



News Release

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WESTERN FINANCIAL AID DEADLINES APPROACHING

St. Joseph, Mo. — Feb. 25, 2004 — Two important financial aid deadlines are quickly approaching, according to Angela Beam, Missouri Western State College's financial aid director

The deadline to apply for scholarships for the fall 2004 semester is March 1 for both current and prospective students. They may apply online at www.mwsc.edu/finaid. Students may also find information at that website about those scholarships that do not have an online application available.

Information or applications for almost 200 scholarships are available at the website. Beam noted that the criteria vary for each scholarship, but "there's something for everybody." She said scholarships are based on criteria such as financial need, a student's major, grade level or GPA.

Many students, she said, file late and miss out on funds they could have received. "The earlier you apply, the more likely you are to get assistance."

Another important date is April 1, the deadline for filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA covers both state and federal scholarships, grants, work study funds and loans. Beam noted that the sooner students submit the FAFSA, the quicker they will receive funding.

Even if students are undecided about enrolling for college for the fall semester, they need to apply for financial aid now, she said. She noted that prospective students do not need to complete the admissions process before they apply for financial aid.

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Missouri Western State College is a four-year public institution providing a blend of traditional liberal arts and professional degree programs. The college offers student-centered, high quality instruction that focuses on experience-based learning, community service, and state-of-the-art technology. Western is located in St. Joseph, Mo. and is committed to the educational, economic, cultural and social development of the region it serves.