Creating Opportunities for Today’s Students... Tomorrow’s Leaders.

2017 Annual Report
Message from the Chairman

Dear Friends:

Often my day job as a banker requires that I evaluate the return on various investments. The same can be said about my most important job – as a dad. That job requires my wife and me to help our daughters measure the value gained for them, as we make decisions as a family about their education.

I am a graduate of a Missouri Colleges Fund member school and am pleased with the value I received. Our oldest daughter is a second-year student at a Missouri Colleges Fund member school, and is having a wonderful experience. We anticipate she will equally benefit from her investment. Our middle daughter is a senior in high school and is in the process of deciding her plans for the future. We have developed a spreadsheet with all of the colleges and universities she is considering. Some of the metrics we are tracking include cost, acceptance rate, average ACT score, student population, student/faculty ratio, career/graduate school placement, and geographic considerations.

I’ve learned the hard way that with my daughters it is impossible to predict which decision they will make. But what I do know is that having gone through this process twice now, it is clear that our 18 members of the Missouri Colleges Fund compare very favorably with their competitors.

The strong academic and technical knowledge our graduates gain is essential. But even more important are the leadership skills they develop while attending our MCF institutions: integrity, perseverance, confidence, creativity, critical thinking, communication, collaboration, personal responsibility and service to others. With their small classes, dedicated professors and an array of unique missions, our MCF colleges and universities educate over 80,000 undergraduate students and award 65% of bachelor degrees earned in Missouri each year.

We all face tough decisions about how to invest our resources, and the same is true for our charitable dollars. Each gift to the Missouri Colleges Fund strengthens the ability of our member institutions to educate talented students, provide challenging programs and to help students achieve their goals. In the end, I think it is an investment that will pay dividends for years to come.

Thank you for supporting the Missouri Colleges Fund.

Sincerely,

Ken Theroff
Ken Theroff, Board Chair

18 Member Missouri Colleges Fund Economic Impact 2017:

Colleges & Universities
9,275 employees

Generates Economic Activity
$4.3 Billion

Undergraduate Enrollment
81,680 students

A Greater Proportion of Missouri’s Degrees: The 4-41-65 Equation

Share of State Tuition Expenditures

State of Missouri 96%
Missouri Colleges Fund 4%

Students with financial need at MCF campuses receive less than 4 percent of the state’s tuition expenditures.

Share of Full-Time Undergraduate Enrollment

State of Missouri 59%
Missouri Colleges Fund 41%

Overall, MCF campuses enroll 41 percent of all undergraduates in Missouri.

Share of Bachelor’s Degrees Awarded

State of Missouri 35%
Missouri Colleges Fund 65%

MCF campuses produces 65 percent of all bachelor’s degrees awarded in the state.

Sources: Missouri Department of Higher Education and Missouri Colleges Fund, Inc.
Private Colleges Work Hard To Help Students Succeed.

FIRST GENERATIONS STUDENTS ARE MORE LIKELY TO GRADUATE FROM PRIVATE COLLEGES

70% graduated from private colleges within 6 years
57% graduated from public universities within 6 years

EMPLOYERS WANT LIBERAL ARTS KNOWLEDGE

80% of employers think every student should acquire broad knowledge in the liberal arts

PRIVATE COLLEGE GRADUATES FINISH ON TIME

59% of graduates of smaller private colleges finish within 4 years
38% of graduates of regional public universities finish within 4 years

PRIVATE COLLEGES AWARD 3X LARGER GRANTS

$14,826 awarded on average per student at private colleges
$4,765 awarded on average per student at public universities

LIBERAL ARTS STUDENTS ARE ENGAGED CITIZENS

77% of 18-24 year-old private college students are registered to vote
53% of 18-24 year-olds who do not attend private colleges are registered to vote

PRIVATE COLLEGES AWARD 2X MORE GRANTS

80% of students at private colleges receive grants
40% of students at public universities receive grants

Alexia Lamb attends William Jewell College. She is a senior Biology major from Liberty, Missouri. She graduated in the top 10% of her high school class, completed the A+ Program, and was the recipient of Presidential scholarship at William Jewell College. Alexia was awarded the TriBeta Grant for Undergraduate Research and Journey Grant Scholarship to explore her Hawaiian Heritage. She is a member of Native American Club, Biological Honors Society and Diakronomena – A group interested in increasing religious literacy on campus. “After I graduate from William Jewell College, I plan to acquire my PhD in Toxicology at a reputable graduate school. Once I have gotten that degree I plan to work in the growing field of venom therapy research where I can work with animal toxins and venoms in order to find cures to some of today’s atrocious diseases.”
Profile of the Missouri Colleges Fund, Inc.

**Mission**
The Mission of the Missouri Colleges Fund is to acquire resources to help educate students in member independent/private, four year, liberal-arts colleges and universities.

**History and Purpose**
The Missouri Colleges Fund (MCF) was incorporated in 1952 as a partnership of private enterprise, entrepreneurs and the member independent colleges and universities in the Show-Me State. For 65 years, MCF has been a leader in building communications among its member institutions and partners with businesses and foundations that mobilize collaboration and financial support. It enables these institutions to accomplish more through this joint effort than they might acting individually.

**Gifts Go Directly to Support Students**
All unrestricted support the member institutions receive from the MCF is used for need-based financial aid for qualified students unless otherwise directed by the donor. Recipients of these scholarships are selected by the member colleges, not by the Fund.

**Membership**
The member schools are independent baccalaureate degree-granting liberal arts and comprehensive colleges and universities in the State of Missouri, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

**Distribution of Funds**
Undesignated funds are distributed equally to member institutions. The MCF accepts contributions designated for one or more institutions and distributes gifts in accordance with the donor’s wishes.

