

TJ SWIFT HOUSE

ASCEND

PROGRAM

Virtual Open House 2024



ASCENDTeam



Dr. Dennis Lancaster

Missouri State University West Plains Chancellor



Virtual campus tour

Call the admission office to schedule an in-person campus tour: 417-255-7955



Hass-Darr Hall

Named for the William R. Hass family including former Board of Governor member, Mary Hass-Schrag as well as the William and Virginia Darr family. Houses several departments for students.

- The Carol Silvey Student Union: named for Board of Governor member Carol Silvey, provides a space for students to gather for studying, snacking, watch TV, or relaxing. Students may enjoy their downtime in the 1963 Gaming Lounge where they can hang out with friends and play video games or ping-pong. The newest addition to the Lounge is a massage chair.
- The Drago College Store: named for the support of Vivian H. Drago, gives students the opportunity to purchase textbooks, reference materials, Grizzly apparel, gifts, snacks, and beverages. Students can charge textbooks to their student account beginning two weeks before the start of each semester.

- **Tutoring Services:** allows students to drop-in for assistance with math as well as access to the writing lab. The writing lab is named in appreciation for support from Arch W. Shaw. Study groups are also available for students needing assistance with a variety of classes .
 - **Veterans Services:** approves enrollment certification of students eligible to receive educational assistance (GI Bill) from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs (DVA). Additionally, a quiet room and study space are available to Veterans, their dependents, and/or spouse.
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- **The Admissions Welcome Center:** is also located in this building.
 - **Darr Honors Classrooms:** This program is designed for academically and/or artistically gifted students. The Honors classrooms are also occasionally used for other courses.
 - **Student Life and Development/Student Government Association Offices:** The Student Life and Development Office has information for how to get involved in organizations and campus life. Involved students are more likely to succeed and stay in college.
 - **Advising and Academic Support:** Academic advisors and academic success coaches work in this office. Proactive advising ensures that students are on the correct path to completing their degree.
 - **Academic Support Services/Disability Services:** make educational opportunities more accessible by coordinating support services for students with disabilities. Our goal is to help students achieve their goals to the fullest potential possible. All services are provided free of charge to students who are eligible. All documentation is kept confidential.



Garfield Hall

Our eSports team practices and competes in this building. Our eSports team competes in the NJCAA and during the 22-23 season sent 8 teams to the playoffs and 3 to the national championships! When eSports moves to Champion Hall this summer, the Counseling Center will move into this building.





Student Recreation Center

Houses basketball gymnasium/volleyball court, racquetball court, etc. and student-related activities and events, such as Zumba, meetings, and banquets. Free for student use. Also serves as a FEMA shelter.

Terry L. "Bo" Pace Industrial Science Center

Named after Bo Pace, a longtime supporter of the university. After his passing, his wife and daughter made a "transformational" donation in his honor. Houses the Terry L. "Bo" Pace Advanced Welding and Fabrication Technology program as well as the Manufacturing Management & Technology, and Advanced Industrial Maintenance programs.



Champion Hall

This building was previously called the Grizzly House and was West Plains' first residence hall. It was completed and opened for students in August 1994. Was used as a residence hall up through the fall of 2023. Starting Fall 2024, this building will house the Athletic Director, Athletic Trainer, eSports program, and coaches offices for baseball, softball, and rodeo. Volleyball, basketball, and cheer coach offices will remain in the Civic Center.





Putnam Music Center

Donated by Dr. DJ and Grace Putnam. Starting in Fall 2024, this building will house a new music program, focused on instrumental music.

West Plains Civic Center

Owned by the City of West Plains, the civic center is used by the university for special events, including Convocation and Commencement, theater performances (many of which are free to students), athletic practices, and athletic games. The Olympic size pool and fitness center (weight room) are also free to students.



Garnett Library

The library was named in honor of the Jess and Betty Garnett family. The library is an important part of student success. The library computer lab has a several different pieces of multi-media equipment for projects. Including the only color printer on campus and a scanner. Compact shelving stores our reference books and periodicals in a smaller amount of space than traditional shelving.





Looney Hall

Renamed from Central Hall to M.O. Looney Hall in 1998 to honor former chancellor, Dr. Marvin Looney. Looney Hall is the allied health classroom and laboratory building. It houses nursing faculty and staff, as well as faculty from Health Information Technology and Community Behavioral Support. Construction has just been completed on a state-of-the-art hospital simulation lab. The simulation lab provides realistic spaces for training students to treat patients needing care in a variety of settings, including obstetrics, pediatrics, intensive care, emergency room and a doctor's office.

