

**Missouri
State**

ACADEMIC ADVISING
AND TRANSFER CENTER

**NEW TRANSFER
STUDENT GUIDE**

2026-2027



**WELCOME TO
MISSOURI STATE
UNIVERSITY!**



Campbell Keele

*Coordinator, Transfer Initiatives
Academic Advising and Transfer Center*

Welcome Message

On behalf of the Academic Advising and Transfer Center, welcome to Missouri State University! I am so excited for you to become a Bear. As a former transfer student, I know firsthand that transferring to a new institution can be rewarding - and challenging. My goal is to assist you through the transfer process and help you make the most of your time at Missouri State University. Refer to this guide to help you as questions arise!

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about being a transfer student at Missouri State University! You may contact me through these methods:



CampbellKeele@MissouriState.edu



(417)-836-5258



Academic Advising and Transfer Center
University Hall 109

About Missouri State University

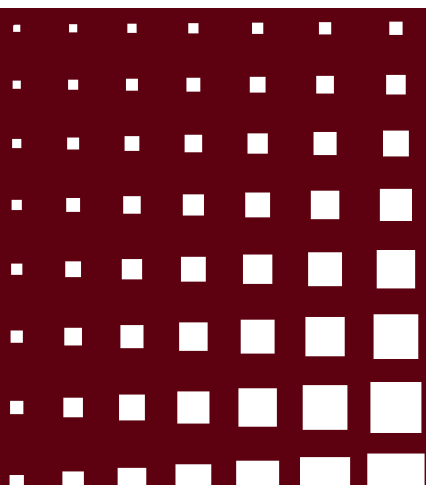
Missouri State University is a community of citizen scholars committed to public affairs. Our innovative teaching, research and service create transformative experiences that benefit individuals and society.

Our History

Missouri State University was founded in 1905 as the Fourth District Normal School. During its early years, the institution's primary purpose was preparing teachers for the public school systems in the southwest region of Missouri. In 2005, the institution became Missouri State University, reflecting its enrollment of tens of thousands of students, as well as higher admissions standards and increased graduate programs.

Our Values

As a vital component of our public affairs mission, Missouri State University has long embraced ethical leadership, cultural competence and community engagement as the three foundational pillars of our institutional identity. We reaffirm and elevate these enduring commitments by formally adopting them as our core university values.



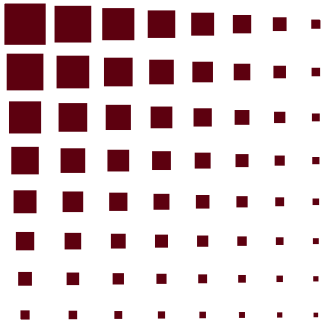


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Getting Started



Digital BearPass

The BearPass card is an essential part of your University experience, providing you with convenient access and exclusive benefits across campus. You can now use your BearPass card on your phone! With your smartphone or smartwatch, you can open doors, get meals, and attend events across campus!



Missouri State Email

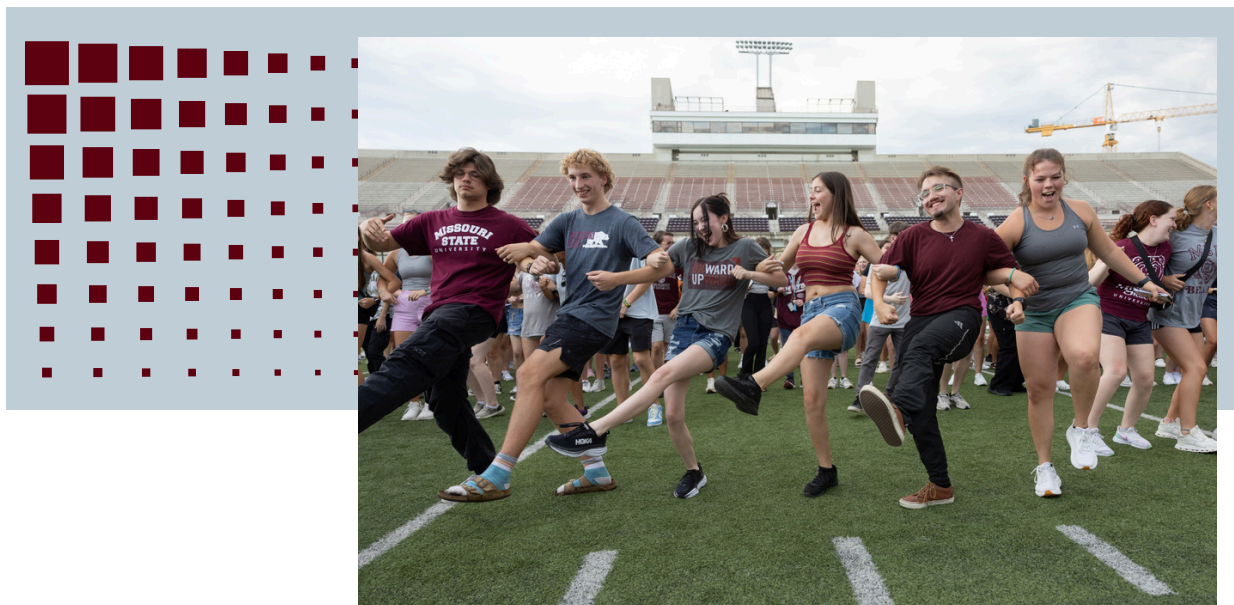
Missouri State University has partnered with Microsoft to provide sign in services to University resources, including your Missouri State email. Missouri State email is the official means of communication for University correspondence with faculty, staff, and other students.



