

Table of Contents

Returning College Students.....	2
New College Students.....	2
High School Seniors.....	3
High School Students.....	4
Middle School Students.....	4
Parents.....	5
Scholarship Opportunities.....	5

Important Dates to Remember

September 24: Late registration deadline for October 6 **SAT**

October 4: Registration deadline for November 3 **SAT**

October 5: Late registration deadline for October 27 **ACT**

Returning College Students

- If you are a **Bright Flight** student who took the ACT in June 2012 and missed the July 31 preferred deadline, you must submit any required eligibility information by **October 1, 2012**. If you do not provide all the necessary information to the MDHE by October 1, you will be considered a late applicant and your award will be subject to funding availability, even if you have previously received an approval letter. Corrections can be made by contacting the MDHE at 800-473-6757, option 4. Bright Flight students are NOT required to completed the FAFSA, but may choose to do so to apply for need-based aid.
- The deadline for eligible **Access Missouri** students to add a school choice to their record is also **October 1**.
- If you are a Bright Flight or Access Missouri renewal student, you must maintain a 2.5 GPA to continue receiving the award.
- 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.

New College Students

- Make copies of your financial aid forms, immunization records and IRS tax documentation to aid in resolving issues that may arise during your first year of college.
- If you are a **Bright Flight** student who took the ACT in June 2012 and missed the July 31 preferred deadline, you must submit any required eligibility information by **October 1, 2012**. If you do not provide all the necessary information to the MDHE by October 1, you will be considered a late applicant and your award will be subject to funding availability, even if you have previously received an approval letter. Corrections can be made by contacting the MDHE at 800-473-6757, option 4. Bright Flight students are NOT required to completed the FAFSA, but may choose to do so to apply for need-based aid.
- The deadline for eligible **Access Missouri** students to add a school choice to their record is **October 1**.
- 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.

High School Seniors

- Meet with your guidance counselor to verify you are on track to graduate and that your transcripts have all the credits you need to get into the school of your choice.
- Keep on top of important deadlines. Mark your calendar with registration, admissions and financial assistance deadlines and fees.
- Find out if the schools that interest you have online admission applications. If not, request them by mail.
- Schedule October campus visits with admissions counselors.
- Attend local and regional college fairs. For your convenience, the [Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel](#) has created the [Show-Me to College website](#) to help you locate college fairs and other college planning events in your neck of the woods. The MDHE is planning to exhibit at a large number of fairs listed on the Show-Me to College website, and we encourage you to stop by our booth to obtain information that will better assist you and your parents in planning and paying for college.
- Ask employers, teachers and guidance counselors for letters of recommendation to include with your admissions applications.
- Double check all college admissions deadlines, and make plans to enlist the help of a parent or high school counselor to review your application.
- If you haven't made a final decision about which college to attend, it might be helpful to check out College Board's recommendations for [questions to ask college representatives](#). You should also check out the [MDHE's Institution, Program, and Degree](#) search to see which Missouri schools offer the programs that interest you most.
- Don't let senioritis interfere with your academic goals.
- 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 to be in the top 3 percent for the [Bright Flight scholarship](#). Students scoring a 30 qualify in the top fourth and fifth percentiles but awards at that level are not likely to be funded for the 2013-2014 college academic year. The SAT scores for 2013 seniors will be announced as soon as they are available.

High School Students

- Make note of registration deadlines and prepare for upcoming **ACT** and **SAT** exams. Taking the exam now may help you during the college decision process. You may also want to check with your high school counselor to see if there is still time to take the **PSAT**. Taken during the junior year, the PSAT is used to award scholarships by the **National Merit Scholarship Corporation**.
- Attend local and regional college fairs. For your convenience, the **Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel** has created the **Show-Me to College website** to help you locate college fairs in your neck of the woods. The MDHE is planning to exhibit at a large number of fairs listed on the Show-Me to College website, and we encourage you to stop by our booth to obtain information that will better assist you and parents in planning and paying for college.
- Estimate your “net price” to attend a particular college or university by checking out the Net Price Calculator, which can be found on each college website. Net price is the difference between the full cost of attending college, minus any grants and scholarships for which you may be eligible. The full cost of attending college includes tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation and personal expenses.
- Have you completed your 0.5 credit for **personal finance** yet? If not, the MDHE wants to help you get a jumpstart on all that money smarts has to offer. Earn the grade you desire in your personal finance course by checking out the MDHE’s **financial literacy Web pages**. A wealth of information designed to get you on the fast track to wise financial management can be found within our **“Planning and Paying for College”** section.
- Talk with your parents about setting up a **savings and spending plan** and see how much your money grows over the school year.
- 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.

Middle School Students

- Start the year off right. Make it a point to track assignments and keep up with your homework. If you find a particular assignment to be extra challenging, talk to your teacher about it. Tackle it head on; your teacher won’t be as sympathetic if you put it off until the last minute before asking for help.

Parents

If your child is...

A high school student:

- Help your student get organized about college plans. Talk with your senior about their goals for their educational experience and help make sure deadlines are met.
- Use College Board's [questions to ask college representatives](#) to start a conversation about choosing the right postsecondary institution. Discuss these topics with your child, and make plans to visit college campuses together.
- Attend financial aid and scholarship presentations with your high school junior or senior.
- Encourage your student to build his/her resume. Positive resume building includes: taking college prep courses, participating in extra-curricular activities, and volunteering at programs outside of school.
- Attend local and regional college fairs with your student. For your convenience, the [Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel](#) created the [Show-Me to College website](#) to help you locate college fairs in your neck of the woods. The MDHE is planning to exhibit at a large number of fairs listed on the Show-Me to College website, and we encourage you to stop by our booth to obtain information that will better assist students and parents in planning and paying for college.
- Estimate your student's "net price" to attend a particular college or university by checking out the Net Price Calculator, which can be found on each college website. Net price is the difference between the full cost of attending college, minus any grants and scholarships for which your student may be eligible. The full cost of attending college includes tuition and fees, room and board, books and supplies, transportation and personal expenses.

Scholarship Opportunities

- The Horatio Alger Missouri Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to seniors in Missouri who have exhibited integrity and perseverance in overcoming personal adversity and who aspire to pursue an education. The 2013 scholarship application is open until **October 25, 2012**. To see the requirements and/or apply, go to www.horatioalger.org.
- Eight \$1000 Missouri Community Service Commission (MCSC) scholarships are available to 9-12th



MDHE[™]

Missouri Department of Higher Education

*Building Missouri's future...
by degrees®*



Monthly Reminders

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**.