**Legal and Tax Status**
The MCF was formed in 1952 as a non-profit corporation. The fund is classified as a public charity under section 509(a) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code and is a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization. All contributions to the fund are tax-deductible up to the limits prescribed by the law. Our Federal ID Number is 43-0680952.

**Solicitors**
Business members of the Board, college presidents and chief development officers make solicitation calls on behalf of the MCF without compensation from the Fund.

**Diversity Statement**
The MCF is committed to a policy of non-discrimination and equal opportunity in hiring and in administration of all its programs. The fund does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability or on any other basis that would be in violation of any applicable federal or state law.

**Operating Budget**
The Board of Directors approves a budget which is underwritten by equal assessments paid by each member institutions. Gifts to the fund are not used for the administration of the fund.

**Annual Audit**
Our fiscal year is January 1 through December 31. The financial records are audited annually by Graves and Associates, CPA’s, of Jefferson City.

**National Affiliation**
The MCF is affiliated with the Council of Independent Colleges which is a national partner in a network of member state and regional associations that represent more than 650 private colleges and universities.

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Zerubbabel Fitsum attends Hannibal LaGrange University majoring in Christian Studies – Bible Emphasis. His hometown is Olathe, Kansas, however, both of his parents are from Ethiopia and moved to America before he was born. He grew up in a home being faithfully taught the Scriptures by both his parents. Zerubbabel received the Christian Character Award his junior and senior year of high school. He is a first-generation college student. At Hannibal-LaGrange, he is active on the Basketball and Cross Country and Track teams. “My desire is to become a Senior Pastor and possibly attend seminary.”
GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

Unrestricted Gifts

Unrestricted gifts have played an essential role for our colleges and universities since the founding of the Missouri Colleges Fund in 1952. These important gifts have a profound impact on the ability of our institutions to meet their changing needs.

All undesignated funds are used by member colleges and universities to provide need-based financial aid for students.

Teachers First Scholars Program

For the past nineteen years, many school districts in Missouri have been faced with a critical teacher shortage due primarily to record retirements of experienced teachers. The independent member colleges of the Missouri Colleges Fund are excelling in their efforts to respond by graduating properly certified teachers ready to take their place in the elementary and secondary schools in Missouri.

Since 1998, the TEACHERS FIRST Scholars Program has raised more than $5.5 million for need-based financial aid to outstanding students who are returning to the classroom to teach in areas of child and family education, special education, elementary, middle school and secondary education.

STEM Scholars Program

Studies reveal that most eighth and tenth-grade students in Missouri score lower than proficient in math and science.

The goal of the Missouri Math and Science Scholars Coalition is to make Missouri a national leader in math, engineering, technology and science education. Since World War II, math, science and technology have been responsible for more than half of America’s economic growth.

The STEM Scholars Program raises financial aid to underwrite math, technology, engineering and science scholarships at our member institutions.

First Opportunity Scholars Program

During the next several decades, the United States will experience a major demographic shift affecting college enrollments and corporate employment. By 2050, the population will reach nearly 400 million people, with new immigrants and their children accounting for approximately 80 percent of that growth.

As the nation’s demographics change, there will be a significant and increasing number of low-income, first generation, minority and new American students enrolling in college and preparing for the work force. The First Opportunity Scholars Program aims to foster increased college access and financial aid for these students.

Victoria Kehler is a senior attending Cottey College majoring in Health Sciences. Victoria is named on the Dean’s List and the recipient of Cottey Honors and Awards. She is a member of the Cross Country Team, Student Government Association and is the Engineering Club president. “I have had an internship at a vet clinic in Nevada, Missouri and a summer job at an emergency vet clinic in Joplin, Missouri. Both experiences have taught me a lot and given me an even greater desire to pursue my goal of becoming a small animal veterinarian that specializes in avian medicine.”

Megan Henson is a senior from Pierce City, Missouri attending Drury University. She is majoring in Elementary Education. She is a recipient of the Presidential Scholarship and Dean’s List Honors. Megan’s extracurricular activities include Kappa Delta Pi, Alpha Lambda Delta, Residence Life, Panthers for Autism and Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Ozarks. “After graduation I plan to teach in a Title I school, while obtaining a Master’s in Special Education. I would love to eventually teach reading corrections.”
2017 Corporate Partners

Commerce Bank
62 Years

Edward Jones
INVESTMENTS
35 Years

Enterprise Holdings
28 Years

ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH
52 Years

RGA
Reinsurance Group of America, Incorporated
6 Years

Bayer
4 Years

HBE
19 Years

Waddell & Reed
Financial Advisors
29 Years

Massman Construction Co.
59 Years

Stifel
21 Years

Scottrade
14 Years

Anheuser-Busch
6 Years

US Bank
45 Years

H&R Block
Emerald Financial Services
49 Years

Boehringer Ingelheim
7 Years

Wells Fargo Advisors
25 Years

UPS
43 Years

Sprint
Foundation
43 Years

Monsanto
Fund
12 Years
Missouri Colleges Fund was inducted into the Evangel University Presidents Club for contributing over $1 million dollars in student scholarships. Presenting the award to Mike Backer is Dr. Carol Taylor, President, Evangel University and Michael Kolstad, Vice President for University Advancement.

Alyson Goodale is a junior from Springfield, Missouri attending Columbia College. Alyson is active as Vice President for Pre-Healthcare Professional Club, Student Ambassador, Honors Program Induction Committee Member, Red Cross Club Member, Columbia College Homecoming Committee Member and volunteers at Food Bank for Central and Northeast Missouri and Night to Shine. “My future goal is to attend medical school and become a medical doctor. I want to practice medicine and help people feel better.”

