

Boilerplate—MU Extension

Short version

University of Missouri (MU) Extension, established through the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, leads MU's land-grant mission to improve lives, communities and economies. Through its development and sharing of relevant, reliable and responsive educational strategies, MU Extension enhances access to the university's science-based resources, knowledge and research. Its statewide network of campus-based faculty and local faculty in every county offers in-person and online programming, publications and information in agriculture and environment, business and community, health and safety and youth and family. All address Missouri's grand challenges around economic development, educational access and excellence and health and well-being.

Mid-size version

Established by the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, University of Missouri (MU) Extension is a partnership with federal, state and county partners and stakeholders that extends the resources and knowledge of the land-grant university to Missourians and beyond. MU Extension improves lives, communities and economies by producing relevant, reliable and responsive educational strategies that enhance access to the university's resources, scholarly knowledge and research.

MU Extension is working to address three grand challenges for the state of Missouri:

- economic opportunity
- educational access and excellence
- health and well-being

Using its statewide network of campus-based faculty and locally-placed faculty in every county, MU Extension seeks to impact these challenges by offering in-person and online programming, publications and information. MU Extension organizes its outreach into areas that align with the discovery, learning and engagement strengths of the university in (1) agriculture and environment, (2) business and community, (3) health and safety, and (4) youth and family.

Long version

First established by the Smith-Lever Act of 1914 that created the Cooperative Agricultural Extension Service, University of Missouri (MU) Extension leads the University of Missouri's extension and engagement work in fulfillment of its land-grant mission. This work extends university discovery, learning and engagement efforts statewide and facilitates partnerships among UM System campuses, Lincoln University, local county extension councils and the National Institute for Food and Agriculture of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Using science-based knowledge and research, MU Extension engages and empowers people to understand change, solve problems and make informed decisions.

Our vision: MU Extension is a valued and trusted educational solution to improve the quality of life in Missouri, the nation, and the world.

Our mission: Our distinct land-grant mission is to improve lives, communities and economies by producing relevant, reliable and responsive educational strategies that enhance access to the resources, scholarly knowledge and research of the University of Missouri.

MU Extension leads university efforts to reimagine our land-grant institution for the 21st century. Through a statewide needs assessment and rigorous evaluation of existing university extension and engagement efforts, Extension is committed to improving the lives of all Missourians, specifically through these strategies by FY 2023:

- Helping the Missouri economy by growing our economic impact from \$1 billion to \$1.5 billion
- Increasing participation in high school graduates' post-secondary education from 66% to 70%
- Improving Missouri's national health ranking from 40th to 35th

To work toward these goals, MU Extension offers in-person and online programming, publications, and information in four key areas that align with the research strengths of the university: (1) agriculture and environment, (2) business and community, (3) health and safety, and (4) youth and family.

MU Extension accomplishes its land-grant mission using a unique statewide human resource infrastructure that reaches every county in Missouri and touches urban, rural, and suburban areas. Our human resource infrastructure includes approximately 100 on-campus faculty and approximately 240 off-campus faculty. Extension operates at the county level through county councils whose members work with faculty to facilitate programming and make communities aware of MU Extension programs and resources.

Being locally placed means MU Extension has a unique ability to speak directly to constituents, including local community resource agencies, individuals, families, businesses, professionals and community leaders. We reach these groups through formal and informal learning experiences, such as online classes, workshops, counseling sessions and publications, through contact with an extension specialist and through the MU Extension website.

According to a third-party review of MU Extension conducted by TEconomy Partners in 2017, every dollar invested in MU Extension returns \$11 of public value to the state. MU Extension has a \$1 billion impact on the state of Missouri each year.

Along with our network of traditional extension programs, MU Extension is now strengthening its engagement with the people of Missouri and retooling its outreach efforts for the future. This effort includes a statewide data mapping and reporting system, new tech-based initiatives that expand our reach and impact and an Office of Extension and Engagement that develops and strengthens reciprocal and sustained relationships between the university and communities.

Boilerplate—County Extension Councils

In all 114 Missouri counties, an MU county extension council of elected, appointed and delegated

citizens helps guide local educational programming. County council members are partners in the educational process, from needs assessment through program implementation and evaluation of outcomes.

Boilerplate—University of Missouri

The University of Missouri (MU) is a public, land-grant research university in Columbia, Missouri. Founded in 1839, MU was the first public university west of the Mississippi River, and in 1862 was designated by the Morrill Act as a land-grant university. Missouri's largest university and the flagship of the four-campus University of Missouri System, MU is designated as a "Doctoral/Research Extensive" university by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and is one of only 34 public U.S. universities invited to membership in the prestigious Association of American Universities (AAU).

The University of Missouri has a diverse enrollment of more than 30,000 students who hail from every county in Missouri, every state in the nation and 120 countries. Students enjoy over 300+ degree options in 18 schools and colleges, and citizens across the state connect with MU by participating in MU Extension and Engagement programs in every county. The University of Missouri is by far the largest employer in the area with more than 13,000 full-time employees.

Questions? Contact:

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