Melton Hall

The building was named in honor of Emory L. Melton who served the people of Missouri's 29th Senatorial District for over two decades. General education classes and sciences labs are in this building. Houses a large lecture hall on campus. Most arts and sciences faculty have offices in these building.



Kellett Hall

Mrs. Ruth Kellett donated her four-story Georgian style home to the University in 1978.

Kellett currently houses:

The Chancellor's Office

University Communications – campus public relations and marketing team

Human Resources

Counseling Center- free counseling services are available to students as part of their student fees



Lybyer Enhanced Technology Center

- The building was named in honor of Michael J. Lybyer, a member of the Missouri Senate. It includes classrooms, technology faculty offices, vice-chancellors, and a 36-station open computer lab for students. Faculty that serve as academic advisors are also located in Lybyer.
- The Testing Center is currently located in the lower level of Lybyer
- Career Services: offers onsite information about career exploration, resumes, cover letters, interviews, etc.
- TJ Swift House ASCEND Program- Located in lower level – rooms 101 and 102
- Makerspace: located in the lower level – is a space with different machines such as 3D printers, embroidery machines, CNC machines, heat presses, vinyl cutters, and more.
- Office of Workforce and Community Education: located within the Makerspace. This office offers classes and programs related to continuing education and professional development, as well as community interests.



Cass Hall

- Business Office: Students can pay bills, pick up parking tags, etc.
- Financial Aid: Grants, loans, work study, and scholarships. Assistance with completing the FAFSA. Emergency grants available. Corps of Opportunity scholarship (work for tuition).
- Registration and Records Register: apply to graduate, request transcripts (services also available through the web.)





Grizzly Lofts

The building is a renovated shoe factory. Constructed in 1946, the International Shoe Company was a major employer in this area for many decades. After its closure in 1993, a private party bought the building and in 2010 it was renovated into what you see now.

- Houses up to 274 students. Each four-person suite has two bedrooms, and a bathroom.
- The facility has a laundry facility, community room, 24-hour computer lab, and several study rooms.
- 19-meal-per-week plan. Three meals throughout the week and two on Saturday and Sunday (brunch/supper)
- The Grizzly Lofts houses a café (The Grizzly Bite) where students will utilize their meal plan.
- Located near a diner, spa, hair salon, and an ice cream shop.

Virtual Tour of Campus



Opening January 2025



Robinson Industrial, Heavy & Commercial Contracting, Inc.

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We're thrilled to share that we are officially out of the ground with the foundation walls on the [Missouri State University-West Plains Center for Autism and Neurodiversity](#)! The below-grade CMU block is nearly complete, and we're gearing up for backfilling of the interior slab and exterior starting this week.



What we do



Mikala King
Director, ASCEND Program



Program Overview

- **ASCEND** stands for Autism Support Can Empower New Directions
- **ASCEND** is for autistic and other neurodivergent students giving them added support to navigate through college. (ADHD, Anxiety, Depression, Sensory Processing)
- **ASCEND** has NO program fees for the next 2 years.
- **ASCEND** students can choose to be residential or non-residential. You must take 12 Credit Hours to live on campus.
- **ASCEND** students are degree seeking. They will participate in regular college classes, **ASCEND** class, and work in on-campus and off campus internships.

3 Main Components of ASCEND

● Academic Support

One-on-one weekly meeting with the Support Coordinator (Reinforce Executive Functioning development) this is tailored to individual needs.

ASCEND class Fridays weekly

The Support Coordinator serves as a secondary Advisor. (Register for classes, help connect with disability services.)

The Support Coordinator will help facilitate Professor introduction/meeting.

● Social Support

ASCEND Allies (Peer Mentors)

Monthly Social Events

Connection to West Plains and MSU events

Volunteering in the community

● Daily Living Transitions

Early Move-in for a calmer transition

Housing transition coaching

Break-out Space for calming, recentering opportunities (Sensory Tools, Crash Pad, Massage Chair, Swinging Seat, etc.)

Neurodiversity training faculty, staff, and housing

On-Campus or Off-Campus Internships



THINGS TO THINK ABOUT



- **What type of class setting works best for you?**

Online, Seated, Hybrid (both Online/Seated)

- **How many classes are you taking?**

Are you taking all 16-week classes or are some of your classes 8-week?

- **What time of day do you want your classes?**

If you are not a morning person, then you don't want 8 AM classes.

