

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

OVERVIEW

The Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development works with the state's colleges and universities to help students achieve their education and career goals, and to increase the percentage of Missourians with degrees and certificates to provide a skilled and knowledgeable workforce.

Governor Mike Parson signed Executive Order 19-03 in January 2019 to move the Division of Workforce Development and the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center under the Department of Higher Education, with the transformation legally taking effect on Aug. 28, 2019.

The new department will focus on empowering all Missourians with the skills and education needed for success. Aligning workforce development and higher education allows the department to reach more Missourians with a full range of postsecondary options.

Access

- The department's Journey to College initiative provides assistance and information about planning and paying for college to more than 40,000 high school and college students through outreach events including Apply Missouri, FAFSA Frenzy, and Decision Day.
- A redesigned College and Degree Search and a new online transfer tool, the Course Transfer Tracker, were both launched in 2018. Work on a redesigned State Student Financial Aid Portal and Student Workspace progressed through the summer of 2019.

Affordability

- More than \$129 million in state financial aid was awarded to 65,001 Missouri students through nine grant and scholarship programs, including the A+ Scholarship, Access Missouri Grant, and Bright Flight.
- In 2019, the Missouri General Assembly passed Senate Bill 68 to create the Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant, a new state financial aid program for adults age 25 or older, or adults under 25 who have been not been enrolled in education in at least two years. The program will help Missouri meet its Big Goal for higher education, providing tuition assistance to a population the department has historically been unable to reach.
- The Higher Education Core Transfer Curriculum (CORE 42) completed its second year with nearly 3,000 courses for Fall 2019 that transfer as equivalent credit among all public colleges and universities. Four independent institutions have signed on to participate in the CORE 42, with more anticipated. The core curriculum improves course transfer, saving students time and money as they work toward a degree.

Completion

- The state's public colleges and universities continue to implement and deliver multiple math course options as part of the Missouri Math Pathways initiative. These options –which include calculus track courses (such as college algebra and precalculus), statistics, and mathematical reasoning & modeling— allow students to take courses relevant to their programs of study. In 2014, nearly 90 percent of students were enrolled in either college algebra or precalculus. In 2018, the first year of math pathways implementation, nearly 40 percent of students were enrolled in statistics or mathematical reasoning & modeling, a huge structural shift which better serves students by providing them relevant and applicable math content for their future career aspirations.
- Ten colleges and universities are participating in concurrent enrollment and guided pathways pilot programs. The institutions have implemented programs on campus that help students complete a degree in less time and at less cost. A report on the outcome of the pilots will be submitted to the governor and the general assembly by Jan. 1, 2020.
- The Missouri General Assembly appropriated \$97,000 to assist 12 Missouri public institutions that did not meet at least one performance measure related to graduation, completion, or retention. Research by the Academic Affairs team revealed that institutions utilizing approaches such as guided pathways/degree maps and intrusive advising realize improvements in removing barriers to completion, shortening time-to-degree, and reductions in the cost of education for students. These 12 institutions represent the first cohort of institutions to receive resource assistance in planning and developing guided pathways and intrusive advising, and received subgrants to help facilitate the work on their respective campuses. In February 2019, a statewide summit was held, with 95 participants across the 12 campuses, to hear from national implementation experts in guided pathways and intrusive advising from Florida and Tennessee. Institutions attended in teams of 4-8 participants, across senior leadership, registrars, and student affairs to identify next steps and a timeline for implementation.
- Missouri's remedial education rates continue to decrease as colleges and universities expand as institutions continue to implement best practices in remedial education, including using multiple measures for placement. The percentage of recent high school graduates enrolling in remedial courses dropped from 30.8 percent in 2014 to 21.5 percent in 2018. Students who enrolled in remediation are also completing gateway courses in one or two academic years at a higher rate. In 2016, 64.8 percent of students who were enrolled in corequisite remedial courses, completed a gateway course within one year compared to the 14.2 percent enrolled in traditional remedial models.



350,323 students were enrolled at Missouri's public two- and four-year and independent colleges and universities in 2018.

96,600 certificates and degrees were awarded by Missouri public and independent colleges and universities during the 2018-19 academic year.

- In fall 2018, the department launched Success Services, a pilot program to provide services and resources to college professionals to help students succeed academically, financially, and personally as they work through their program of study. Services were developed based on the best practices and successful outcomes experienced by postsecondary institutions participating in Missouri's Default Prevention Grant during the years 2001-2018. A Keys to Student Success Summit was held in April 2019, featuring keynote speakers, breakout sessions, and interactive discussions that addressed college students' academic, financial, and personal success.

Program Approval

- The department approved the addition of 143 new academic programs and the deletion or inactivation of 101 programs at Missouri's public colleges and universities. The department also reviewed 82 new academic programs offered by the state's independent institutions.

Talent for Tomorrow

- The Talent for Tomorrow Initiative, launched in summer 2018 in conjunction with the Missouri Department of Economic Development, produced an assessment of how the state's workforce aligns with employer needs, looked at different economic scenarios to help build a workforce system that can adapt as the economy evolves, and identified a pilot project. The initiative culminated with the announcement of a set of recommendations to form an overarching workforce strategy for the state. A major goal was set to align secondary and postsecondary education with the public workforce system and the needs of the private sector.

MoExcels

- The General Assembly appropriated \$18.9 million for workforce initiatives designed to target state and regional workforce needs. MoExcels funding was earmarked to facilitate development and expansion of employer-driven education and training programs and initiatives to substantially increase educational attainment.

Facility Review

- A facility review of Missouri's public colleges and universities was conducted during summer 2018. The overall goal of this review was to assess the "state of the state" of higher education facilities and to review and understand the trends and issues institutions face. The final report detailing the conditions was completed in November 2018.



Our Vision:

Every Missourian empowered with the skills and education needed for success.

Missouri's coordinated plan for higher education

The Coordinating Board for Higher Education is responsible for creating a coordinated plan for higher education in Missouri. *Preparing Missourians to Succeed: A Blueprint for Higher Education*, focuses on five goals:

Goal 1: Attainment

Missouri will increase the proportion of working-age adults with high-quality, affordable postsecondary credentials to 60 percent by 2025.

Goal 2: Affordability

Missouri will rank among the 10 most affordable states in which to obtain a postsecondary degree or certificate by 2025.

Goal 3: Quality

Missouri will produce graduates with high quality postsecondary degrees and certificates that are valuable and relevant to individuals, employers, communities and the state.

Goal 4: Research and innovation

Missouri will be a top 10 state for investment in academic research by 2025.

Goal 5: Investment, advocacy and partnerships

Missouri will promote greater investment in a culture of postsecondary education through increased advocacy and powerful partnerships with education, business, government and communities.

Read more about Missouri's Blueprint for Higher Education at dhewd.mo.gov/blueprint.php.



ATTAINMENT



AFFORDABILITY



QUALITY



RESEARCH & INNOVATION



INVESTMENT,
ADVOCACY &
PARTNERSHIPS

More information

Visit dhewd.mo.gov/about/annualreports.php for more information about:

- Student enrollment
- Student persistence
- State student financial aid
- Missouri performance funding
- Academic program actions
- Proprietary school certification
- Core budget recommendations

