Congratulations on being accepted to Missouri Southern State University!

Your next step in preparing for the Spring 2013 semester is to attend Southern Welcome. This one-day freshman orientation is designed to help you acclimated to the university as well as register for spring classes.

Southern Welcome Date is: January 10
Attendance and Reservation is REQUIRED
All first time freshmen are required to attend this one-day orientation program scheduled on Thursday, January 10, 2013. To ensure that we are prepared to receive you, make your reservation by calling:

Southern Welcome Hotline: 417-625-3158
Or Online at http://www.mssu.edu/acts

Southern Welcome Activities include:
• Meet with an academic advisor to enroll for the spring semester
• Hear from and meet with a Financial Aid Counselor
• Process your Lion Card picture ID and parking permit
• Learn about your student email account
• Learn about your billing statement
• Find out about deadlines on tuition and fees
• Learn about essential support services
• Tour of residence life facilities, by request to 417-625-9522

Program starts at 8:30 a.m.

Where will I park during Southern Welcome?
Parking is available in front of Billingsly Student Center, just off of Newman Rd. Look for the SOUTHERN WELCOME signs!

NOTE: Students will walk approximately 1/2 mile throughout the day. Please wear comfortable walking shoes and attire. If you need a special accommodation such as a lift-equipped bus please contact us 1 week in advance.

Should my family attend?
We encourage you to bring your family so that they can get the same information we are giving you and to give them the opportunity to have their questions answered. Also, there will be a special session for parents and guests titled The Family and the Freshman Year. There is a cost of $10 per guest to cover programming.

What is the cost for attending Southern Welcome?
A $50.00 Orientation fee will be billed to each student’s account to cover programming and other First-Year Experience materials.

Will lunch be provided during the program?
Free lunch will be provided for the students and guests.

Will I need to take any placement exams?
Placement into an English composition course is based on your ACT English score:
• No ACT scores or ACT English score < 17: Eng. 80 Basic Composition or you may take Writing placement exam
• ACT English score of ≥ 17-28: Eng. 101 [College Composition 1]
• ACT English score of >28: Eng. 111 [Advanced College Composition 1]
• For more information on the placement guidelines and the writing placement exam, check out the writing placement website at www.mssu.edu/english/writing.

Placement into a college level math course is based on your ACT math score:
• No ACT score or ACT math score ≤ 18, placement will be in Math 020 (Beginning Algebra)
• ACT math score of 19-21: Math 030 [Intermediate Algebra]
• ACT math score of 22-26: Math 119, 120, 125, 130, 131, 135, or 140
• ACT math score of > 26: Math 150 [Calculus with Analytic Geometry I]
• Students can appeal math 20 or 30 placement by completing the math placement exam process. For more information on math placement guidelines and appealing your math course placement, check out www.mssu.edu/math/place.htm.

Biology Placement:
• Biology 121 Human Anatomy and Physiology requires ACT composite score of 19 or higher or satisfactory score on Departmental Assessment (contact Biology Department – 417-625-9376) or Bio 70 with a grade of C or better.
• History110 or 120
• ACT Reading score of 17 or better or UE 150 [College Academic Skills]

Did you earn Dual Credit, Credit-in-Escrow, AP, or IB credits while you were in High School?
If so, please get in touch with the college or testing board that awarded the college credit to send a copy of your transcript to the MSSU Admissions Office. Credits posted on High School transcript will not be accepted as college credit. If that class serves as a pre-requisite for a higher level course, you will not be able to take the higher level course unless we have a copy of your college transcript. MSSU Admissions Office, 3950 E. Newman Rd, Joplin, MO 64801.
**Overnight Housing**

Please visit the Southern Welcome website to view a listing of area hotels and restaurants at [www.mssu.edu/about/map.php#hotels](http://www.mssu.edu/about/map.php#hotels).

**Tuition & Fees**

Missouri Southern uses LioNet for the dissemination of costs associated with attending our University. After the student enrolls, cost will be reflected on your student portal LioNet. Paper Bills will not be mailed out.

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**Need Financial Aid Assistance?**

There are many ways to reach us and get your questions answered: Financial Aid Office, 417.625.9325 or www.mssu.edu/financial-aid. Email questions you have 24/7 to finaid@mssu.edu.

**Student MyMail Email Account**

Now that you have been accepted as a Missouri Southern student, you have been assigned a MyMail student email account which is used for all school related communication. You have or will receive your email address from our Information Technology Department. When you receive your email address, you will need to activate it in order to use it. Steps for activating your MyMail account are located at [www.mssu.edu/information-technology/frequently-asked-questions-student-mymail-access.php](http://www.mssu.edu/information-technology/frequently-asked-questions-student-mymail-access.php)

If you have not received your email account or have any questions about activating the account, contact the IT Department at 417.659.4444 or its-team@mssu.edu.