Margarita Araiza is from Kansas City, Missouri and is a senior at Park University majoring in Secondary Education with a concentration in Biology. Margarita is a recipient of the MCC Student Leadership Award and Park University Doris-Howell Leadership Award. She is active as a Resident Assistant, Maple Woods Community College Peer Leader, Park University Peer Mentor, Student Ambassador, Vice President of Spectrum and Vice President of Activities Board. “My dream is to graduate from school with my degree. After graduation, I would love to be accepted into teaching high school Biology in the Peace Corps. Upon returning, my dream job is to work in the North Kansas City School District.”

Stacy Fisher attends Southwest Baptist University. She is a junior majoring in Elementary Education. Stacy was Valedictorian of her high school class, received perfect EOC Geometry Score and SHS Music Award, and was a top 2 Algebra student. At SBU, she is active in Missouri State Teachers Association, Enactus, Alpha Chi, Phi Eta Sigma Treasurer, and Center for Global Connections – Mission Trip. “I plan to stay in Southern Missouri and work in a public school. I hope to teach in an upper elementary or middle school classroom. I am passionate about working with children and cannot wait to have my own classroom.”

Jacob DeBeier attends Missouri Baptist University and is a senior Biology major from Eureka, Missouri. He was nominated as the National Defensive Player of the week and is a recipient of the Presidential Citation Award, Diversity Scholarship Award, and Presidential Scholarship Award. Jacob is a Collegiate Student Athlete and a member of Science Mentor Program, Sigma Zeta Honor Society, Psi Chi Honor Society, and Tri Beta Honor Society. “After graduating from MBU, I will attend Dental School and work toward a Doctorate of Medical Dentistry or a Doctorate of Dental Surgery. I am extremely excited for my future, and feel very confident that my experiences both in academic and extracurricular activities during my undergraduate have prepared me to succeed.”
50 Years And Counting
“An educated population makes a better state, nation and world. Missouri Colleges Fund contributes to that end.”

• Mr. R. Philip Bixby, President, CEO and Chairman of the Board, Kansas City Life Insurance Company

This past year several companies joined a growing list of donors who have supported independent higher education in Missouri for more than 50 years:

American Pulverizer Company ______________ 53
Blue Ridge Bank and Trust Company ______________ 51
Central Bank _____________________________ 59
Central Bank of Sedalia ______________________ 53
Charles H Taylor Memorial Trust _____________ 61
Commerce Bank ____________________________ 62
Commercial Trust Company _________________ 50
Echo Valley Foundation _____________________ 57
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Elliot Management Services _________________ 51
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Tnemec Company Inc. _____________________ 53
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UMB Financial Corporation_________________ 51

Richelle Peart-Saulsbury
is a senior at Evangel University majoring in Biology Pre-Med. She is from Folsom, California. Richelle is named on the Dean's List and is a member of Sigma Alpha Sigma Honor Society, Pre-Healthcare Society and Sigma Zeta. “After graduation, I plan to go to medical school to pursue a career as a doctor.”

Kalie Sturch is a junior Elementary Education major at Maryville University. She is a recipient of the Duchesne Scholarship, Mildred Dennis Education Award and is named on the Dean’s List. Kalie is active on Campus Activity Board, Maryville Reaches Out (Community Service Initiative), and Habitat for Humanities in New Orleans. “I have absolutely fallen in love with teaching. I enjoy working with students and getting to know each individually. I’m looking forward to having my own classroom and meeting my first class!”
**Statement of Participating Fund Support**

*Revenue and Distribution for January 1 to December 31, 2017*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Support – Contributions</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Revenue – Interest and Dividends</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Support and Revenues</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Distribution to Colleges and Universities</strong></td>
<td>$510,711</td>
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</table>

Includes: Avila University, Kansas City; Central Methodist University, Fayette; Columbia College, Columbia; Cottey College, Nevada; Culver-Stockton College, Canton; Drury University, Springfield; Evangel University, Springfield; Fontbonne University, St. Louis; Hannibal-LaGrange University, Hannibal; Lindenwood University, St. Charles; Maryville University, St. Louis; Missouri Baptist University, St. Louis; Park University, Parkville; Rockhurst University, Kansas City; Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar; Westminster College, Fulton; William Jewell College, Liberty; William Woods University, Fulton.

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<td><strong>2017 Distribution to Colleges and Universities</strong></td>
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<td><strong>2017 Gifts-in-kind of Goods &amp; Services</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Total Gifts to Date</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Endowment and Securities Values as of December 31, 2017</strong></td>
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**Honor Roll of Contributors**

**LEADERSHIP GIFTS**

*DONOR OF THE YEAR*

- $49,500
- United Parcel Service Foundation

**FOUNDER’S CLUB**

* $25,000 TO $49,999
- Council of Independent Colleges
- Edward Jones
- George H. Riedel Foundation
- Monsanto Fund
- United Parcel Service Foundation

**CHAIRMAN’S CLUB**

* $10,000 TO $24,999
- Mr. & Mrs. James Adams
- Burlington Northern Santa Fe Foundation
- Commerce Bank
- EMERSON
- Harry Cooper Supply Company
- MFA Foundation
- Reinsurance Group of America, Inc.
- The Pott Foundation
- Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC

**PRESIDENT’S CLUB**

* $5,000 TO $9,999
- Arvest Bank-The Walton
- Family Foundation
- Bicknell Family Foundation
- DST Systems Inc.
- Enterprise Holding Foundation
- Ford Motor Company Fund
- Fresh Ideas Food Service Management LLC
- HBE Corporation
- H & R Block Emerald Financial Services
- Harry Portman Charitable Trust
- J E Dunn Construction
- Massman Foundation
- Novus International, Inc.
- Sprint Foundation
- Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc.
- St. Louis Post Dispatch Charitable Giving
- Stupp Bros. Bridge & Iron Co. Foundation
- Teva Neuroscience, Inc.
- United Fire Group
- US Bank Foundation
- Waddell & Reed Financial Inc.

