

Missouri

FISCAL YEAR 2012

Budget & Legislative priorities



Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Nixon".

Governor

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon



GOVERNOR OF MISSOURI
JEFFERSON CITY
65102

JEREMIAH W. (JAY) NIXON
GOVERNOR

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January 19, 2011

TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE PEOPLE OF MISSOURI:

Missouri's economy is recovering from the national and international downturn, but we still have a long road ahead. Although we are seeing indications of growth in jobs and investment, the budget outlook for the upcoming fiscal year is still challenging, as revenue collections are projected to be \$700 million below three years ago. Together, we must keep fighting for every job, every day to get our economy moving forward.

Last session, the legislature and I worked together to pass a budget that was balanced and held the line on taxes. However, because revenue was recovering more slowly than anticipated, I made additional spending reductions in July to ensure the budget remained balanced. As a result of our actions to put our fiscal house in order, we have maintained Missouri's Triple-A credit rating from all three rating agencies. We are one of only eight states with that distinction.

Although Missouri's economy continues to improve, we must continue to exercise fiscal discipline as we prepare the Fiscal Year 2012 budget. My budget reflects additional measures to make state government smarter and more efficient, including reductions in leasing, travel, utility, and contract costs. My recommendations continue to downsize the state workforce, bringing the total reduction to more than 3,300 positions since I took office. By becoming more efficient, we will ensure that we have the necessary resources to invest in critical priorities, like job training, education and public safety.

My top priority continues to be getting Missourians back to work. As we have for the past two years, we will continue to move our economy forward in Fiscal Year 2012 by:

- Focusing every day on creating jobs: We will increase our investment in job training, streamline our economic incentives, and ensure Missouri is home to the next-generation manufacturing of the future;
- Making government smarter and more efficient: We will expand our efforts to cut costs, provide services online, and streamline operations;
- Investing in strong communities that attract good jobs: We will support Missouri families, invest in education, strengthen safe communities, and protect and preserve our natural resources; and
- Balancing the budget without raising taxes.

By continuing to work together, we will enact a budget for Fiscal Year 2012 that maintains fiscal discipline, that holds the line on taxes, and that invests in tools that will help us create jobs for Missourians. Together, we'll keep fighting for every job, every day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Nixon".

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor



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**VETERANS &
PUBLIC SAFETY**

The State of Missouri makes every effort to provide program accessibility to all citizens without regard to disability. Hearing-impaired citizens may call the Office of Administration, Division of Budget and Planning through Relay Missouri: 800-735-2466.



Governor Nixon's 2010 review



August 2010 - Governor Nixon attended ground breaking at Barton Farm campus in Trenton



June 2010 - Governor Nixon signed landmark DWI bill in Jefferson City



June 2010 - Governor Nixon signed historic autism bill in Joplin

JOBS

- Announced plans by employers to create new jobs throughout the state
- Initiated the development of a five-year strategic economic plan
- Appointed a bipartisan commission to perform comprehensive review of state tax credits
- Announced \$261 million in federal broadband grants for mapping availability, expanding high-speed access and planning for future broadband needs for citizens and businesses
- Kicked off Work Ready Missouri, providing workplace training to 1,000 unemployed Missourians
- Signed the Missouri Automotive Manufacturing Jobs Act, strengthening the state's automobile manufacturing and supplier industry

EDUCATION

- Awarded Training for Tomorrow grants to educate Missourians for careers in growing industries through the state's community colleges

- Secured a tuition freeze at the state's two- and four-year public, higher education institutions for two years in a row, helping to produce record enrollment
- Convened a Summit on Higher Education to focus the higher education agenda on the state's workforce needs and economic development opportunities
- Announced interest-free federal bonds to pay for construction projects in dozens of school districts

AGRICULTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

- Completed visits to all 85 state parks and historic sites
- Created State Parks Youth Corps, giving more than 1,000 young Missourians valuable work experience and enhancing the state's parks and historic sites
- Announced the grand re-opening of Johnson's Shut-Ins State Park
- Celebrated the 20th anniversary of Katy Trail State Park
- Signed legislation supporting urban and community gardens

“To overcome the challenges we face, we must put politics second and put Missouri first.”

