



About Us: The [Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development](#) develops, coordinates and implements a plan that outlines how the state's postsecondary education system and public workforce system can most effectively and efficiently provide higher education to students and meet the state's workforce needs. The Office of Workforce Development administers federal and state funded employment and training programs to develop a strong talent pipeline for the state's growth nationally and globally. The department's major functions include:

#### **Fiscal**

- Coordinates and submits unified higher education operating budgets and capital improvement funding requests for Missouri's public institutions of higher education (IHEs).
- Reviews public IHEs tuition rates and oversees tuition stabilization under the Higher Education Student Funding Act, approved by the Missouri General Assembly in 2007.

#### **Planning**

- Develops and implements a coordinated plan for higher education under the direction of the CBHE.
- Reviews the missions of Missouri's IHEs.
- Collects and analyzes higher education data and prepares reports.
- Coordinates performance funding for higher education and establishes institution-specific performance measures.

#### **Academic Programs**

- Approves new academic degree programs, including off-site programs, offered by Missouri's IHEs.
- Facilitates the reverse transfer of college credit.
- Maintains a library of courses that transfer among all public and participating independent institutions.
- Develops and promotes best practices in remedial education and other programs that aim to improve college completion rates.

#### **Workforce Development**

- Administers federal and state funded employment and training programs such as: The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, the Wagner-Peyser Act, the Trade Adjustment Assistance Act, the Veterans' Employment and Training Service, and the Show Me Heroes Program.
- Coordinates services through a statewide network of Missouri Job Centers and self-service website.
- Helps coordinate Registered Apprenticeships among more than 15,000 apprentices and 3,600 employers.

#### **College Access and Success**

- Conducts programs and provides publications about planning and paying for college to Missouri students and their families.
- Coordinates programs to assist students with applying for federal and state financial aid and completing college applications.
- Coordinates default prevention efforts and promotes financial literacy programs to provide information to students about making responsible financial decisions.

#### **State Financial Aid**

- Administers grant and scholarship programs for undergraduate and graduate students, including the A+ Scholarship, Bright Flight Scholarship, Access Missouri and Fast Track Workforce Incentive Grant programs.

#### **Employment and Higher Education data**

- Provides analyses and assistance to policymakers and the public, including studies of the state's economic trends, targeted industries, and labor markets.
- Collects data at the student and aggregate levels using a variety of survey instruments.

#### **Institutional Relationships**

- Coordinates agreements with out-of-state higher education institutions to reduce cost of attendance for Missouri students.
- Promotes the development of cooperative agreements between public four-year institutions that allow those with graduate degree programs to offer those programs on the campuses of four-year public institutions that do not have graduate degree programs.
- Conducts binding dispute resolution for colleges and universities.

#### **State Guaranty Agency for Student Loans**

- Administers the Missouri Student Loan Program. Although the department no longer guarantees new loans issued by the federal government, it continues to service and maintain its existing portfolio of outstanding guaranteed loans.

#### **Higher Education Licensure**

- Certifies and oversees 150 private institutions, focusing on consumer protection for students.