**PARTNER’S CLUB**

* $2,500 TO $4,999
- Mr. and Mrs. Mike Backer
- E. Reuben & Gladys Flora Grant Trust
- George Von Hoffman Foundation Inc.
- Great Southern Bank, FSB
- H & R Block Foundation
- Kansas City Life Insurance Co.
- Maritz Inc.
- Medart, Inc.
- Parmelee Foundation, Inc.
- Peterson Manufacturing Company
- Olin Corporation Charitable Trust
- J.B. Reynolds Foundation
Salvajor Company
Scottrade, Inc.
Tnemec Company, Inc.
UMB Financial Corporation

ASSOCIATE’S CLUB
$1,000 TO $2,499
Anderson Creative
Mrs. Susan Christian Backer
Mr. Robert Barnes
Bartlett and Company
Callaway Electric Cooperative
Carl & Jeanne Deutsch
Foundation
Casey’s General Stores
Central Bank
Central Bank of the Ozarks
Charles H. Taylor Memorial Trust
Drury Inns, Inc.
E.A. Martin Machinery
Edison Family Foundation
Essex Industries/ Guller
Foundation
Fabri-Quilt, Inc.
First Federal Bank, F.S.B.
Fischer-Bauer-Knirps Foundation
GlaxoSmithKline Consumer
Healthcare
Gunther Salt Company
Hawthorn Bank
Hellenic Spirit Foundation
Henry Wurst Inc.
Herschend Family Entertainment
Corporation
Hillyard, Inc.
Hogan Motor Leasing Inc.
Hy-Vee, Inc.
J.C. Nichols Charitable Trust,
c/o Highwoods Properties
Jefferson Bank of Missouri
Kuhn Foundation
Macon-Atlanta State Bank
The McMeel Foundation
Mr. Arthur S. Montgomery
Orscheln Industries
Foundation, Inc.
Park Investments, Inc.
Shade Tree Service Company
Sherwood Community Bank
Tension Envelope Foundation
US Foodservice
Western Supplies, Echo Valley
Foundation

* denotes new donor

Kelsey Marek is a freshman attending Westminster College majoring in Biology. Her hometown is Salisbury, Missouri. Kelsey is a recipient of the President’s Scholarship. Her extracurricular activities include women’s basketball and Kappa Alpha Theta. “After graduation I plan to attend veterinary school and upon graduating there return home and open my own practice. I also plan to do some internships while in veterinary school.”

Carlos Garcia is a senior from San Antonio, Texas attending Lindenwood University. He is Biology major. Carlos is active in Residential Life and a member of Lindenwood’s Shotgun Team. “I plan to take the MCAT in hopes of attending Medical School. I would love to be a Surgeon. Another career I would love to eventually have is with National Geographic as either a photographer or explorer.”

Mike Backer presents the 2017 Scholars Book to Stan Roux, Director of Human Resources, UPS Central Plains District and Donna Harvey, Central Plains Area Human Resources Manager. Stan also serves on the MCF Board.
### Central Missouri Region

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<td>Central Bank</td>
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### Kansas City Region

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<td>Bartlett and Company</td>
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<td>H &amp; R Block Emerald Financial Services</td>
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<td>Enterprise Holdings Foundation</td>
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<td>Stinson Leonard Street LLP</td>
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<td>Tnemec Company, Inc.</td>
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<td>Waddell &amp; Reed Financial Inc.</td>
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### Northeast Region

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<td>Canton State Bank</td>
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<td>Macon-Atlanta State Bank</td>
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<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>United State Bank</td>
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### Northwest Region

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Farmers State Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Richard N. Deshon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Hilyard, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Charles H. Taylor Memorial Trust</td>
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### St. Louis Region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>American Pulverizer Company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Mr. Robert Barnes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>62</td>
<td>Commerce Bank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Carl &amp; Jeanne Deutsch Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Dierbergs Markets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Drury Inns, Inc.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
61 Edison Family Foundation
35 + Edward Jones
60 EMERSON
10 ESCO Technologies Inc.
42 Essex Industries/Guller Foundation
65 Fischer-Bauer-Knirps Foundation
25 + Mrs. Dorothy Fleck
29 + Frost Electric Supply Company
58 GlaxoSmithKline Consumer HealthCare
18 E. Reuben & Gladys Flora Grant Trust
35 Gunther Salt Company
19 HBE Corporation
12 Hellenic Spirit Foundation
50 Hermann Oak Leather Co.
18 Hogan Motor Leasing Inc.
23 + Koller Craft Plastic Products
1 * Mr. James Krekeler
8 + Kuhn Foundation
54 Loy-Lange Box Company
52 Maritz Inc.
51 + Medart, Inc.
12 Monsanto Fund
10 Novus International, Inc.
60 The Pott Foundation
6 Reinsurance Group of America, Inc.
41 Schaeffer Manufacturing Company
14 Scottrade Inc.
41 + Shade Tree Service Company
21 Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Inc.
52 St. Louis Post Dispatch Charitable Giving
63 Stupp Bros. Bridge & Iron Co. Foundation
41 Tricor-Braun, A Div. of Kranson Industries
25 Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC
57 Western Supplies, Echo Valley Foundation
48 Winter Brothers Material Company