- **Homework Time.**

Plan on having 1 hour of homework a week per credit of classes. (Ex. 14 credit hours this semester=14 hours of homework a week)

Do you want Tanya to schedule a time that you work on homework?

- **ASCEND Meetings**

You will have a 1:1 meeting with Tanya once a week.

There will be a weekly ASCEND class on Friday.

- **Will you be working on/off campus this semester?**

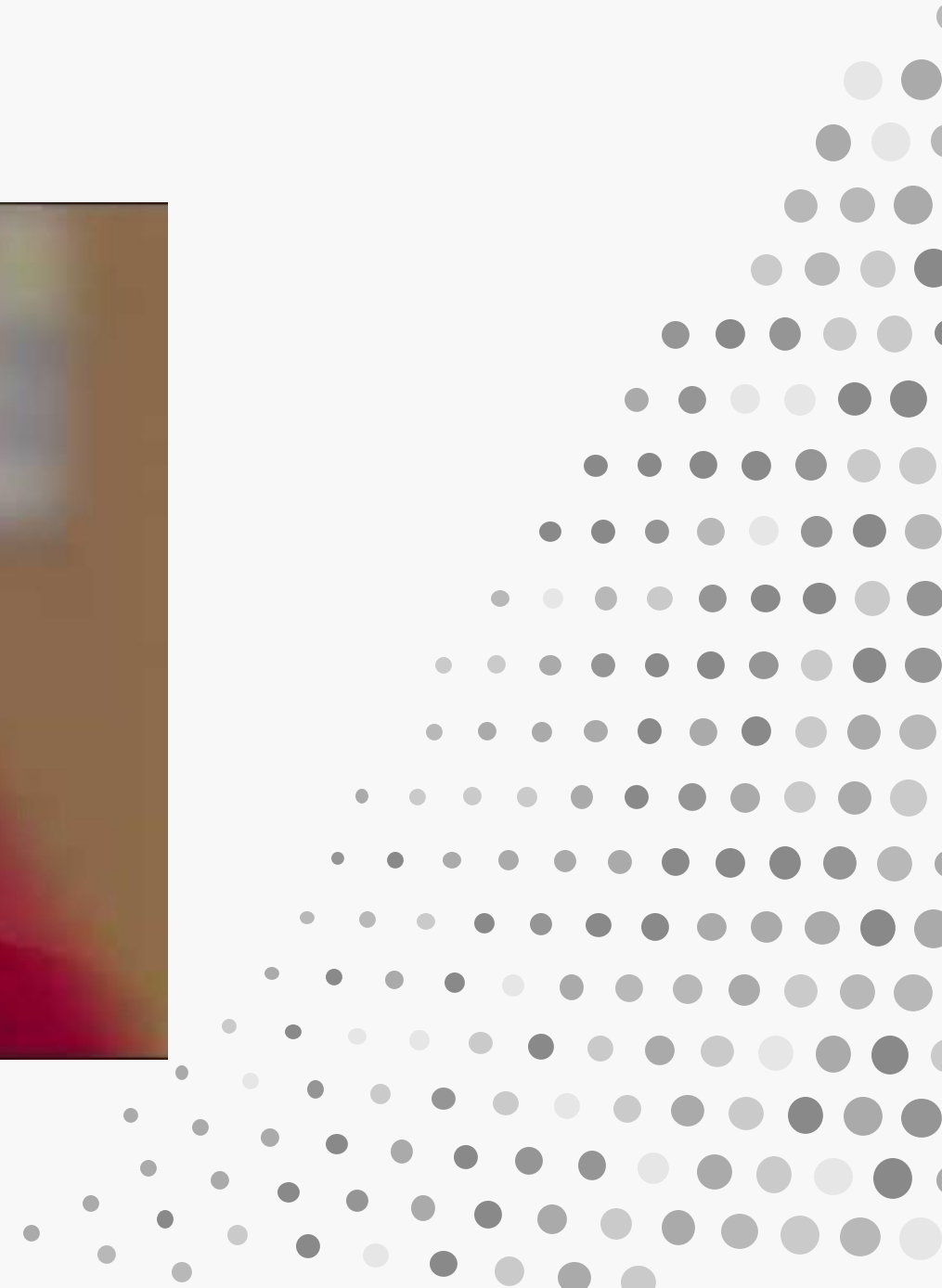
Will you be working during the semester? If so can you stay caught up with Homework?

- **To live at the Lofts you need to be full-time.**

You need to take 12 credit hours a semester to live in the Lofts.