Bear Shield

The Bear Shield app is a comprehensive tool for emergencies and everyday safety needs, with panic alerts, live location sharing, two-way communication, and real-time notifications you can access from any iOS or Android mobile device, making it easy to get help, report safety concerns, and stay informed.





My Missouri State



My Missouri State is your window to Missouri State. This web portal allows you to access registration tools, academic information, your personal profile, and more.

Brightspace



Brightspace is the learning management system used by Missouri State University. At your previous institution, you may have used Blackboard, Canvas, or another system. This is like a virtual classroom where you can access course materials, submit assignments, participate in discussion posts, and track your grades. Our online transfer orientation (required for all incoming transfer students) is housed in Brightspace, to help you gain familiarity with the system before you begin taking courses through Missouri State.



Class Registration

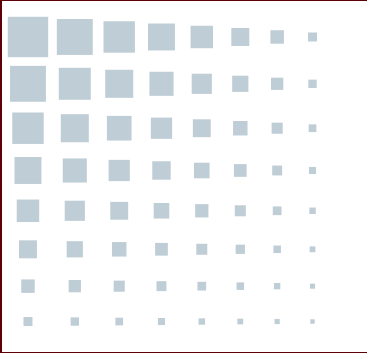
Incoming transfer students are able to register for classes alongside current Missouri State students! You will be assigned an earliest registration date based on the number of **completed, transferrable** credit hours we have on file at the time of your application. Spring registration typically opens in November, while Summer and Fall registration typically opens in April. You can find your earliest registration date for the upcoming semester and any holds preventing registration by going to the “Registration Status Eligibility” link on the “Registration” card in your My Missouri State portal.



The **Trial Schedule Builder** (also on the “Registration” card) is a useful tool for laying out your class schedule and planning breaks in your day. You can use the Trial Schedule Builder to access all possible schedules for the course combination you’ve selected with your advisor and to register for classes when your earliest registration date arrives.



Degree Works is where students track degree progress. You are able to access your Degree Audit by going to the “Degree Audit and SEP” card on your My Missouri State portal.



Transfer Credits

If you are currently attending another institution at the time of admission, you will be required to send a final transcript upon completion of your time at that institution. Be sure to also provide any scores from Advanced Placement (AP), College-Level Exam Program (CLEP), and/or International Baccalaureate (IB) exams you completed, as well as any Seal of Biliteracy scores or Military-based Credit.

Students can access their awarded transfer credit in My Missouri State via the “Review Transfer Credit Evaluation” link on the “Transfer To-Do List” card. Students can also request re-evaluations of their transfer credit by accessing the “Request Transfer Credit Re-Evaluation” link on the “Transfer Resources” card in My Missouri State. Re-evaluation requests cannot be submitted until after you have received an advisor release from your academic advisor.

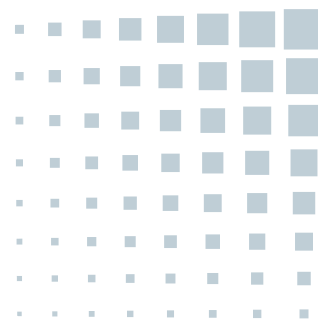
Contact: Admissions@MissouriState.edu



Academic Support

Missouri State University offers numerous academic support resources, including advising, tutoring, and coaching, all with the goal of helping you succeed academically!

