



FastTrack

Background

Missouri's Big Goal for Higher Education is to have 60 percent of working-age adults with a high quality certificate or degree by 2025. In order to meet this goal, a significant number of adults will need to be trained.

The effectiveness of the total suite of financial aid programs was reviewed during a comprehensive look at the Missouri state financial aid programs in 2018. Right now, Missouri only has two financial aid programs serving adult students – the Access Missouri Grant and the Marguerite Ross Barnett Memorial Scholarship. The Ross Barnett scholarship serves about 200 students a year with a \$400,000 appropriation. Fast Track would help address this issue, potentially serving 17,000 students, and putting Missouri among leading states that are serious about serving adults.

Opportunity

- Fast Track will increase financial access, encouraging students to enter areas with workforce shortages by providing financial aid to cover actual tuition and general fees.
- This program will open doors for an entire segment of the population to get training and participate meaningfully in the workforce.

Demand on state funds will be reduced by using federal aid, including Pell Grants and Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act funds, first.

Potential Impact

- Adults with no postsecondary education – Someone who is underemployed or whose economic situation has changed due to a lay-off or personal circumstances.
- Adults who have some college but no degree – Someone who may have entered college right after high school but never finished.
- Adults with an associate degree – Someone who needs an additional credential to move up to a better job.

AT A GLANCE:

A new state financial aid program that addresses workforce needs by encouraging adults to pursue an industry-recognized credential in an area designated as "high need."

17,000

estimated student reach



LEGISLATION:

Creating Fast Track will require a statutory change. Legislation has been introduced in the House and Senate.

- **Senate Bill 16 (Sen. Romine)**
- **House Bill 225 (Rep. Swan)**

\$18 million

FY 2020 appropriation request



Policy Contact:
 Samantha Dickey
 Director of Strategic Initiatives
 (573) 751-1798

Budget Contact:
 Jeff Barlow
 Assistant Commissioner – Fiscal Affairs
 (573) 533-8106

Commissioner of Higher Education:
 Zora Mulligan
 (573) 301-5370

Fast Track Eligibility

Fast Track eligibility will be restricted to instructional programs that lead to employment in high-need occupations as designated by the Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE). Public comment is being collected until May 15, 2019, on a preliminary list of high-need occupations and program categories. Visit https://dhe.mo.gov/initiatives/fast_trackpublic_comment.php to learn more.

How the list was developed

The MDHE identified high-demand occupations using long-term occupational projections developed by the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC). MERIC's projections assign career grades based on projected openings, growth, and wages. Occupations were included if they had a grade of A or B at the state level or in any region. Occupations were then excluded if they typically required no formal education or education above a bachelor's degree, or had below average projected total job openings.

High-demand occupations were then linked to academic programs (identified by a four-digit Classification of Instruction Programs [CIP] code) using a nationally standardized crosswalk of Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) to CIP codes. A program that linked to a high-demand SOC code was included. The CIP codes will identify programs eligible for Fast Track.

Proposed Fast Track Eligible Academic Programs using the Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP)

■ STEM ■ STEM-related

Agriculture, Agriculture Operations, and Related Sciences

- Agricultural Business and Management
- Applied Horticulture and Horticultural Business Services
- Agricultural Public Services

Natural Resources and Conservation

- Natural Resources Management and Policy

Architecture and Related Services

- Real Estate Development

Communication, Journalism, and Related Programs

- Communication and Media Studies

Computer and Information Sciences and Support Services

- Computer and Information Sciences, General
- Computer Programming

Personal and Culinary Services

- Cosmetology and Related Personal Grooming Services
- Culinary Arts and Related Services

Education

- Bilingual, Multilingual, and Multicultural Education
- Teacher Education and Professional Development, Specific Levels and Methods
- Teacher Education and Professional Development, Specific Subject Areas
- Teaching Assistants/Aides

Engineering

- Civil Engineering
- Materials Engineering
- Industrial Engineering

Engineering Technologies and Engineering-Related Fields

- Environmental Control Technologies/Technicians
- Industrial Production Technologies/Technicians
- Mechanical Engineering Related Technologies/Technicians
- Construction Engineering Technologies

Family and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences

- Family and Consumer Sciences/Human Sciences Business Services
- Housing and Human Environments
- Human Development, Family Studies, and Related Services

Legal Professions and Studies

- Legal Support Services

Mathematics and Statistics

- Applied Mathematics

Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies

- Accounting and Computer Science

Parks, Recreation, Leisure, and Fitness Studies

- Parks, Recreation and Leisure Facilities Management

Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Firefighting and Related Protective Services

- Criminal Justice and Corrections

Public Administration and Social Service Professions

- Public Policy Analysis
- Social Work

Construction Trades

- Carpenters
- Electrical and Power Transmission Installers
- Building/Construction Finishing, Management, and Inspection
- Plumbing and Related Water Supply Services

Mechanic and Repair Technologies/Technicians

- Heavy/Industrial Equipment Maintenance Technologies
- Vehicle Maintenance and Repair Technologies

Precision Production

- Precision Metal Working

Transportation and Materials Moving

- Ground Transportation

Health Professions and Related Programs

- Dental Support Services and Allied Professions
- Health and Medical Administrative Services
- Allied Health and Medical Assisting Services
- Allied Health Diagnostic, Intervention, and Treatment Professions
- Health Aides/Attendants/Orderlies
- Registered Nursing, Nursing Administration, Nursing Research and Clinical Nursing
- Practical Nursing, Vocational Nursing and Nursing Assistants

Business, Management, Marketing, and Related Support Services

- Business/Commerce, General
- Business Administration, Management and Operations
- Accounting and Related Services
- Business Operations Support and Assistant Services
- Finance and Financial Management Services
- Human Resources Management and Services
- Insurance
- General Sales, Merchandising and Related Marketing Operations.

FastTrack

Process for obtaining stakeholder feedback on preliminary program list

