



Before Attending SOAR

We strongly recommend completing the following tasks before attending your SOAR session.

Review information about SOAR with your student

Read the brochure mailed to your student or visit www.missouristate.edu/soar. If you are interested in our family orientation programs, visit www.missouristate.edu/soar/familiesatSOAR.htm for more information

Remind your student to register for a SOAR session date

Students can include up to two family members on their SOAR session registration. Please refrain from making any time-dependent arrangements (e.g. hotel reservations, airline tickets, etc.) until your student has received a SOAR confirmation email. Visit www.missouristate.edu/soar/register for reservation instructions.

Remind your student to complete items on the SOAR Checklist for Students

Several of these tasks MUST be completed before attending SOAR in order to register for classes. View the checklist at www.missouristate.edu/soarchecklist.

Prepare to arrive and check in at SOAR

Directions to Lot 15 (the SOAR parking lot) and instructions for checking in to the SOAR program can be found at www.missouristate.edu/soar/arrive.htm. Ensure you park in Lot 15, as vehicles parked in other areas will be ticketed. Remind your student to bring the SOAR parking pass included in the SOAR e-confirmation packet!

Bring to SOAR

Prepare for you and your student's session by packing the following items.

Comfortable walking shoes and a jacket or light sweater

We will walk between campus buildings throughout your session. The air-conditioned meeting rooms can be chilly for some, so consider wearing layers.

An umbrella or rain gear

Weather in the Ozarks can be unpredictable—don't be caught unprepared for wet weather!

A list of questions

We share a lot of information at SOAR. However, writing down all your questions helps ensure we provide you the answers you need!

After SOAR

Help your student prepare their transition to Missouri State by completing the following tasks.

Have conversations with your student about your expectations regarding:

- Academics
- Time management
- Financial responsibility
- Getting involved on campus
- Campus safety and awareness
- Accidents and emergency situations
- Healthy living
- Personal responsibility

Remind your student to frequently check their Missouri State email account

Email is Missouri State University's official method of communication. University representatives and instructors will send information ONLY to this account, so students should make it a habit to check their account a few times a week. Students can access their email account at www.missouristate.edu/studentemail.

Review the packing list for our residence halls

This list, located at www.missouristate.edu/packlist, provides suggestions for supplies students might need while living on campus. The list also contains items prohibited in our halls, so check it out before shopping.

Become a member of the Family Association

Members receive information about Missouri State programs, services and events through:

- [The Family Connection](#), our blog
- [Bear Notes](#), our monthly email newsletter
- Our [Parent & Family Programs](#) website
- Our Parent & Family Programs [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts

The Family Association also serves as a touchpoint for family members, helping answer your questions and referring you to departments and resources for further assistance. Visit www.missouristate.edu/bearsfamilies to become a member or view more information.

Attend Family Weekend

Family Weekend is a weekend each fall semester in which families can participate in fun activities and let their student show them their new "home away from home." Visit www.missouristate.edu/familyweekend for a schedule of events, ticket information, and more information.

Follow and friend us

Stay engaged with Parent & Family Programs through social media—you'll be in the know about campus news and upcoming events!

- Facebook: www.facebook.com/MSUfamilies
- Twitter: www.twitter.com/bearsfamilies

Ask your student to enroll you in the Partners in Education (PIE) program

PIE allows families to support their student's first-year academic success by receiving welcome emails, mid-semester progress reports, access to academic advisors, telephone assistance and final grades. To become a partner, your student must enroll through their My Missouri State portal. Visit www.missouristate.edu/sdpa/partnersineducation.htm for enrollment instructions and more details.



Website	www.missouristate.edu/bearsfamilies
Email	familyassociation@missouristate.edu
Phone	417-836-7641
Fax	417-836-4134