**Textbooks**

MSSU operates a $10 per credit textbook rental program for most of its courses. Some courses may have additional purchase textbooks and materials as well. Textbook information for all classes can be found at [www.mssubookstore.com](http://www.mssubookstore.com). After enrolling, a student’s booklist will show up on their LioNet account. The booklist will specify the required textbooks requested for the classes enrolled. Rental textbooks may be picked up at Textbook Rental in the lower level of Billingsly Student Center. Purchase textbooks may be purchased from the bookstore on the 2nd level of Billingsly Student Center. Textbook rental bill will post to a student’s account within 48 hours after the books have been picked up. Rental textbooks will have to be returned at the end of the semester.

**Residence Life**

Living in our residence halls is more than a place to lay your head; it is an exciting life style. Students are immersed in the campus atmosphere and environment. While academics should be the primary focus, there will be plenty of time for entertainment, fun, and friends. Your university residence hall experience will be an exciting time full of fond memories.

Our Residence Hall staff will add to those memories. Contracts are available online at: [www.mssu.edu/student-living-center](http://www.mssu.edu/student-living-center).

You may also request a contract be mailed to you by contacting the Resident Life Office at 417.625.9522 or emailing at: Residencehall@mssu.edu.
Important Contact Information

- Southern Welcome Coordinator: Faustina Abrahams; 417.625.3158
  www.mssu.edu/acts/swfrhome.htm
- Southern Welcome Web Site: www.mssu.edu/acts
- Southern Welcome Email Address: southernwelcome@mssu.edu
- Academic Advising: Kelly Wilson; 417.625.9324
- First-Year Advising: Faustina Abrahams; 417.625.9324
- First-Year Experience Director: Susan Craig; 417.625.9732
- Financial Aid: Rebecca Diskin; 417.625.9325
- Billing of Student Accounts: Alicia Hughes; 417.625.9381
- Disability Accommodation Services: Lori Musser; 417.625.9516
- Student Success Center: Stephanie Hopkins; 417.659.3725
- Health Center: Pam Hosp; 417.625.9323
- Residence Life/Housing: Josh Doak; 417.659.4460
- MSSU Operator: Rae Surber; 417.625.9300
- MSSU Web Site: www.mssu.edu

What should I bring to Southern Welcome?

- Your photo ID
- Your license plate number (To get your parking permit)
- Your shot records
- Your completed medical history form (Available on the Southern Welcome website)
- A light jacket or sweater and comfortable shoes for walking
- Dress for students and family members is casual
- An umbrella (in case it rains)
- A copy of your academic transcript or grade reports if you have dual credit or credit-in-escrow hours from a university other than MSSU

Are there special accommodations for disabilities?
If you have a learning or physical disability, please call 417.659.3725, and make an appointment to meet with the Disability Services Coordinator, Judy Elmlech. Accommodations, such as extended time on tests, sign language interpreters, etc., are based upon documented disabilities. The documentation gives you rights; it’s your responsibility to contact us. Remember, you are not alone. Please contact us.

Medical History Report & Records
All students are required to provide a medical history report and immunization records showing vaccinations for Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMRII). Download the form on Southern Welcome’s website: www.mssu.edu/acts
(Bring the completed medical history form and photocopy of immunization records to Southern Welcome.)
All immunizations must be up-to-date and records on file before students are permitted to attend classes. If necessary, immunizations will be available by appointment, which can be made by contacting: Willcoxen Health Center at 417.625.9323 or email Healthcenter@mssu.edu

Your First Year Matters!
The First-Year Experience Office at Missouri Southern State University is committed to making the first year of college a success for each student. Check out our website at www.mssu.edu/first-year-experience to learn about how we work to support, engage, and honor first year students.

Do you want to meet other first year students? Join our Facebook site! Search for ‘12-13 MSSU First Year Students’ and sign up today.

Questions? Contact Dr. Susan Craig, Director, at craig-s@mssu.edu or 417.625.9732.
Welcome to Missouri Southern State University. As President, I want to extend a hearty Southern Welcome!

Your future is bright at Southern. You will find more than 100 majors and degree options, new cooperative graduate programs, more than 80 student organizations, exciting and competitive NCAA Division II athletics programs, a beautiful 373-acre campus, a stimulating international mission, a vigorous and extensive distance learning program, modern state-of-the-art facilities, and much, much more.

As a student here, you will enjoy a wide range of activities outside the classroom, including state-of-the-art recreation center, a vibrant intramural program, inspiring plays, concerts, art exhibitions, and plenty of fun.

Our faculty and staff work diligently to provide you with a successful academic experience. Our curriculum combines a liberal arts foundation with a professional orientation and a strong commitment to the international aspects of education in order to prepare you for lifelong learning and a successful career in a rapidly changing and competitive world.

We strongly encourage our students to become involved in all aspects of campus life. Our First-Year Experience program is designed to connect students and foster their success early in their academic career.

We look forward to having you at Southern Welcome where you will have an educational and fun day getting to know your university campus and the services we provide to help you obtain the success you desire.

**Welcome To The Pride!**

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**Southern Welcome Hosting Department: Advising, Counseling and Testing Services**

**Hearnes Hall 314 • Phone 417-625-3158**

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**New Student Orientation Program**

**One-Day Freshman Orientation and Enrollment**

**Make Your Reservations Now!**

**Missouri Southern State University**

3990 East Newman Road

Joplin, MO 64801-1595