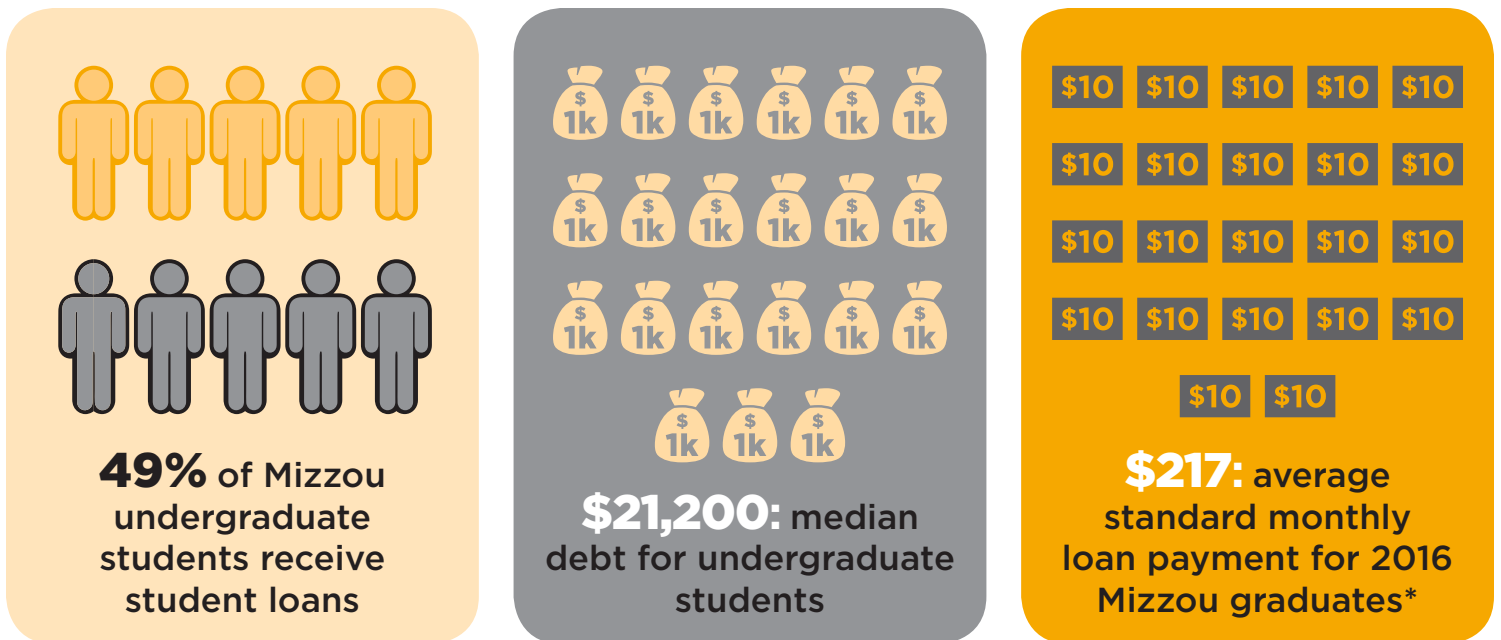


PATH TO SUCCESS

A ROAD MAP TO SMART STUDENT BORROWING

DON'T BE SURPRISED. BE PREPARED. College is an exciting, educational experience but also a significant financial investment. Understanding how to maintain your financial aid eligibility is critical. So is knowing your student loan repayment options after graduation.

The right preparation now can help ensure financial success in the future. Follow the path inside for tips and campus resources to make it easier.



FOLLOW UP IN MYZOU

myzou.missouri.edu

Self Service » Student Center



REFILE

YOUR FAFSA
EACH YEAR
BY MARCH 1
(MO RESIDENTS,
FEB. 1)



REVIEW

YOUR TO-DO
LIST AND
COMPLETE ITEMS



ACCEPT

FINANCIAL AID
AWARDS



COMPLETE

ANY FURTHER
TO-DO LIST ITEMS

Check your Mizzou email frequently for important updates and additional to-do items.



Learn how to view your student account in myZou: bit.ly/myZouBill

START



START THE PATH EARLY

Scholarship applications are due Feb. 1 for continuing and transfer students.

FAFSA = **Free** Application for Federal Student Aid. It's available each year starting Oct. 1. It **must** be filed each year at fafsa.gov to receive financial aid:

- File before our institution's March 1 priority date to be considered for the full range of financial aid including limited federal and Mizzou funds.
- Missouri residents file your FAFSA by the state priority deadline of Feb. 1.
- The FAFSA now uses tax information from two years ago, so there's no need to wait to submit until after you've filed your taxes. You can file your FAFSA now!
- When you're ready to file your FAFSA, be sure to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool at fafsa.gov — the easiest and most accurate way to report your income.
- Know the criteria for scholarship renewal.

STAY FOCUSED

Student loans must be repaid even if you do not complete your academic program.

- Seventy-two percent of those who default on their student loans did not complete their academic program. Don't let it be you!
- Monitor your federal loan debt through the National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS), the official government student loan tracker, at nslds.ed.gov.
- Utilize the Federal Student Aid Repayment Estimator at bit.ly/RepaymentEstimator to analyze your potential monthly payment amounts.
- Understand private loans before you borrow. Check out additional information at bit.ly/altloans.
- Experts recommend limiting loan debt to no more than you expect to earn your first year after graduation.