~ Governor Jay Nixon



August 2010 - Governor Nixon visited the State Fair



March 2010 - Governor Nixon announced Training for Tomorrow grant at State Fair Community College in Sedalia



October 2010 - Governor Nixon congratulated Kip Cullers on new world record for soybean yields

HEALTH

- Signed legislation providing insurance coverage for the most effective treatment for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders
- Unveiled the Partnership for Hope program to support hundreds of Missouri families caring for loved ones with developmental disabilities
- Signed “Prompt Pay” legislation, requiring more timely insurance payments to health care providers for patient care
- Signed legislation expanding the SAFE CARE network to provide additional protections for victims of child abuse or neglect

LEADERSHIP

- Trimmed the state’s payroll by 2,500 positions since taking office
- Balanced the state budget by cutting \$1.5 billion since taking office
- Retained Missouri’s AAA bond rating
- Eliminated unused office space, consolidated state laboratories and renegotiated building leases, saving more than \$5 million
- Reduced state energy bills by 2 percent, on top of the 5.6 percent last year, saving \$3 million

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Signed landmark legislation to take repeat drunk drivers off the roads and strengthen DWI enforcement
- Merged the Missouri State Highway Patrol and Water Patrol into one state agency
- Recognized for his work on behalf of crime victims by the state's leading advocacy group, the Missouri Victim Assistance Network

VETERANS

- Visited Missouri troops stationed in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait and Germany
- Signed legislation improving voting access for deployed military personnel, establishing a preference for disabled veterans in state contracts, expanding scholarships to dependents of veterans and enhancing the trust fund that benefits various veterans causes
- Created “Show-Me Heroes” to connect military veterans with Missouri job opportunities when they return home from deployment



November 2009 - Governor Nixon visited public works projects in Kansas City

Governor Nixon’s top priority is to create jobs for Missourians. Under Governor Nixon’s leadership, Missouri has cut taxes and laid a foundation for economic recovery. Over the past year, the Governor toured the state to promote Missouri’s business opportunities and hear directly from local Missouri businesses; he announced plans by employers to create new jobs in every corner of the state.

IN 2010, Missouri was named one of the Top 10 Pro-Business States by geo-economist and corporate relocation expert Dr. Ronald R. Pollina. Over the past two years, major companies have announced plans to bring jobs to the state, including:

- 800 jobs at IBM in Columbia.
- 500 jobs at Expedia in Springfield.
- 500 jobs at Jet Midwest in Kansas City.
- 400 jobs at Sabreliner in Perryville.
- 300 jobs at Unisys in St. Louis.
- 200 jobs at Nordic Windpower USA in Kansas City, over the next six years.
- 150 jobs at Express Scripts in St. Louis.

Missouri has a robust set of economic tools to help employers expand and create new jobs. As with any tool, however, these incentives must be sharpened from time to time. Many of Missouri’s economic incentive programs were created in the 1980s. It’s time to update these tools and make them more effective for 21st-century employers. That’s what Governor Nixon’s Compete Missouri jobs proposal is all about.

This year, Governor Nixon will focus on creating jobs by sharpening the state’s economic incentives, training workers for 21st-century careers and implementing a strategic plan for economic growth.

“As Governor, my top priority is creating jobs and putting Missourians to work in the high-demand industries of the 21st Century.”

~ Governor Jay Nixon

Compete Missouri

When employers are determining where to create jobs and expand their operations, economic incentives can play a critical role. Missouri has a diverse array of incentives that help attract new businesses to the state and help existing Missouri businesses grow.

Some of these incentives were created decades ago. It's time to update, clarify and streamline these incentive programs to make them easier and more effective for businesses. Based on recommendations from the Missouri Strategic Initiative for Economic Growth,

Governor Nixon's Compete Missouri proposal will do just that.

Compete Missouri will streamline the state's six primary economic incentive programs to provide enhanced opportunities for businesses that locate or expand operations in Missouri. Compete Missouri also includes a first-ever benefit for existing Missouri employers. To qualify for incentives under Compete Missouri, employers must provide good-paying jobs with health care benefits.

Strategic initiative for economic growth

In May 2010, Governor Nixon appointed business, labor, local government and education leaders from across the state to work together to refine economic development efforts to ensure the best return on investment to the state. The charge was to develop a five-year strategic economic plan for the State of Missouri. The final result will be a road map to jobs, economic growth and prosperity for years to come.