Southwest Region
8 + Mr. & Mrs. James Adams
38 Central Bank of the Ozarks
52 Harry Cooper Supply Company
23 Empire District Electric Company
40 Great Southern Bank, FSB
33 Hammons Products Company
13 Herschend Family Entertainment
47 Hiland Quality Chekd Dairy Products
11 Mr. Robert G. Ingold
41 Martin Family Fund
24 New Prime, Inc.
29 O'Reilly Automotive, Inc.
16 Positronic Industries, Inc.
51 Skyline Investments Co. LLC
22 Superior Gearbox Company
51 UMB Financial Corporation

OUT OF STATE INVESTORS

Georgia
43 + UPS Foundation

Illinois
11 Olin Corporation Charitable Trust

Iowa
21 + Casey’s General Stores
18 Hy-Vee, Inc.
22 United Fire Group

Kansas
4 The Bicknell Family Foundation
4 Bayer

Texas
44 Burlington Northern Santa Fe Foundation

Number indicates number of years contributed; + indicates contribution increased or renewed; * denotes new gift
Avila University
Kansas City, Missouri
Founded: 1916
Affiliation: Roman Catholic
Enrollment Headcount: 1710 (1399 FTE)
Student–faculty ratio: 12 to 1
Average ACT (freshman): 23

Central Methodist University
Fayette, Missouri
Founded: 1854
Affiliation: United Methodist
Enrollment Headcount: 4662 (3098 FTE)
Student-faculty ratio: 13 to 1
Average ACT (freshman): 22

Columbia College
Columbia, Missouri (main campus)
Founded: 1851
Affiliation: Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) (nonsectarian)
Enrollment Headcount: 13492 (8001 FTE)
Student-faculty ratio: 33:1
Average ACT (freshman): 23

Located in suburban Kansas City, Missouri, Avila University is a Catholic, co-ed, four-year University. In fall 2018, Avila introduced the Avila Promise which provides students a clearer, more affordable path to college including: 1) a 33% reduction in tuition, 2) 4-year graduation guarantee, 3) guaranteed internship or research experience and 4) a travel award of up to $1,000. Avila is sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, and provides students with a balance of liberal arts and pre-professional education. We help students reach their full potential through one-on-one attention, high-quality academics, interdisciplinary classes and co-curricular activities. Avila serves traditional undergraduates, as well as adult students through the Avila Advantage program.

Central Methodist University prepares students to make a difference in the world by emphasizing academic and professional excellence, ethical leadership, and social responsibility. Opportunities for service and leadership development abound through student organizations and activities, including fine and performing arts and intercollegiate athletics. Students choose from a comprehensive curriculum of more than 40 majors and pre-professional programs in a highly personalized environment. CMU also offers degree completion programs across Missouri and beyond, typically in partnership with community colleges, other schools, hospitals, businesses and community organizations. CMU is expanding its online curriculum for both undergraduate and graduate programs as well.

Founded in 1851 in Columbia, Mo., Columbia College has been helping students advance their lives through higher education for more than 165 years. As a private, nonprofit institution, the college takes pride in its small classes, experienced faculty and quality educational programs. The college, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, has more than 30 locations and offers day, evening and online classes. Columbia College educates more than 20,000 students each year and has more than 83,000 alumni worldwide. For more information, visit www.ccis.edu.

Felipe de Jesus Garcia is a freshman majoring in Exercise Science/Athletic Training at Central Methodist University. Felipe was born in Degollado, Jalisco, Mexico and moved to Kearney Missouri at the age of 4. His parents moved in search of financial opportunities. Felipe had to learn both Spanish and English so he could be ready for school and still communicate with his parents. “After graduating from CMU, I would like to enroll in graduate school for Athletic Training. My desire is to work for a professional soccer team.”

Audrey Hamilton attends William Woods University. She is a senior Elementary Education major. Audrey is a member of Alpha Chi Omega, Omicron Delta Kappa (National Leadership Honor Society), Kappa Delta Pi (International Honor Society in Education), and is named on the Dean’s List. Her extracurricular activities include Student Assembly, Campus Activities Board, Active Minds and Students Today Alumni Tomorrow Organization. “Upon graduation I plan to begin my job search to start my teaching career. I am eager to use the knowledge I have gained in my college courses and student teaching experience in a classroom of my own. A child's first experience of school should be welcoming and exciting. By bringing a positive attitude and smile each day, I plan to create a good learning environment for all students.”
Cottey College
Nevada, Missouri
Founded: 1884
Affiliation: P.E.O. Sisterhood (nonsectarian women’s organization)
Enrollment Headcount: 270 (266 FTE)
Student-faculty ratio: 7 to 1
Average ACT (freshman): 21.8
Degrees Offered: BA, BS, AA, BS, AFA

As far back as 1884, Virginia Alice Cottey believed that women deserved educational opportunities equal to those received by men. After saving $3,000, Cottey and two of her sisters set out for Nevada, Missouri, to found their own college for women. In 1884 Vernon Seminary, as it was first known, began educating young women.

It was Cottey’s goal to give women the best possible academic instruction with an appreciation for the liberal arts. This solid academic emphasis remains the cornerstone of the college today.

Degrees are offered at both the baccalaureate and associate levels. The 7:1 student to faculty ratio plays an important part in the students’ academic experience. Arts, athletics, and service learning co-curricular activities are available for students.

