

FUTURE EDUCATORS

2026-2027



What is a Living-Learning Community?

A living-learning community (LLC) is a group of students who share a common academic or theme interest and live together in a residence hall. Residence Life partners with faculty and staff across campus to implement special programming related to the LLC focus. Students living in the LLC also have the opportunity to get to know these partners outside of the classroom.

What should I expect as part of the LLC?

Your Resident Assistant (RA) will have information about a variety of activities and resources related to the topic of your LLC and academic support. Plan on being involved in various events and share your ideas for future programming! The more involved you are with the community, the more benefits you'll gain.



MEET YOUR RA

Jenna Hefley

Major: Elementary
Education

Hey, y'all! My name is Jenna Hefley, and I am going to be your RA for Shannon 5, the Future Educators LLC! Before we officially meet, I'd like to share a few things that will help you get to know me a tiny bit better! I am proud to be in my junior year of my major, Elementary Education! In my free time I enjoy hiking, kayaking, and anything outdoors. I am a substitute teacher, and I am so excited to become a full-time teacher in just a couple short years! I also love animals, and I have two beagles back home in Nixa, MO. One of my favorite pastimes is finding a cozy study spot on campus to read a book while drinking my coffee (let me know if you want to know my favorite study spots!) I cannot wait to learn about your hobbies and interests, and I am so excited to meet you on move-in day! This school year is going to be full of fun for Shannon 5!



Take this survey
to tell Jenna what
events you want!

*you could win a \$50 gift
card!



MEET YOUR PARTNERS!

Dr. James Sottile

Professor - College of Education

Hello COE Future Educator LLC students, I want to welcome you to a new year at Missouri State University. This is a wonderful time to be a COE student because you have many opportunities to engage at the University. It is important to get involved in as many college/university-related activities as you can, so you get the full experience while at MSU. I further suggest you work with a faculty member, so you have a mentor as well as a person to help you navigate the academic components of college. I was once a college student as you are now, but I went to The College of New Jersey for my undergraduate degree which was in psychology. I completed my Master's degree in Counseling from West Virginia University and my doctoral degree in Psychology from West Virginia University. Given the theme noted above, one of the best decisions I made while in college was to get involved in activities, and I worked with a few of my professors on projects. It provided me with more experiences to get a better job than my peers who did not engage in these opportunities.

-Live well, Dr. James Sottile



MEET YOUR PARTNERS!

Annice McLean

**Educational Technology Instructor
& Coordinator Master of Arts in
Teaching Programs**

Hi everyone,

My name is Annice McLean, and along with the other partners, I'm excited to welcome you to the Education Living and Learning Community. I'm looking forward to getting to know each of you and sharing some fun experiences together as a community. Congratulations on starting your journey at Missouri State University—I can't wait to meet you in August!



Dr. Ching-Wen Chang

**Education Technology Program
Coordinator**

Welcome to the COE Living Learning Community!

This community is more than just a place to stay—it's a space to connect, explore ideas, and grow both academically and personally. Throughout the year, you'll have opportunities to engage in meaningful conversations, participate in enriching programs, and build lasting relationships with peers and faculty mentors.

Whether you're new to the community or returning, we encourage you to get involved, share your perspectives, and make the most of the experiences ahead. We look forward to a year filled with curiosity, collaboration, and discovery.

Welcome—we're glad you're here.



Want to learn more about Blair-Shannon House? Check out this video!

Your LLC Social will be on:

**Friday, August 14, at
3:30 pm in Hill Hall**
Meet with your RA on your floor

You won't want to miss this
chance to meet your floor and
your LLC partners!

Join us for pizza,
and tie dye!



Our campus Bear Line service can help you get around once you get to campus! Check out the routes offered by our shuttles so you can figure out the best ways to get to class and around town. There is even an app you can download to track each Bear Line and see current wait times! To learn more, click [HERE](#).



Want to check out where your classes are and where to park on campus? Visit the campus map [HERE](#).

GET INVOLVED!

THERE ARE OVER 300+ STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AT MSU

Among those student orgs, there are several student organizations related to College of Education programs, including :

- Bears Teach Elementary
- Early Childhood Education Bears (ECE Bears)
- Music Teachers National Association – MSU Chapter
- National Art Education Association
- National Association for Music Education – Collegiate
- Physical Education Majors Club
- Sign Language Club
- Society of Science Educators
- Southwest Missouri Student Math Teacher Organization



Professional student organizations like these are great resources to help you prepare for your future career. Learn more [HERE](#).

WEEK OF WELCOME 2026!

It's time to celebrate a new year! Move in, meet new friends and enjoy a week full of events. Events include:



Thursday, August 13

Room Decor Bingo 7-9pm
PSU Theater

Sponsored by:



Friday, August 14

Snow Glad to See You
11-2pm (rain or shine)
Plaster Student Union Patio

417 Street Fest 6-8pm
Elm Street



Saturday, August 15

BearZEN 9-10am
Magers Health & Wellness Center 100

Grab a Scoop with FSL 12-2pm
Plaster Student Union Patio

Bear Bash 7-10pm
North Mall and PSU



Sunday, August 16

New Student Convocation 2pm
Great Southern Bank Arena

Campus Fest CMA 6:30-9pm
North Mall

And more! For the full list of events,
click [HERE!](#)