Contact: TransferAdvisor@MissouriState.edu



Academic Advising

All transfer students are required to meet with their academic advisor prior to registering for your first semester of courses at Missouri State. Advisor assignments are based on your major. You will receive the contact information for your advisor or advising center in your acceptance letter. You can also find that information on our [Advisors for Transfer Students List](#). If you are uncertain of what major you'd like to pursue, or wish to change your major, we encourage you to utilize the [Academic Advising and Transfer Center](#) for support.



Tutoring

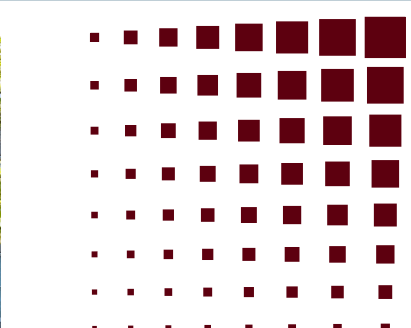
The Bear CLAW (Center for Learning and Writing) is located in the Library. The Bear CLAW offers free academic support services for students including, but not limited to, subject area tutoring, the Writing Center, the Presentation Center, office hours for GAs and study session leaders, and a variety of workshops designed to improve student success and retention.



Success Coaches

An academic success coach is dedicated to student success. With a Success Coach, you can identify strengths and weaknesses, work on academic and career goal setting, and develop your study skills and time management habits.

Finances



Scholarships & Financial Aid



The **Office of Student Financial Aid** aims to provide exemplary guidance to students and families as they search for ways of funding their college education. In order to receive institutional scholarships at Missouri State, **you must submit a FAFSA every year.**

We recommend that you submit the FAFSA by **February 1**, to maximize your options for state, federal, and institutional aid. Additionally, our Foundation provides an annual scholarship application for donor- and department-funded scholarships that is open **November 1 - March 1** every year.

Contact: FinancialAid@MissouriState.edu

Dining Options & Meal Plans



Missouri State offers on-campus dining experiences via our **three dining halls** (Blair-Shannon, Garst, and Heitz), as well as via restaurant vendors in the **Plaster Student Union** (Chick-Fil-A, Freddy's, Panda Express, Starbucks, Subway, and Sushi Do) and **Glass Hall** (Einstein's Bros. Bagels).

Students living on-campus are required to purchase a meal plan, which includes dining dollars that can be used at our restaurant vendors. Students living off-campus can purchase a commuter meal plan or purchase individual meals/items from our dining halls and restaurant vendors.

Contact: ResidenceLife@MissouriState.edu

Housing



All single students under 21 years of age who have earned fewer than 27 hours of transferrable credit after high school graduation are required to live in University housing.

On-Campus Housing



Living Learning Communities (LLCs) are on-campus living experiences where you can live, study, and socialize with other students who have something in common with you. The Transfer Bears LLC resides on the fifth floor of Kentwood Hall and is a community of students who are new to Missouri State but are not new to college.

Off-Campus Housing



Missouri State does not oversee off-campus housing. While our Student Government Association has provided students with a link to Rent College Pads, Missouri State does not endorse any landlord or property listed on the site. Students should view properties in person and read the entire lease contract before signing it.

Contact: Residence Life, Housing, and Dining Services
417-836-5536



Campus Resources

All transfer students are required to complete our online transfer orientation before you can register for your first semester of courses. With seven modules, this orientation is designed to provide information on all areas of campus life, from academics and housing to getting involved and campus resources! The orientation is available on Brightspace. Below are two resources I'd like to highlight, but be sure to ask your academic advisor about any additional resources you may be interested in.



Our **Disability Resource Center (DRC)** aims to create welcoming and inclusive environments for students, faculty, and staff. If you encounter academic, physical, technological, or other barriers on campus, the DRC will collaborate with you to find creative solutions and reasonable accommodations. To receive accommodations and services, you must register with the DRC.

Contact: DRC@MissouriState.edu



Our **Career Center** helps students locate resources and develop career management skills. Whether by utilizing their resume review, mock interview, or career exploration services, or by attending a Job & Internship Fair, students who utilize the Career Center's services enhance their career awareness and job-search skills. Over 92% of Missouri State graduates move on to graduate school or full-time employment upon completion of a baccalaureate degree!



Counseling Center

The primary goal of the Counseling Center is to promote students' personal development and psychological well-being. Experienced professional counselors, social workers, psychologists, provisionally licensed clinical staff, and supervised graduate level students assist students in addressing issues that may interfere with their progress at the University. Each student who visits the Counseling Center will develop a personalized care plan with a clinician.