Women’s college students are independent, open minded, and willing to embrace new, challenging opportunities. Many students choose women’s colleges because of the leadership opportunities; thus Cottey offers a leadership certification program as well as a credit course in leadership in addition to the other leadership opportunities available through clubs and organizations. All sophomore-level students also participate in a week-long international experience with expenses paid by the college.

Cottey College is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Music.

Culver-Stockton College
Canton, Missouri
Founded: 1853
Affiliation: Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Enrollment Headcount: 1134 (1095 FTE)
Student-faculty ratio: 15 to 1
Average ACT (freshman): 21

Culver-Stockton College, situated on 140 acres overlooking the Mississippi River, blends its long-standing legacy of a traditional liberal arts education with modern experiential courses and a unique academic calendar, offering an array of active-learning opportunities, including internships, research and travel courses.

Every course and major of Culver-Stockton’s curriculum emphasizes experiential learning. C-SC’s 12/3 innovative academic calendar has separated semesters into two terms, allowing students to focus on fewer courses at once. Students also have the flexibility to design individualized majors, incorporating courses from multiple fields of study into one degree.

Culver-Stockton athletics, student organizations and Greek life also offer students numerous leadership opportunities. The curriculum furthers the mission of the College to prepare students of promise for a dynamic world through its distinctive experiential curriculum within a supportive learning community founded upon the best values of faith and the human spirit.

Drury University
Springfield, Missouri
Founded: 1873
Affiliation: Independent
Enrollment Headcount: 1425 (1357 FTE)
Student-faculty ratio: 13 to 1
Average ACT (freshman): 26
Degrees Offered: AS, BBA, BGS, BS, BA, BAH, BBD, BBH, BME, BMT, BSC, MAT, MAC, MAR, MBA, MEC, MEG, MEI, MEL, MEM, MER, MES, MET

Established in 1873, Drury University sits on 90 acres in the heart of Springfield, Missouri. Since its founding, Drury has transformed lives by allowing students to pursue both intellectual passions and professional capacities. Drury graduates are grounded in virtues formed by mentorship, faith and scholarship, yet elevated to new heights mastered by technical skills and developed talents. 96% of the 2015-2016 graduates stated that they were employed, in graduate school or taking a gap year within six months of graduation, and Drury was named a “Military Friendly” school by Victory Media in its “2017 Military Friendly Schools” list.

Drury has also been recognized as a “Tree Campus USA” by the Arbor Day Foundation.

The Princeton Review named Drury one of the best colleges in the Midwest in its website feature “2017 Best Colleges Region by Region” for the second time in two years.

176 Drury student-athletes were named Academic All-GLVC for maintaining an accumulative grade point average of 3.30 or better. More than half of our total student-athlete population earned an academic award from the conference.

96% of Drury students receive a portion of $30.5 million in financial assistance. Drury’s average student debt is below the state, regional and national averages.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>University</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Founded</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
<th>Enrollment Headcount</th>
<th>Student-faculty ratio</th>
<th>Average ACT (freshman)</th>
<th>Degrees Offered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hannibal-LaGrange University</td>
<td>Hannibal, Missouri</td>
<td>1858</td>
<td>Southern Baptist</td>
<td>1100 (927 FTE)</td>
<td>14 to 1</td>
<td>22.5</td>
<td>A.A., A.S., A.S.N., L.P.N., A.A.S., B.A., B.S., B.A.S., B.S.E., B.S.N., M.S.E., M.A.L.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Evangel is a comprehensive Christian university with a seminary, located in Springfield, Mo. EU was recognized recently as one of the top 10 “Best Colleges in Missouri” by BestColleges.com based on academic quality, affordability and student experience.

Evangel has been recognized as a Military Friendly and a Purple Heart University, and is a Yellow Ribbon Program participant. Evangel is also a Champions of Character Five Star Institution.

The campus features modern, state of the art facilities and draws more than 2,100 students from all 50 states and numerous foreign countries. EU offers more than 65 undergraduate majors and, with the Assemblies of God Theological Seminary, 17 master’s and doctoral degrees that are intended to prepare students in the arts, sciences and professions (including vocational ministry).

PROMINENT ALUMNI include Brigadier General (Dr.) Jeff Johnson, commanding general of Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston (Texas); Steve Poppen, VP/COO of The Minnesota Vikings, project coordinator for their new stadium; Hal, Steve & David Donaldson, co-founders of Convoy of Hope; Sam DerYeghiayan, Federal Judge, Chicago; Beverly Lewis, *N.Y. Times* Best-Selling Author; Army Chaplain (Cpt.) Delana Small, the first female chaplain assigned to the 101st Airborne Division, aka “Screaming Eagles;” and Dr. Fed Mihm, professor of anesthesiology at Stanford University Medical Center.

Fontbonne University, a Catholic institution sponsored by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, is committed to the common good through the daily pursuit of transformative education, inspiring students to become global citizens who think critically, act ethically and serve responsibly. The university offers high-quality liberal arts and professional programs in a values-based, student-centered environment.

Fontbonne is located in a beautiful suburb in the heart of the St. Louis metropolitan area. The programs offered attract students from across the U.S. and many other countries, and its small class sizes and welcoming campus foster community and connectivity. Forty-four majors, 34 minors and 19 graduate programs span a wide range from the nationally-known speech-language pathology and deaf education program to dietetics and cybersecurity. Additionally, students from around the world attend Fontbonne to study with artists who specialize in the figure, and the university is home to Mustard Seed Theatre, a professional theatre company. The university houses the Bonnie and L.B. Eckelkamp College of Global Business and Professional Studies which offers numerous online and evening programs convenient for busy adult learners.

