



## Resolving to do well

Happy New Year! As you dive back into normalcy after the holidays, resolve to make deadlines, to try your best, and to prepare for your future. A new year means a fresh start. Let 2015 be the best year yet!

## Remember Me

ACT Registration

January **9**

SAT Test Date

January **24**

ACT Test Date

February **7**

SAT Registration

February **13**

SAT Test Date

March **14**

ACT Registration

March **13**

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## High School Students

- As you begin a new semester, start off on the right foot. No matter what kind of student you were in 2014, it's a new year — you can start fresh!
- All juniors in Missouri will be required to take the **ACT** this spring. Ask your school counselor when you'll be taking the test and start **prepping** now to get the best score possible.
- Don't miss out on college tips and information about scholarship opportunities. Follow Journey to College on **Facebook** and **Twitter**.
- Check out **Missouri Connections** for researching your career interests.

## Seniors

- If you're still planning to apply for college, be sure to get your application in before the end of January. Check with your school counselor and watch for scholarship deadlines.
- It's time to start filing the 2015-16 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). To help with the process, ask your parents to file their 2014 income taxes as soon as possible.
- Prepare now to file your **FAFSA** by registering for a **Federal Student Aid PIN**.
- **Filling out the FAFSA** is the first step in applying for most federal, state and institutional financial aid. You can get help with the FAFSA at one of **88 FAFSA Frenzy events** throughout the state in January, February and March. Just for attending, you will be entered into a statewide drawing to win one of sixteen \$500 scholarships that can be used for enrollment at a Missouri higher education program for the Fall 2015 term.

## College Students

- As you start a new semester be mindful of your **budget**. Try not to borrow more money than you need and be sure to create a **spending plan**.
- The 2015-16 **FAFSA** is now available. It is important to file your FAFSA as early as possible after January 1 to improve your chances of being offered the best financial aid package. If you need help filling out your FAFSA, find one of the **88 FAFSA Frenzy events** near you.
- If you lost or forgot your PIN, **apply for a duplicate** before filling out the FAFSA.
- If you receive the **Bright Flight Scholarship** or **Access Missouri Grant**, keep in mind that as a renewal student, a 2.5 cumulative GPA is required to continue receiving the award.
- Keep your eye out for summer internship opportunities. The semester will be over before you know it!

## Parents

- Students who are seniors should apply to college by the end of January.
- It is important to file the 2015-16 **FAFSA** as soon as you can to improve your son or daughter's chances of being offered the best financial aid package. Don't put off filing the FAFSA and miss important deadlines. You do not need to have your 2014 taxes filed in order to fill out the FAFSA, however you will need to go back and update the FAFSA information once your 2014 taxes are complete.
- As the parent of a child filling out the FAFSA, you'll also need a **PIN**. If you do not have a PIN or need a new one, be sure to request one before attempting to complete the FAFSA.
- If you need help filling out the FAFSA, attend one of the **88 FAFSA Frenzy events** throughout the state. Learn tips for helping your child fill out the form **here**.