Magers Health and Wellness

Magers Health is YOUR campus medical home. Magers offers an on-site clinic, pharmacy lab, x-ray, treatment clinic, specialty services and wellness services. There is no charge for basic office visits for students who have already paid their full health fee. Other services will incur a modest fee which is much lower than those charged at other health care facilities.

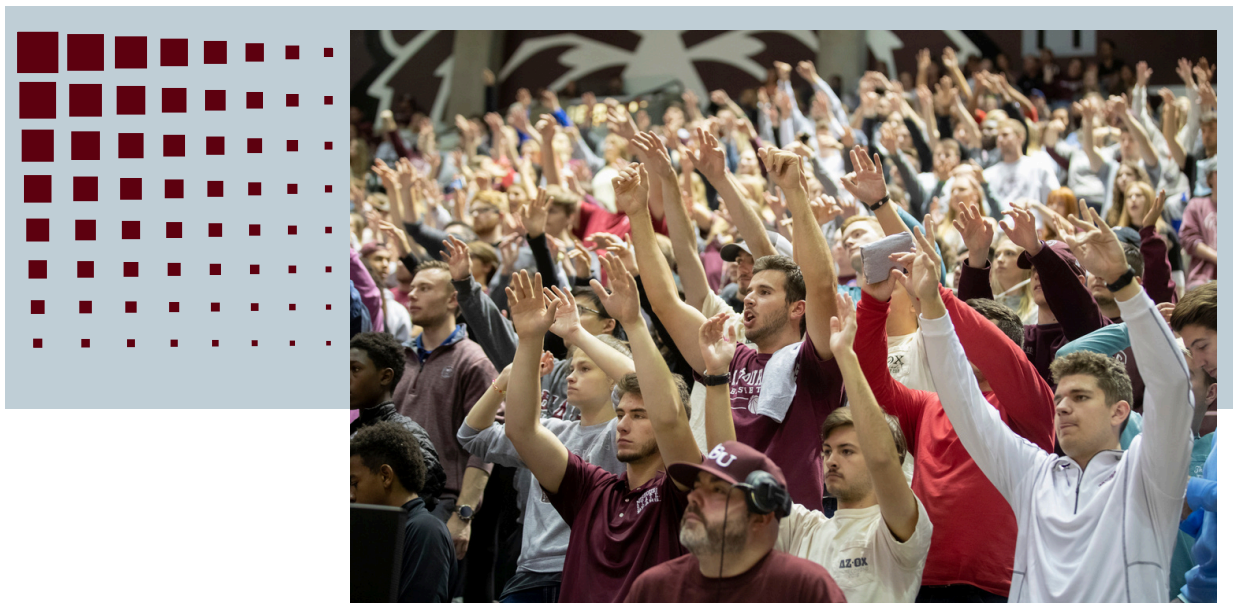


Campus Recreation


The Foster Recreation Center (FRC) is your home for recreational sports, training, club sports, self care, and an all-around fun place to relax! They offer many opportunities to stay active, on your own or with a group.




Campus Involvement




There are so many ways to get involved on campus and build your community! We encourage you to become a member of at least one of our 320+ student organizations. You can even start your own student organization!



Our **Office of Student Engagement (OSE)** is dedicated to elevating the student experience to empower individuals to grow, lead, and succeed. The OSE oversees our student organizations, including fraternity and sorority life, as well as Welcome Weeks at the beginning of our Fall and Spring semesters. We encourage you to participate in events like New Student Organization Festival and the Transfer Social.



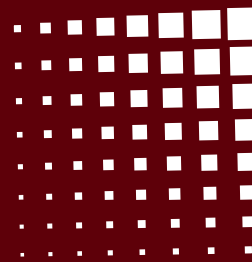
BearLink is your place for all things Missouri State involvement! BearLink allows you to browse campus events, search for student organizations, and contact organization leaders to get involved! We encourage students to download the app through the Apple App Store or Google Play.



Tau Sigma is the national honors society for transfer students. This organization recognizes the academic achievements of students transferring to Missouri State University from another institution. We are proud to have an active Tau Sigma chapter, with students taking online and seated courses! Eligible students will receive an emailed invitation to join after completion of their first semester at Missouri State.

Experiential Learning

Experiential Learning experiences are designed to deepen disciplinary understanding through tangible, hands-on opportunities and critical reflection. Examples of our many experiential learning opportunities are below.