In December, after extensive meetings with local leaders in every corner of Missouri, eight strategic objectives for economic growth were outlined. These objectives formed the basis of Governor Nixon's Compete Missouri and Missouri Training Advantage proposals.

1. Attract, develop and retain a workforce with the education and skills to succeed in a 21st-century economy.
2. Support local economic development organizations in the retention and expansion of existing businesses and employers.
3. Optimize its tax, incentive and regulatory policies to support the growth of high-value targeted business sectors.
4. Invest in technology and innovation to attract, launch and sustain the growth of companies in the future.
5. Aggressively market the state to domestic and select international audiences.
6. Develop a best-in-class foreign trade initiative.
7. Encourage small- and minority-business development and entrepreneurship.
8. Provide infrastructure for companies and communities to be successful.



Employer Training Assistance

Training for workers is a top priority for companies looking to create or retain jobs. Missouri now has three separate industry training programs, each with a different set of rules and requirements. Governor Nixon’s Compete Missouri Plan will roll these three programs into one, streamline and update them and align them with the state’s business incentive program.

In addition, Governor Nixon’s budget prioritizes workforce training programs and includes an additional \$5 million for training programs that help companies maintain a highly-skilled, highly-competitive workforce.

Caring for Missourians

Even in these challenging economic times, employers are hiring health care workers – doctors, nurses and others – as quickly as they can. Health care jobs are available for those with the skills and education to compete. In 2009, Governor Nixon established the Caring for Missourians initiative to educate Missourians for these high-demand careers, while also meeting the health care needs of underserved populations in our state.

Caring for Missourians was a one-time investment of \$40 million to increase the number of health professionals educated at Missouri’s public colleges and universities. Because of this investment, hundreds of additional students will be able to participate in programs all across the state.

This year, Governor Nixon, working with the State Board of Nursing, is proposing an additional \$3 million investment, over three



June 2010 - Governor Nixon at Mid-America's announcement of a new facility in Mexico

years, to educate even more nurses at four-year colleges and universities. The Governor’s recommended budget includes funding for this expansion, and the administration has proposed legislation to authorize the implementation of the grant program.

New Energy Jobs

In November 2010, Governor Nixon announced an agreement with energy companies across the state to begin the process to construct a second nuclear power plant in Missouri, while protecting the interests of consumers. A consortium of Missouri electric utilities agreed to seek an early site permit to build a state-of-the-art nuclear facility in Callaway County.

Building a second nuclear plant in Missouri will create thousands of high-paying jobs for Missouri workers and will have a significant and lasting impact on the state’s economy, while also generating clean, safe and affordable power for consumers. Governor Nixon will work with the General Assembly and energy producers to advance legislation and put thousands of Missourians to work.



Last year, Governor Nixon proposed the creation of the State Parks Youth Corps (SPYC) program. The State Parks Youth Corps is a cooperative partnership between the Division of Workforce Development and the Division of State Parks.

This innovative, award-winning program has helped Missouri youth make a difference by preserving and enhancing the state's natural resources, while providing the opportunity for hard work and resource conservation. The program gave youth summer employment, job skills and an opportunity to perform public services. Youth were involved in vital maintenance, restoration and research projects to enhance Missouri's 85 state parks and historic sites.

September 2010 - Governor Nixon visited with a youth corps worker at Camp Pin Oak, Lake of the Ozarks State Park

In 2010, SPYC members performed a variety of tasks from routine maintenance and trail construction to interpretation and social media efforts. Throughout the summer, youth worked 187,500 hours at the parks. The program received the President's Award from the National Association of State Parks Directors. To boost youth employment and benefit Missouri state parks and historic sites, Governor Nixon recently announced that the program will return in 2011 and employ up to 700 Missouri youth.



Rural Jobs

Governor Nixon supports the expansion of economic development opportunities in rural Missouri. The Missouri Value-Added Loan Guarantee Program provides a guarantee to lenders who make agricultural business development loans for certain agricultural property. Currently, the program does not

offer incentives to agri-businesses, such as large animal veterinarians, feed and supply stores, and livestock markets. The Governor proposes legislation to expand opportunities to agriculture-centered businesses through the Missouri Value-Added Loan Guarantee Program.



