available on the MDHE's website.
- Check out the **MDHE's new student portal**, where you can access information about how to prepare and pay for college. You will need a Microsoft Live ID to sign in to the portal.

## High School Juniors

- Learn about the **different types of colleges and universities** available in Missouri, and check our **Institution, Program, and Degree Search** to help match up your interests and goals with the schools that are best for you.
- If you haven't done so, visit with your guidance counselor to make sure you are on track to graduate and that you'll have all the credits you need to get into the school of your choice. You may also want to talk about Advanced Placement courses to beef up your transcripts and to help minimize your college costs later.
- Visit the MDHE's website to learn more about the **Advanced Placement Incentive Grant**, a new program created for students who score well on advanced placements exams in math and science while attending a Missouri public high school.
- Discuss college finances with your family. When performing your college search, you need to know how much your family will be able to contribute towards your college education. Always remember, just because a college may seem expensive and out of your reach, never assume anything. There are several types of financial aid that may enable you to attend a college that may seem too expensive.
- Open a checking and savings account if you have not already done so.
- Check out the **MDHE's new student portal**, where you can access information about how to prepare and pay for college. You will need a Microsoft Live ID to sign in to the portal.

## High School Students

- Do you know how much college costs? Some people assume that college is out of their reach because of the cost. Before you blow it off, learn the facts and see what will work for you. Colleges come in all prices – depending on the type of school you choose. Check out the average cost to attend college at a variety of Missouri schools at [www.dhe.mo.gov/data/tuitionandfees.php](http://www.dhe.mo.gov/data/tuitionandfees.php).

- Order the MDHE's "Planning and Paying for College" information packet via the [MDHE website](#).
- Open up the lines of communication. Talk to your parents about your college dreams and ways to save toward that goal. The earlier you start, the better off you'll be! Have your parents look into college savings programs. For example, MOST (<http://missourimost.s.upromise.com>) is specifically designed to help Missouri parents save money for their kids to go to college.
- Consider signing up for **ACT** or **SAT** preparatory courses. Be sure to check out free practice test questions, test tips and test descriptions for useful pointers. Visit and "Like" the MDHE's Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/journeytocollege](http://www.facebook.com/journeytocollege), to receive information about scholarships, preparing for college tips and more on your Facebook wall.

## Parents

### If your child is...

#### A high school student:

- If your student would like a little help filling out the **Free Application for Federal Financial Aid**, make plans to attend a **FAFSA Frenzy event** in your area. Financial aid professionals will be available at various locations statewide in January, February and March to help students and parents fill out the application and answer financial aid-related questions.

To find a FF location or other financial aid workshop near you, check out the Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel's (MASFAP) **Show-Me to College events calendar**. The MDHE will also provide a list of sites and dates in the December Monthly Student Reminder.

- Attend financial aid and scholarship presentations with your high school junior or senior.
- Encourage your child to take college classes if they are available at your high school. Courses are usually offered at a reduced rate to high school students and can help your son or daughter earn a few credits toward a college degree.
- Visit the MDHE's website to learn more about the **Advanced Placement Incentive Grant**, a new program created for students who score well on advanced placements exams in math and science while attending a Missouri public high school.
- It's never too early to promote **healthy financial habits**. Continue to encourage your children to save a portion of what they earn and to exercise sound financial judgment – identifying "needs" from "wants" and acting accordingly.

**A middle school student:**

- Look into college savings programs. For example, MOST (<http://missourimost.s.upromise.com>) is specifically designed to help Missouri parents save money for their kids to go to college.

**Scholarship Opportunity**

- Eight \$1000 Missouri Community Service Commission (MCSC) scholarships are available to 9-12th grade student-volunteers through the 2012-2013 High School Student-Volunteer Community Service Scholarship Awards initiative. Please go to [MCSC Scholarship](#) for more information. All materials are due on **February 8, 2013**.