Our **Office of Education Abroad** facilitates high-quality academic programs that increase the cultural competence of the Missouri State community, while developing the global leaders of tomorrow. Students can participate in short-term, faculty-led experiences or semester - or year-long experiences abroad.



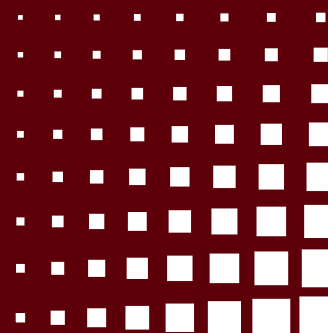
Internships help you explore career fields and gain valuable experience. An internship may be paid or unpaid. Your academic department may require that you have an internship and enroll in an internship class, but not all internships are for class credit. Our **Career Center** offers many resources to help you find an internship.



Missouri State views **research** as an essential contribution that enhances the educational experience. Many academic departments offer research opportunities for students to complete degree requirements, prepare for graduate school/advanced study, highlight skills to potential employers, and more.



Service learning is a great way to gain career-ready skills that connect to academic coursework and benefit the community. 8,271 students participated in service learning in the 2024-2025 academic year, providing over \$2.7 million worth of service. Students can participate with our **Citizenship and Service-Learning Office**.



Transfer Student-Specific Initiatives



National Transfer Student Week

occurs annually during the third full week in October. This is a week to celebrate and recognize our transfer students and their successes. Previous events include transfer student spotlights, bringing therapy dogs to campus, handing out free donuts to all students, and “Transfer Student Night” at sporting events.



You can connect with fellow transfer students on social media! Follow [@MoStateTransfer on Instagram](#) to learn about weekly campus events, student organizations, transfer-specific deadlines and events for transfer students, such as National Transfer Student Week celebrations.



Transfer Student Socials are held a few days before the start of the Fall and Spring semesters. Watch the @MoStateTransfer Instagram account and your email for invitations to the socials!



Athletics

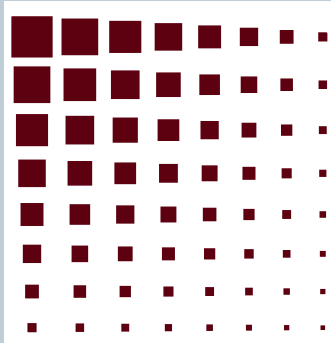
In addition to academic accolades, Missouri State has a robust NCAA Division I **Athletics program**, part of Conference USA. We compete at the highest levels, with our football team reaching the Xbox bowl and our women's basketball team winning the Conference USA tournament and reaching the NCAA tournament for the 18th time during the 2025-2026 academic year. Students can attend sporting events for free using their BearPass and can show their Mo State pride for any of our seventeen teams:

- Baseball
- Basketball*
- Beach Volleyball
- Cross Country
- Football
- Golf*
- Soccer*
- Softball
- STUNT
- Swimming and Diving
- Women's Tennis
- Track and Field
- Volleyball



*Denotes women's and men's teams

Transportation



Campus Map



Campus Parking

Those wishing to park a vehicle or motorcycle on campus will need to purchase a parking pass. Parking passes will be available for purchase on the first business day in July via the “My Parking” card on My Missouri State. Your parking pass will be digital and tied to your license plate. You will be able to park in commuter or residential lots, depending on your housing situation.



Bear Line Shuttle

Our Bear Line shuttle system offers a free and safe way to travel - no matter your campus destination. Evening routes are available Monday - Friday during the Fall and Spring semesters. Weekday routes are available year-round, as long as the University is open. Download the Passio Go app to track Bear Line shuttles.



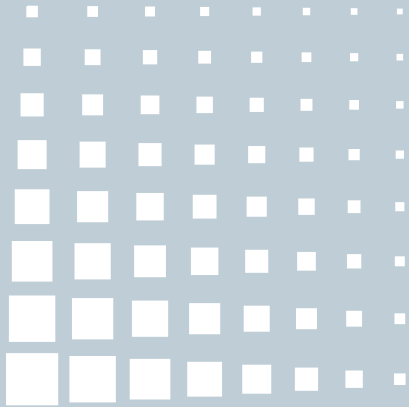
Bicycles & Scooters

Missouri State provides numerous places to lock your bicycle or scooter while on campus, free of charge. Bicycles and scooters are required to be **registered with Transportation Services** (registration is free). Bicycles are required to be locked with a U-Lock. All bicycles and scooters left overnight must be locked at a Residence Hall or Library.



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Go Bears!