Hannibal-LaGrange University is a truly unapologetic Christian institution nestled on the hills along the banks of the mighty Mississippi. Its scenic setting reflects the beauty of our Creator’s work.

HLGU offers more than 34 undergraduate majors, as well as online classes and programs, intercollegiate athletics, ministry opportunities, and masters level education.

For fifteen consecutive years, Hannibal-LaGrange has been named as one of America’s Best Christian Colleges by Institutional Research & Evaluation, Inc. In addition, HLGU has been consistently named a Champions of Character Five-Star Institution. This year the school received the Gold Level Award.

Students from numerous states and countries make Hannibal-LaGrange their home away from home. HLGU is preparing students to be successful for life by providing excellence in Christian higher education in an environment that promotes the importance of integrating faith and learning. An educational environment shaped and formed by faith produces students who will live lives that are shaped and formed by faith. Faculty and staff provide excellence in education in an environment that is student-centered.

HLGU is the right size to provide a wide range of studies and majors while maintaining a faculty to student ratio that guarantees individual attention to every student. Hannibal-LaGrange University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.
The Lindenwood University of today is far more than a historic liberal arts college. With its 189-year-old main campus in St. Charles, Mo., another full-service residential campus in Belleville, Illinois, eight extension centers that serve its groundbreaking accelerated evening program, and a growing online degree program, Lindenwood is a full university system serving the needs of all categories of today's college students.

Lindenwood University offers more than 120 undergraduate and graduate degree programs, and has earned numerous local and national rankings, and has been recognized by Victory Media as a military-friendly school nine consecutive years. Lindenwood is a full university system serving the needs of all categories of today's college students.

Maryville University is a selective, comprehensive and nationally ranked private institution with over 7,800 students. Maryville offers more than 90 degrees at the undergraduate, masters and doctoral levels to students from 50 states and 60 countries. Consistently ranked as a top private school by Forbes and Kiplinger’s, and cited by the chronicle of Higher Education as one of the Top 20 Fastest-Growing Universities in the country. Maryville's athletics teams compete at the Division II level in the Great Lakes Valley Conference. Founded in 1872, the University is ideally situated on 130 picturesque acres in West St. Louis County.

Missouri Baptist University is a Christ-centered, liberal arts institution in Saint Louis, Mo. MBU currently offers more than 70 programs of study leading to professional certificates, undergraduate degrees, and graduate degrees in an environment where academic excellence is emphasized and a Biblically based Christian perspective is maintained. MBU's purpose is to be able to challenge student's lives spiritually, intellectually, and professionally in order to serve in a global and culturally diverse society.

There are currently 12 MBU locations including its regional learning centers throughout the St. Louis region and Illinois in addition to a 66-acre West St. Louis County campus as well as degrees offered completely online for the working adult. This year, MBU was named the 7th top university for inspiration by peers. The ranking was published in The Wall Street Journal and Times Higher Education's top U.S. college rankings lists for 2018. The University was also named as the tenth Top Workplace in the large workplace category by the St. Louis Post-Dispatch's annual list for the fifth year in as many years of eligibility of being named a Top Workplace.
Park University

Parkville, Missouri
Founded: 1875
Affiliation: Independent
Enrollment Headcount: 16,520 (FTE 7262)
Student-faculty ratio: 16:1
Average ACT (freshman): 21.1

Park University, a comprehensive, independent institution that is a national leader in higher education, serves an ethnically diverse student population and non-traditional adult learners at 41 campus centers across the U.S., including 33 on military installations, and online worldwide.

The University is ranked among the top colleges in the country for adult learners (Washington Monthly), and is consistently ranked among the top private colleges and universities in the country for return on investment (PayScale College R01 Report).

Providing such access has developed considerable diversity among the student population, with nearly 260 international students from 58 countries, and a 47 percent student representation from racial, ethnic and cultural groups typically underrepresented in colleges and universities. In addition, extracurricular activities and championship-caliber athletic programs in the NAIA complement Park’s outstanding scholastic programs.

Park University maintains a long-standing relationship with the U.S. military for which it has been recognized as one of the largest providers of online undergraduate education to military learners worldwide. Since 2009, Park has received international recognition each year by Victory Media (publisher of G.I. Jobs, STEM Jobs and Military Spouse magazines) as one of its top military friendly colleges and universities. In addition, Park is among the top five “Best for Vets” private college/university in the country (Military Times).

Rockhurst University

Kansas City, Missouri
Founded: 1910
Affiliation: Roman Catholic
Enrollment Headcount: 3000 (2174 FTE)
Student-Faculty Ratio: 11 to 1
Average ACT (freshman): 25

Rockhurst University is a Catholic, Jesuit institution with more than 100 years of experience educating students in the cultural heart of Kansas City. The university’s approach is rooted in the 450-year-old Jesuit tradition of academic excellence, inspiring students to think and communicate effectively, lead others, foster a love of lifelong learning, serve their communities, and find God in all things.

With more than 3,000 undergraduate and graduate students, offering more than 70 programs of study, Rockhurst University provides the perfect college setting. U.S. News & World Report ranks Rockhurst among the top regional universities in the Midwest and SmartAsset has ranked it No. 3 best value among colleges and universities in Missouri.

Outside the classroom, Rockhurst offers a thriving campus filled with activity and energy. With more than 70 student organizations ranging from Greek life and athletics to community service and campus ministry, students are sure to find many ways to express their individuality.