November 2010 - Governor Nixon spoke to community, labor and business leaders in Jefferson City

During Governor Nixon's first two years in office, he has faced historic budget challenges driven by the national economic downturn that began in 2007. State revenue collections in Fiscal Year 2009 were down more than \$778 million from what had originally been projected. Upon taking office in January 2009, the Governor immediately began reducing state spending to ensure the budget remained in balance.

IN Fiscal Year 2010, state revenue collections continued their decline, falling 9.1 percent from the Fiscal Year 2009 level. The Governor again took decisive action to continue to balance the budget. Since taking office, Governor Nixon has balanced the budget without increasing taxes by:

- Cutting \$1.5 billion in spending.
- Eliminating 2,500 positions from the state workforce.
- Consolidating state services.
- Reducing the administrative costs of state government.

Even though Missouri is in better shape than many other states, it still faces tough budget challenges as the nation recovers from the economic recession. Strong leadership and conservative fiscal management will continue to be necessary to keep our budget balanced and our state moving forward. Governor Nixon will keep making the tough calls necessary to keep Missouri headed down the right path.

“By reducing the size of government, taxpayers' dollars will be available to make essential investments in job creation, education, health care and law enforcement.”

~ Governor Jay Nixon

Efficient State Government

Governor Nixon has reduced administrative costs while preserving vital services for Missourians. These efforts include:

- Consolidating state agencies to reduce administrative costs, including the state's Highway Patrol and Water Patrol, agriculture and health labs, mailrooms, maintenance staff and out-state offices for several agencies.
 - Signing pension reform legislation, to ensure solvency of the retirement system for state employees. Savings are estimated at more than \$660 million over the next decade.
 - Reducing leasing costs associated with state office space. By June 2011, the state will have saved more than \$5 million by renegotiating and consolidating leases. In addition, indirect costs associated with leases, such as janitorial contracts, will be reduced by \$1 million.
 - Reducing energy bills for state agencies, saving more than \$3 million on the state's utility bills.
 - Implementing Unified Communications to combine technology for computers, phones, mobile devices and teleconferencing systems. By integrating numerous systems, the state will reduce travel, increase efficiency and save costs, estimated at \$36 million over the next seven years.
- Reducing state employee travel costs by at least ten percent. The state fleet was reduced by 400 vehicles, in an initial step. Car-rental contracts were negotiated at significantly reduced rates, and the state is consolidating the management of vehicle pools in Jefferson City. These efforts will save taxpayers more than \$6.7 million over a two-year period.
 - Reviewing agency procurement contracts and eliminating automatic contract increases. Over \$10 million in future contract savings has already been identified.
 - Combining warehouse space, resulting in projected annual savings through the end of the current fiscal year of \$420,000.
 - Improving efficiency in the child support program by consolidating staff in the Springfield and Branson offices, contracting services to increase collections and implementing a pilot program to consolidate offices by case function.
 - Reducing workers' compensation costs and providing additional safety measures for state employees.
 - Enhancing government efficiency by putting more services online. The Department of Revenue has placed multiple services and forms online, previously only available at a local office or by mail.



Sound Fiscal Management

Early, decisive action by Governor Nixon headed off the financial meltdowns other states have experienced. Missouri also avoided tax increases and drastic cuts in basic services. Fiscally conservative management helped Missouri keep its spotless, AAA credit rating. With the Governor's recommendations for Fiscal Year 2012, his cuts will total \$1.8 billion.

This has required the Governor to make tough calls about the size of the state workforce. Including his recommended budget for Fiscal Year 2012, Governor Nixon will have reduced the state workforce by more than 3,300 positions. Workforce reductions are never easy, but they are vital to avoid the fiscal meltdowns taking place in other states.

States that have not managed the downturn well are now facing dire situations and taking drastic actions to balance their budgets:

- California has a \$25 billion deficit.
- Texas faces a \$15 billion budget deficit.
- Kansas delayed \$98 million in payments due to its public schools.
- Illinois passed a 66 percent income tax increase to fill a \$15 billion deficit and pay off \$6 billion in overdue bills.
- New Jersey has shorted its state pension fund, creating a deficit of \$54 billion.