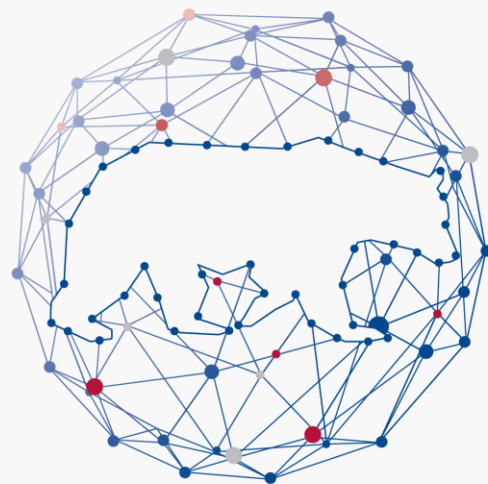
Parent Testimonial



Admission Process



MSU-WP admissions



TJ Swift House ASCEND admissions



- Apply to Missouri State University-West Plains
- ASCEND Application
- A copy of the most recent IEP or 504 Plan from the high school setting and a list of accommodations utilized in a recent college setting if the student has completed some college
- Documented evidence of a diagnosis of autism spectrum disorder (ASD), or other neurodiverse diagnosis
- Parent/Guardian Perspective & Goals (will be emailed out after ASCEND application is submitted)
 - Note: For non-traditional students, the parent/guardian perspective may be waived.
- Teacher Perspectives & Goals (will be emailed out after ASCEND application is submitted)
- Scheduled Interview



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Welcome to Missouri State University West Plains

This document will guide you through what to expect as you prepare for your first semester at MSU-WP. On the digital version of this document click on the blue links to watch the videos.

Before you can do anything on this list you need to have your acceptance letter from the admissions office. In this letter you will find:

1. Missouri State Student Number which is called your **M Number**
 2. **Activation Code**- This will let you into My Grizzly Den
- **Explore MyGriz Den**
 - This is where you can find any school information
 - Registration for classes
 - Financial Aid
 - Email shortcut
 - Brightspace shortcut
 - **School Email**
 - The college staff/faculty will only email your school email, not your personal email
 - Check your email at least weekly before you come to campus
 - You can check your email through MyGriz Den
 - Add your email account to your phone so you can check more easily
 - Answer any emails that need a response
 - Delete emails or add folders in your email account to organize information you may need later
 - **IT Support**
 - Lybyer Technology Help Desk-417-255-7995
 - Check out the IT support brochure in this packet.
 - **Things to work on now...**
 - Contact the Financial Aid Office-417-255-7243
 - [Complete the FAFSA Application](#)
 - [Apply for MSU-WP scholarships](#)
 - [Think about signing up for disability services](#)- Pam Tate- 417-255-8062 or 417-547-7573
 - This is on MSU-WP campus and is how you get accommodation in your classes.
 - [Sign up with Missouri Vocational Rehab](#)- This may help with tuition, books and supplies. Angie Nicholson- 417-256-8294
 - Call to set up an appointment with an advisor- 417-255-7222
 - [Make sure to register for classes](#)
 - [Sign up for Star Orientation](#)
 - May 22, Aug. 2, Aug. 9, Aug. 14 all the meetings are at 10 AM
 - [If you want to live on campus you must apply](#) -417-255-8020

Helpful Account Terminology

OLD NAME	CURRENT NAME	EXAMPLE
BearPass Number	<u>M-Number</u>	M00001234
Office 365 Login Email Login	<u>Missouri State Account</u>	abc123@login.missouristate.edu
BearPass ID BearPass Login Login ID Private ID	<u>Missouri State Account ID</u>	abc123
BearPass Password Office 365 Password	<u>Missouri State Account Password</u>	XXXXXXXX
BearMail Office 365 Email University Email	<u>Missouri State Email</u>	abc123@MissouriState.edu BBear@MissouriState.edu

Got Questions? Feel free to contact the ASCEND Staff

Mikala King- Program Director, mikalaking@missouristate.edu 417-255-7722

Tanya Miller- Support Coordinator, tanvamiller@missouristate.edu 417-255-7275

Christina Hodgson- Administrative Assistant, chodgson@missouristate.edu 417-255-7711

Vocational Rehabilitation



Robin Thomas

417-256-8294

robin.thomas@vr.dese.mo.gov



Disability Services

OUR GOAL:



Our goal is to help students achieve access to educational opportunities.



All services are provided free of charge to students who are eligible.



All documentation is kept confidential.





Questions



Scan QR code for more information