Rockhurst students are challenged, inspired and assisted by exceptional faculty. In fact, an impressive 89 percent of full-time faculty holds the highest degree in their field. Students experience rigorous academics within a tight-knit community that wants them to succeed. That’s why 96.9 percent of Rockhurst graduates report they are employed or accepted into graduate school within six months of graduation.

Southwest Baptist University

Bolivar, Missouri
Founded: 1878
Affiliation: Southern Baptist (Missouri Baptist Convention)
Enrollment Headcount: 3580 (3550 FTE)
Student-faculty ratio: 15 to 1
Average ACT (freshman): 23

Since 1878, Southwest Baptist University has been a Christ-centered, caring academic community preparing students to be servant leaders in a global society.

SBU professors bring learning and faith together to give students a liberal arts education that offers more than just preparation for a career. Students are intellectually engaged through faith-inspired academic and campus life programs. The result? A culturally relevant education that equips Bearcats for a lifetime of success.

Servant leadership is a fundamental component of the SBU experience and is a required part of the SBU Honors Program. To gain global experience, students are encouraged to study internationally or to do a short-term mission project in a different culture. SBU’s unique Intercultural Studies major requires students to spend a six-month semester living abroad.

Alumni are prepared to be servant leaders and can be found serving all over the world, from the boardroom to the classroom and on the mission field.

SBU has been recognized as being one of America’s 100 Best College Buys since 1995 and one of America’s Best Christian Colleges since 1996.
Westminster College

- **Fulton, Missouri**
- **Founded:** 1851
- **Affiliation:** Presbyterian
- **Enrollment Headcount:** 863 (863 FTE)
- **Student-faculty ratio:** 14 to 1
- **Average ACT (freshman):** 24
- **Degrees Offered:** B.A.

Westminster College is one of the top liberal arts colleges in America, according to all major educational ranking firms, including U.S. News & World Report, The Princeton Review and Washington Monthly. U.S. News recognizes Westminster as the top national liberal arts colleges in Missouri. The U.S. Department of Education Scorecard places Westminster in the top quarter of Missouri colleges and universities for high starting salaries for college graduates. National ranking service Niche.com places Westminster among the top ten colleges in Missouri. Committed to preparing leaders in a global community, Westminster has a student body composed of almost 13 percent international students from 66 different countries and domestic students from 26 different states.

Founded in 1851, this selective college for men and women is situated on an 86-acre residential campus in Fulton, MO. Westminster is internationally recognized for hosting world leaders and their important messages, including Winston Churchill's famous "Iron Curtain" speech, and is home to the National Churchill Museum, the only North American museum totally devoted to Churchill's life and work. Through the years, world leaders — including Nobel prize winner Wole Soyinka, Mikhail Gorbachev, George H.W. Bush, and Margaret Thatcher, to name a few — have continued the tradition of delivering important speeches at the college. Westminster is a challenging academic environment where students are educated to lead and inspired to change the world. Ninety-six percent of Westminster graduates start their first job or enroll in graduate or professional schools within six months of graduation.

William Jewell College

- **Liberty, Missouri**
- **Founded:** 1849
- **Affiliation:** None
- **Enrollment Headcount:** 909 (948 FTE)
- **Student-faculty ratio:** 10 to 1
- **Average ACT (freshman):** 25.4
- **Degrees Offered:** B.A., B.A., B.S., B.S.N., M.S.Ed.

William Jewell College’s commitment to cultivating critical thinkers in pursuit of meaningful lives is woven into the living and learning community and is the basis of the Applied Critical Thought Core Curriculum and academic programs, including nursing, civil engineering, data science, music and nonprofit leadership. The outcomes of this approach are evident through the 98.9 percent of Jewell graduates who are employed or in graduate school within six months of graduation. They are accepted to top graduate programs and have received competitive grants and scholarships including Fulbright, Goldwater, Rhodes, Truman, National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation and Teach for America.

Among Jewell’s distinctive programs are the Oxbridge Honors Program, which combines the British tutorial style of learning with a year of study at Oxford, Journey Grants and the Pryor Leadership Program. A national award-winning Concert Choir, national champion debate team, Harriman-Jewell performing arts series and the Idea Exchange Innovation Lab demonstrate the depth of opportunities available to students.


William Woods University

- **Fulton, Missouri**
- **Founded:** 1870
- **Affiliation:** Disciples of Christ
- **Enrollment Headcount:** 2076 (2025 FTE)
- **Student-faculty ratio:** 11 to 1
- **Average ACT (freshman):** 22.7

U.S. News ranked William Woods University as one of the top 75 regional universities in the Midwest in 2017. Founded in 1870, the university expanded its mission in 1992 to address the coeducational needs of working adults. The campus is headquartered on 200 scenic acres in Fulton, Missouri, with classrooms also in Columbia, Missouri and cohorts throughout the state; William Woods is a coeducational, independent, professions-oriented, liberal arts-based institution. It is also an official Military Friendly School, working closely with military and veteran students and their families.

Unique undergraduate programs of study include a four-year American Sign Language program, an internationally recognized Equestrian Studies program, and a Criminal Justice program. In addition, the university offers undergraduate and graduate programs for working adults, including a Master of Business Administration, Master in Healthcare Administration, Master of Education, Education Specialist, and Doctorate of Education in Leadership. Online degree programs include a new Bachelor or Applied Science degree in Workforce Leadership, an associate of arts, B.S. in Business Administration with an emphasis in management, paralegal studies and interpretation studies in ASL-English, MBA in Entrepreneurial Leadership, and an M.Ed in Equestrian Education and teaching and technology. In October 2017, the university also announced the intention to begin a nursing degree program, beginning with the 2018-2019 academic year.