January 2010 - Governor Nixon delivered his State of the State Address

Consolidation of Boards & Commissions

Many of the state's 225 boards and commissions do good, productive work. Others spend taxpayer dollars and don't produce sufficient results. Over the past two years, Governor Nixon's administration reviewed every state board and commission. The review found that one commission had not met in over a decade and many others have outlived their usefulness.

Governor Nixon issued executive orders eliminating 13 of these entities and 227 appointed positions. Legislation signed into law by the Governor in 2010 eliminated nine additional state entities and 130 positions. Numerous other boards merit elimination. The Governor proposes legislation to combine or eliminate 25 boards or commissions and approximately 258 appointments.



April 2010 - Governor Nixon and public education leaders called for comprehensive tax credit reform

Tax Credit Reform

In July 2010, Governor Nixon appointed a bipartisan Tax Credit Review Commission to review the state's tax credit programs and make recommendations for greater efficiency and enhanced return on investment. Twenty-five business, community and legislative leaders served on the commission, including five legislators. Legislative staff also participated in this important process.

The General Assembly adopted the state's first tax credit in 1973 and, over the following decades, adopted dozens more tax credit programs to subsidize an array of activities. Today, there are 61 active tax credit programs in Missouri. From Fiscal Year 1998 to 2010, tax credit redemptions have grown more than 407 percent, to over \$521 million annually. Even as state revenues have declined during the national economic downturn, tax credit programs have grown.

Governor Nixon appreciates the extensive review undertaken by the commission and the level of depth in their analysis. Members of

the commission will testify before the General Assembly during the 2011 session, and the Governor encourages legislators to carefully consider the commission's recommendations. Reforming the state's many tax credit programs is critical to ensure that strategic financial tools are used wisely, effectively and efficiently to create jobs and support strong communities.

Office of Public Counsel

The Office of the Public Counsel (OPC) represents the interests of utility customers in proceedings before the Missouri Public Service Commission (PSC) and in investor-owned electric, natural gas, telephone, water, sewer and steam heat utility proceedings. The OPC takes an active role in cases that propose to increase rates to protect customers' interests. To strengthen services provided by the OPC, Governor Nixon's budget funds the office by the same means as the PSC and doubles the OPC's operating funds. This can be accomplished without any impact on consumers' monthly utility bills.



Governor Nixon knows the importance of a quality public education. In today's competitive economy, education is the key to finding a good job. Governor Nixon is focused on expanding access to higher education and putting the dream of a college degree within reach for more Missouri families.

JOB prospects and lifetime earnings are directly tied to education. The Governor is committed to improving the success of our students through graduation and beyond, so they can compete in the 21st-century economy.

Expanding Access to A+ Scholarships

Over the past 17 years, Missouri's successful A+ Scholarship Program has provided two years of study - tuition free - for eligible students at Missouri community colleges and career/technical schools. Enrollment at Missouri's community colleges is increasing at a record pace. This heightened interest in community colleges, combined with an increased number of A+ certified high schools, has resulted in rapid growth in the A+ Scholarship Program. Next year, participation is projected to increase by approximately 12 percent, with a record 14,500 students expected to receive A+ awards. To fully fund the program, Governor Nixon recommends an increase of \$7 million for the A+ Scholarship Program in Fiscal Year 2012.

In addition, Governor Nixon is recommending \$1 million to expand the A+ Scholarship Program to all qualified Missouri public school students with expected family contributions below \$8,000 (approximately



October 2010 - Governor Nixon announced Training for Tomorrow grant at Crowder College

\$55,000 in adjusted gross income), even if they do not attend a designated A+ school. To be eligible to receive A+ awards, these students must meet the existing attendance, grade point average, citizenship and mentoring requirements. This initiative will assist hard-working students across Missouri who, without this funding, would find it very difficult to afford the cost of a higher education.

“Our schools must prepare students to compete for the jobs of the 21st Century and to become successful community leaders and global citizens.”

