The Agribusiness Management program equips its students with the quantitative, analytical and critical thinking skills that employers demand. Students receive training in business, commodity marketing, economics, entrepreneurship, finance and management. Plus, they gain technical knowledge in production agriculture and the global food system.

The chart shares the basic cost-benefit trade-off for Missouri students who study agricultural economics and business. During four years at the University of Missouri, in-state students would incur roughly $38,036 in tuition and fees. Their earnings – assuming that they make their starting salary annually during a 26-year work career – would exceed $1.22 million. Thus, they net more than $1.18 million.

Compared with the other six schools and the no-college option, MU ranks first in net return. It's followed by Kansas State University – $1.06 million net – and the University of Central Missouri – $958,712 net. The no-college option produced the lowest net benefit – $700,530. The net benefit was also low for Northwest Missouri State University and Missouri State University.

Data originate from College Factual, the U.S. Census, College Scorecard, the University of Arkansas and the Midwestern Higher Education Compact. The analysis assumes that Missouri students attending the two out-of-state schools receive assistance to reduce their out-of-state costs.

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