DON'T GET LOST

To retain financial aid eligibility, you must demonstrate **satisfactory academic progress (SAP)**. Undergraduate students must satisfy the following in order to maintain eligibility for financial aid:

- Pass 67 percent of all credit hours of graded course work attempted (including transferred credits);
- Maintain a minimum cumulative Mizzou grade point average of 1.67 if you have attempted fewer than 60 credit hours, or 2.00 if you have attempted more than 60 credit hours; and
- Attempt fewer than 180 total credit hours of course work.

Academic progress is reviewed annually following the spring semester and at the end of each term if no grades are reported for any courses. If SAP is not met, you will be notified. You can appeal for financial aid eligibility at bit.ly/sapappeals.

4.3%

of Mizzou student borrowers entering loan repayment default on their loan. The national average is 11.3%.

Make sure your student account is paid in full so you are eligible to enroll the following semester.

KEEP GOING!

RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATES EARN 70 PERCENT MORE THAN THEIR PEERS WITH ONLY A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.*

Academic Retention Services and your academic adviser can help you stay on track, explore options and complete your academic program! Arts and Science students can follow @MizzouAEAS on Twitter for timely academic updates!

SUPPORT YOUR JOURNEY

The Office for Financial Success can help you budget and plan for the future with:

- Trained, skilled financial coaches;
- Unbiased financial information; and
- Tax preparation and advice.

Tiger Pantry can help you in a time of need with food assistance, and Truman's Closet can put you in nice threads for your big internship or job interview. Learn more at tigerpantry.missouri.edu and trumanscloset.missouri.edu.

SET A PACE YOU CAN KEEP

Cost of living can be a major expense, so it is important to budget appropriately:

- Don't forget to budget for utilities, Internet service, groceries, transportation, etc. These items can add hundreds of dollars to your monthly expenses.
- Off-Campus Student Services can help you find housing that meets your budget.
- Keep your debt low. Credit cards often carry high interest rates that can be difficult to repay after graduation.
- Students who work part time have higher grades and obtain real-world job experience before graduation.

PLAN FOR THE FINISH

The MU Career Center can help you with:

- Drop-in consultations with career specialists and career counseling and coaching by appointment;
- Advice on career exploration, résumés, interviews and job searches; and
- Online resources through career.missouri.edu and the hiremizzoutigers.com online job board.

Estimate your expected income upon graduation with O*Net at onetonline.org. This can help you borrow wisely and understand what you can reasonably afford to repay.

GOAL:
FINANCIAL
SUCCESS

BECOMING A RESIDENT

Many Mizzou students become Missouri state residents. Nonresidents pay higher tuition than residents and are often required to take on a greater financial burden to cover the cost of a Mizzou degree. Carefully consider the benefits of becoming a Missouri resident at bit.ly/ResidencyMU.

REASONS YOUR FINANCIAL AID COULD CHANGE

Aid eligibility is not fixed. The following situations may alter your financial aid. Contact your financial aid adviser with questions.

Additional Financial Assistance

Notify us if you receive additional aid, such as private scholarships, fee waivers, employee educational benefits, vocational rehabilitation, etc.

Verification

We are required to verify the accuracy of FAFSA data and might ask you to submit various documents, such as IRS tax information. This could result in changes to your FAFSA information and changes to your financial aid.

Course Enrollment

Enrolling in fewer than 12 credit hours and/or in a Mizzou Online self-paced course might reduce your financial aid. Pell Grant recipients must be able to document attendance.

Special Circumstances

Let your financial aid adviser know if you experience a sudden change in income or expenses. We might be able to reassess your family's aid eligibility in the event of loss of income, divorce, death in the family, layoff, etc.

Utilize the **IRS DATA RETRIEVAL TOOL** to transfer your IRS tax info to the FAFSA.

WHY?

- Reduces the likelihood of being selected for verification
- Reduces the likelihood of inaccuracies on your FAFSA that can affect your eligibility

CAMPUS RESOURCES FOR YOUR JOURNEY

OFFICE FOR FINANCIAL SUCCESS

ofsmizzou.org

162 Stanley Hall

573-882-2173

financialsuccess@missouri.edu

ACADEMIC RETENTION SERVICES

success.missouri.edu/ars

Student Success Center, 909 Lowry Mall

573-882-9208

muarsinfo@missouri.edu

ACADEMIC EXPLORATION AND ADVISING SERVICES*

aeas.missouri.edu

M110 Student Success Center

573-884-9700

muasadvising@missouri.edu

OFF-CAMPUS STUDENT SERVICES

offcampus.missouri.edu

G106 MU Student Center

573-882-1753

offcampus@missouri.edu

CASHIERS OFFICE

cashiers.missouri.edu

15 Jesse Hall

573-882-3097

4cash@missouri.edu

MU CAREER CENTER

career.missouri.edu

Student Success Center, lower level

573-882-6801

career@missouri.edu

OFF-CAMPUS RESOURCES

studentaid.ed.gov

Learn more about applying for different types of federal student aid and repaying student loans.

fafsa.gov

Refile your financial aid application annually.

nslds.ed.gov

Track existing loans and find information about loan consolidation.

annualcreditreport.com

Monitor private loan debt and credit history.

**Academic advising for Arts & Science students who are undeclared, pre-journalism or pre-communications majors.*



University of Missouri

Student Financial Aid

11 Jesse Hall

Columbia, MO 65211

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CONNECT:

financialaid.missouri.edu

MizzouSFA@missouri.edu

 [MizzouSFA](#)

 [@MizzouSFA](#)

 [MizzouSFA](#)

Your financial aid adviser:
573-882-7506 or 800-225-6075
(toll free in MO, KS and IL)
bit.ly/MyAdviser

11 Jesse Hall
Office hours: 8 a.m.–5 p.m.
Monday through Friday
(summer hours may vary)