

Journey to College MONTHLY REMINDER

APRIL 2017



By now you're probably counting down the weeks until summer, understandably so. It's okay to look ahead — and you should. Just be sure what you're doing now is setting you up for success in the future. Set your sights on good grades, community involvement, college life and a future career!

High School Students

- ✓ You're in the home stretch now. If you are struggling in any of your classes, be sure to meet with your teachers or attend tutoring to get your grades up before the end of the semester.
- ✓ Juniors, are you ready for the ACT? Use free online tools at ACT.org to prepare. Your ACT score can impact your college acceptance and scholarship eligibility, so it's important to do your best.
- ✓ As you prepare to enroll in classes for next year, keep the following recommendations from the Department of Higher Education in mind:
English/ language arts..... 4 units
Mathematics 4 units
Social studies..... 3 units
Science 3 units
Fine arts 1 unit
Physical education..... 1 unit
Health education..... 0.5 unit
Personal finance. 0.5 unit
*Electives..... 7 units

**Two units of a single foreign language are strongly recommended for college-bound students.*

High School Seniors

- ✓ If you have submitted your FAFSA but need to make **corrections**, log back on to FAFSA.gov using your FSA ID, and make your changes as soon as possible.
- ✓ Consider comparing costs to help you make your final college decision. Use your **financial aid award letters** and a **College Cost Comparison Worksheet** to view your top choices side by side.
- ✓ **Decision Day** is coming up! Most colleges and universities ask that you notify them by May 1 of your plans to enroll for the fall semester. Many Missouri high schools will celebrate the plans their seniors have made to attend college or enter the military during Decision Day. If your school is hosting a Decision Day event, be sure to participate in the activities.

- ✓ Deciding to attend college or enter the military is a big deal! Celebrate your decision on social media using #MODecisionDay, #IDecided and #Classof2017.
- ✓ June is the last month 2017 graduates can take the ACT or SAT in order to qualify for some scholarships, including Bright Flight, for the fall 2017 semester. If you need to improve your score, register now for an upcoming test.

College Students

- ✓ If you're struggling with your grades, set up a time to meet with your professors or seek free tutoring services on your campus to help you catch up before finals.
- ✓ You should file a FAFSA every year you plan to enroll in college. Remember, you can't qualify for most financial aid without it. If you have submitted your FAFSA but need to make **corrections**, log back on to FAFSA.gov using your FSA ID and make your changes as soon as possible.
- ✓ When was the last time you looked at your degree map? Have you checked to see how many credit hours are required for your degree? Evaluate the credits you have earned, and determine how you're going to complete the credits you need to graduate on time. Think **15 to Finish!**

Parents

- ✓ If your son or daughter filed a FAFSA but now needs to make **corrections**, log back on to fafsa.gov using the FSA ID to make changes as soon as possible.
- ✓ If you are the parent of a high school senior, encourage your son or daughter to make a final decision about college during the next few weeks. Most schools want to know a student's decision by May 1. Find out more information about **Decision Day**, and help get your student off on the right foot!



Important Dates

MAY

1

Decision Day

MAY

5

ACT Registration

MAY

6

SAT Test Date

MAY

9

SAT Registration

JUNE

3

SAT Test Date

JUNE

10

ACT Test Date

JULY

28

SAT Registration

Journey  College

MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION

dhe.mo.gov/ppc/journeytocollege.php

 facebook.com/journeytocollege

 [@Journey2College](https://twitter.com/Journey2College)