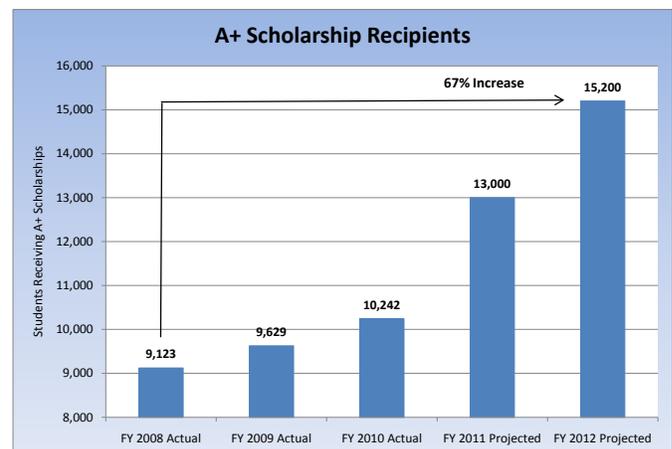
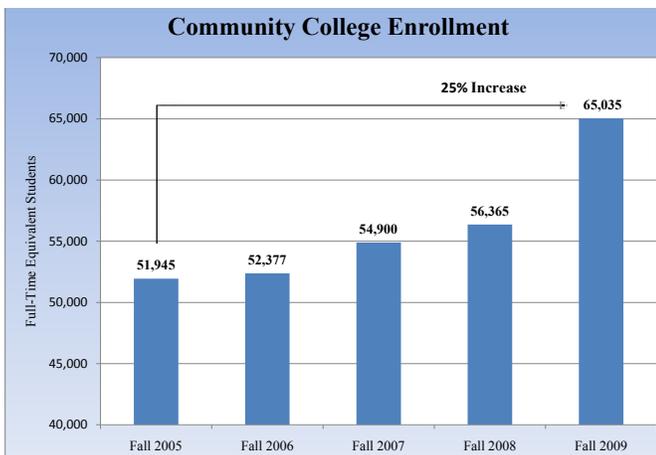
~ Governor Jay Nixon

Making College More Affordable

The Governor recognizes that in these difficult economic times, some families are struggling to pay for higher education. Even with the challenging budget situation, in addition to the increased funding for A+ Scholarships, the Governor recommends an increase for the Access Missouri Financial Assistance and Bright Flight Scholarship Programs over Fiscal Year 2011 levels. The Access Program provides need-based scholarships to eligible Missouri residents. The Bright Flight Program provides scholarships to graduating high school seniors scoring in the top three percent on academic achievement tests. The Governor’s budget recommendation for Fiscal Year 2012 includes a \$2 million increase in funding for each of these successful programs.

Excellence in Science and Mathematics

For Missouri to position itself as an economic and technological leader in the global marketplace of the 21st Century, it is critical that we encourage more high school students to enroll in rigorous science and math courses. Governor Nixon’s budget includes \$1 million to provide incentive grants of \$500 to all Access Missouri Financial Assistance Program and A+ Scholarship Program recipients who earn passing scores on at least two Advanced Placement exams in science or math while attending a Missouri public high school. This new initiative will encourage these students, many of whom are from underrepresented or disadvantaged populations, to study and succeed in science and math fields.

