

What is The Missouri Innovation Campus?

The Missouri Innovation Campus was designed through a collaborative effort of business partners, the Lee's Summit R-7 School District, Metropolitan Community College and the University of Central Missouri. The goals of The MIC are to connect businesses to a trained workforce that has specific skill sets, make students competitive in the marketplace and reduce training costs. The Missouri Innovation Campus also uses an accelerated model designed to reduce student debt and increase student retention and degree completion.

What is innovative about The MIC programming?

This training initiative is rigorous, relevant and can be used with all of the Missouri Strategic Initiative for Economic Growth target clusters, including advanced manufacturing, energy solutions, bio sciences, health sciences and services, and information technology.

The instructional program is delivered by instructors who use inquiry, team-building, real-world problem solving and hands-on activities to assess both the hard and soft skills required by business partners and their industries. The program is enriched by several internships—beginning in the summer after the student's junior year of high school—where business partners can observe and assess the students' abilities in real-life activities within the company throughout two or three years.

Why is The MIC program an accelerated model?

Students begin the program in their junior year of high school by taking not only courses required to graduate from high school, but also college credit courses that position them to graduate from high school with an associate degree from Metropolitan Community College. The final two years are focused on completing a bachelor of science degree from the University of Central Missouri.

This accelerated model is a four-year, year-round program that reduces degree completion by two years for students finishing their coursework on time as identified by their four-year plan.

How do The Missouri Innovation Campus business partners benefit from this initiative?

The MIC business partners benefit by hiring trained employees with specific skill sets and competencies aligned to the needs of the individual company. These skills and competencies have been assessed in multiple real-world settings through classroom instruction and on-the-job internships. Through the internship experience, business partners are able to interact with students, shape their skills and see if individual students would be a good fit for their company, reducing training and hiring costs.



For more information visit ucmo.edu/micprogram
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