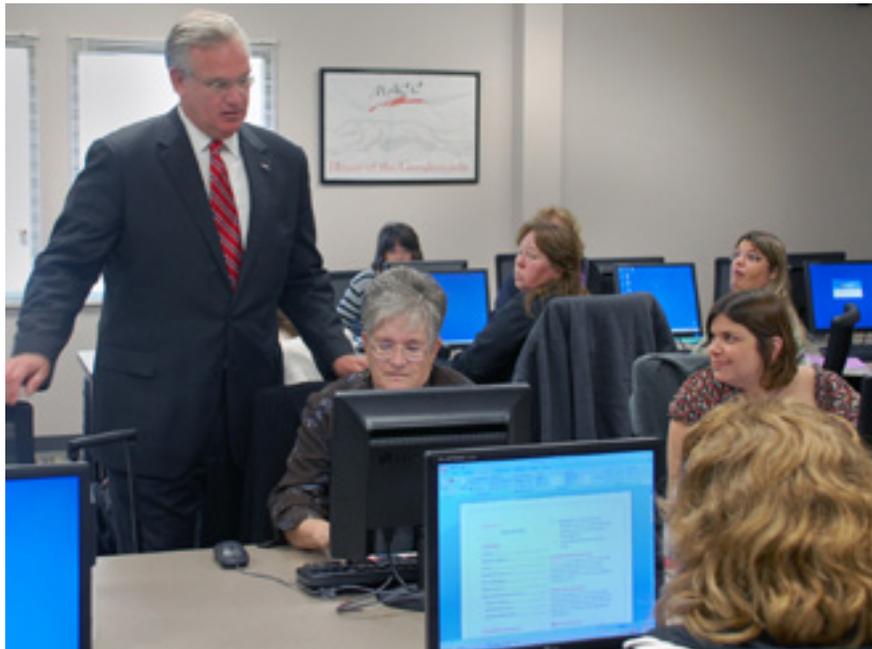




Higher Education Summit

In August 2010, Governor Nixon hosted a Summit on Higher Education to present an agenda for bold changes and significant improvements at Missouri's public higher education institutions. The Governor challenged the state's higher education institutions with four strategic initiatives: to increase the number of Missouri students attaining a higher education degree; to undertake a rigorous review of all academic programs; to increase cooperation and collaboration in both administrative and academic areas; and to develop a more effective funding formula for higher education institutions to reward performance and address strategic needs.

Governor Nixon understands that in these difficult financial times, the state's higher education institutions must focus their missions and program offerings to ensure that the state's resources are being used as efficiently and productively as possible and are being directed toward the key educational and workforce priorities of the state. Under the Governor's direction, the Department of Higher Education and the state's public institutions conducted a review of all existing academic programs in order to identify and eliminate non-productive programs. Many other programs will be reconfigured as a result of this initiative, resulting in even more productivity and cost savings. Missouri taxpayers deserve the highest level of efficiency and effectiveness from the state's higher education programs.



October 2010 - Governor Nixon visited Moberly Area Community College



September 2010 - Governor Nixon talked to students at Liberty North High School

GOVERNOR Nixon believes that public education is a value. Under his leadership, state support for Missouri's public elementary and secondary schools remains a top priority. The Governor's Fiscal Year 2012 budget:

- Ensures stable funding for the Foundation Formula that provides funding for K-12 classrooms.
- Maintains funding for First Steps, an early intervention system for infants and toddlers who have delayed development or diagnosed conditions that are associated with developmental disabilities.
- Increases school transportation funding by \$7.5 million.

Early Childhood Education

Education outcomes improve when children receive services prior to beginning school. Through the Early Childhood Special Education Program, more than 11,300 children with disabilities, between ages three and five, receive services tailored for their specific needs. Services are provided to children on a one-on-one basis, in small groups or in a classroom setting. Governor Nixon's budget includes an additional \$9.5 million for the Early Childhood Special Education Program.



Governor Nixon has worked to provide essential services to Missourians who are in need of assistance. During these challenging economic times, Governor Nixon has signed landmark legislation providing services for children with autism and expanding protections for victims of child abuse and neglect.

GOVERNOR Nixon's budget maintains funding for:

- Ten area agencies on aging across the state to provide congregate meals and other services for Missouri seniors.
- 115 local public health agencies.
- Childcare payments for low-income working families.
- Autism treatment services.
- Child assessment centers.
- Early Head Start programs.
- The Show-Me Healthy Women Program.

MoRx Renewal

Established in 2006, when Medicare Part D took effect, Missouri Rx works with Part D plans to lower the out-of-pocket expenses eligible seniors and individuals with disabilities pay for prescription drugs. The program pays 50 percent of all out-of-pocket costs for medications that are covered by a senior's Medicare Part D plan, including the cost of the deductible and co-payments. Missouri Rx is open to Missouri residents who are enrolled in a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan and who meet income-eligibility limits. As of April, almost 207,000 Missourians were enrolled in the program. Without reauthorization, the program will expire on August 28, 2011. Governor Nixon has called on the General Assembly to renew this important program and will work with legislators and senior advocates to get the bill to his desk.



June 2010 - Governor Nixon visited with a constituent in Charleston

Senior Insurance Protection

The federal Medicare program covers those over age 65 and individuals with certain disabilities. Cold-lead advertising is an illegal method of marketing insurance policies, most often Medicare supplement policies, that fails to conspicuously disclose insurance product solicitations. The most common targets of these marketing ploys are senior citizens. To protect elderly consumers, Governor Nixon proposes legislation to provide additional state regulation of Medicare insurance agents and the ability to discipline those who violate the law.

“We must continue to protect the health and safety of Missouri's seniors and most vulnerable citizens.” ~ Governor Jay Nixon

Partnership for Hope

In recent years, demand for home- and community-based services for individuals with developmental disabilities resulted in a large backlog of Missouri families waiting for help. Because of the backlog, many families had been waiting years to receive the services they needed. Priority had been given to individuals in crisis, such as individuals who were homeless or whose primary caregiver had passed away. In many of those cases, residential or institutional treatment became the only option to receive services. In October 2010, Governor Nixon announced the Partnership for Hope, a collaboration between the Department of Mental Health, county developmental disability boards and the federal Centers for Medicare

and Medicaid Services. Through the Partnership for Hope, an initial 470 individuals will receive up to \$12,000 in services per year. Because families will receive these services sooner than previously possible, the need for residential or institutional programs will be delayed or avoided in many cases. Governor Nixon recently announced the authorization to seek federal approval to enroll 500 additional Missourians in the program. The Governor recommends an additional \$8.8 million to expand this important program. Seventy Missouri counties are participating in the program; more counties will be included as additional funds become available in Fiscal Year 2012.



November 2010 - Governor Nixon participated in a Partnership for Hope roundtable in Columbia



July 2010 - Governor Nixon visited Missouri troops in Iraq

Missouri is home to nearly 506,000 veterans and more than 4,900 active-duty military personnel. Since he took office, Governor Nixon has visited Missouri troops in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait and Germany. The Governor's budget prioritizes funding for Veterans Service Officers throughout the state and makes additional investments in the homes that care for our elderly and disabled veterans.

Missouri's Veterans Homes

Governor Nixon's budget prioritizes adequate funding for the operation of Missouri's seven veterans homes and five veterans cemeteries. Veterans homes operated by the state provide 24-hour care for veterans. Missouri's facilities continue to receive outstanding reviews from the annual surveys conducted by the federal Department of Veterans Affairs. While providing exceptional care, all seven homes have infrastructure needs to maintain their facilities. To ensure these facilities remain safe and well-maintained, Governor Nixon's budget includes \$7.7 million for critical repairs and improvements at Missouri veterans homes.

Show-Me Heroes

In 2010, Governor Nixon launched a new initiative to connect returning veterans with employers. Show-Me Heroes showcases Missouri businesses that are willing to hire veterans returning from the world's battlefields. At ShowMeHeroes.mo.gov, employers can take the pledge to hire a Missouri veteran, and veterans can post their resume online. Since the initiative began, more than 1,100 employers across the state have signed up, helping nearly 500 veterans get a job.

“ State and local leaders have no greater responsibility than to protect the safety of the public. ”

~ Governor Jay Nixon

Governor Nixon is committed to keeping Missouri safe. Last year he proposed and signed landmark legislation to reduce the number of drunken drivers on Missouri roads. The Governor has activated state agencies and deployed National Guard units to assist citizens facing natural disasters. To keep Missouri safe, Governor Nixon's priorities include additional measures to protect victims of domestic violence.

Victims of Domestic Violence

There are more than 76 shelters and programs for victims of domestic violence across Missouri. The Governor's budget prioritizes state funding for domestic violence programs.

Currently, only the circuit court clerk is notified when ex-parte Orders of Protection are served by law enforcement. Studies have shown that one of the most dangerous times for domestic violence victims occurs within four hours of the service of an Order of Protection. Allowing victims to receive notification at the same time as their order of protection is served on the perpetrator will help the victim and law enforcement be alert during this critical period. The Governor proposes legislation to:

- Require law enforcement to enter service information into the Missouri Uniform Law Enforcement System within 24 hours after service of a protection order.
- Automatically notify victims when a protection order has been served.

State Law Enforcement Equipment

Governor Nixon's budget continues funding for the Missouri State Interoperable Network to provide a platform that will allow state, local and federal public safety agencies to communicate with each other. The Governor's budget recommendations also include \$926,320 in Federal Drug Seizure funds for the Missouri State Highway Patrol to maintain and purchase new equipment, including replacement of weapons and high-risk entry ballistic body armor.



December 2010 - Governor Nixon met with local officials in Sunset Hills after surveying tornado damage



PRODUCED JANUARY 2011