

CAMPUSGF

A GUIDE FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS
LIVING & WORKING IN SPRINGFIELD, MO

Photo Credit to
Visit Springfield, MO

WELCOME TO SPRINGFIELD

...a city where you can build the life you dream of during college and as a young professional.

This guide is meant to help you get off campus to explore all that our community has to offer. While you're navigating the streets of 417, we hope you experience the Springfield that so many young professionals have grown to love and have chosen to call home after graduation.

CampuSGF is a resource provided by The Network, Springfield's hub of connectivity between young professionals and opportunities to advance their careers and achieve their goals in the community. The Network is a committee of the Springfield Area Chamber of Commerce and the area's premier young professionals group – and it gives young professionals endless opportunities to make their voice heard while writing their own chapter in Springfield's story.



We'd love for you to connect with us at thenetworkspringfield.com/contact and hear why you #LoveSpringfield.

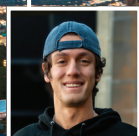
DOWNTOWN

TOP PICKS

EAT // CIVIL KITCHEN
 DRINK // MUDLOUNGE
 SHOP // J.L. LONG TRADERS
 PLAY // 1984 ARCADE

“

Springfield is a great space to start a career, it's full of opportunities, with a welcoming community and a low cost of living. The city is very “alive” with constant events, and the surrounding nature is perfect for camping. You can easily connect with young professionals and college students, making networking easy and stress-free, without the downsides of a big city.



GABRIEL LEAL

HOMETOWN: São Paulo, Brazil
 UNIVERSITY: Evangel University
 MAJOR: Finance
 CLASS OF 2027

FAVORITE COFFEE SPOT:
 Echelon Coffee
 FAVORITE RESTAURANT:
 Civil Kitchen

EAT //

1. Harbell's Grill
2. Jamaican Patty Co.
3. The Riksha
4. The European
5. Big Whiskey's
6. Druff's
7. **Civil Kitchen**
8. El Paraiso
9. Mama G's Kitchen
10. Tinga Tacos
11. St. Michael's
12. Nonna's
13. Kai
14. Prairie Pie
15. Zayka
16. Italian Kitchen
17. Springfield Brewing Co.
18. Sub Shop
19. Bambinos
20. Black Sheep Burgers & Shakes
21. Brunch Box
22. Pappo's Pizzeria
23. The Order
24. J.O.B. Public House
25. Modern Sips Acai Bar
26. Flame
27. Gailey's Breakfast Café
28. Greek Belly
29. Lucky Time
30. Bruno's
31. Rice & Dumpling
32. Gilardi's
33. Rama Thai Café
34. Andy's

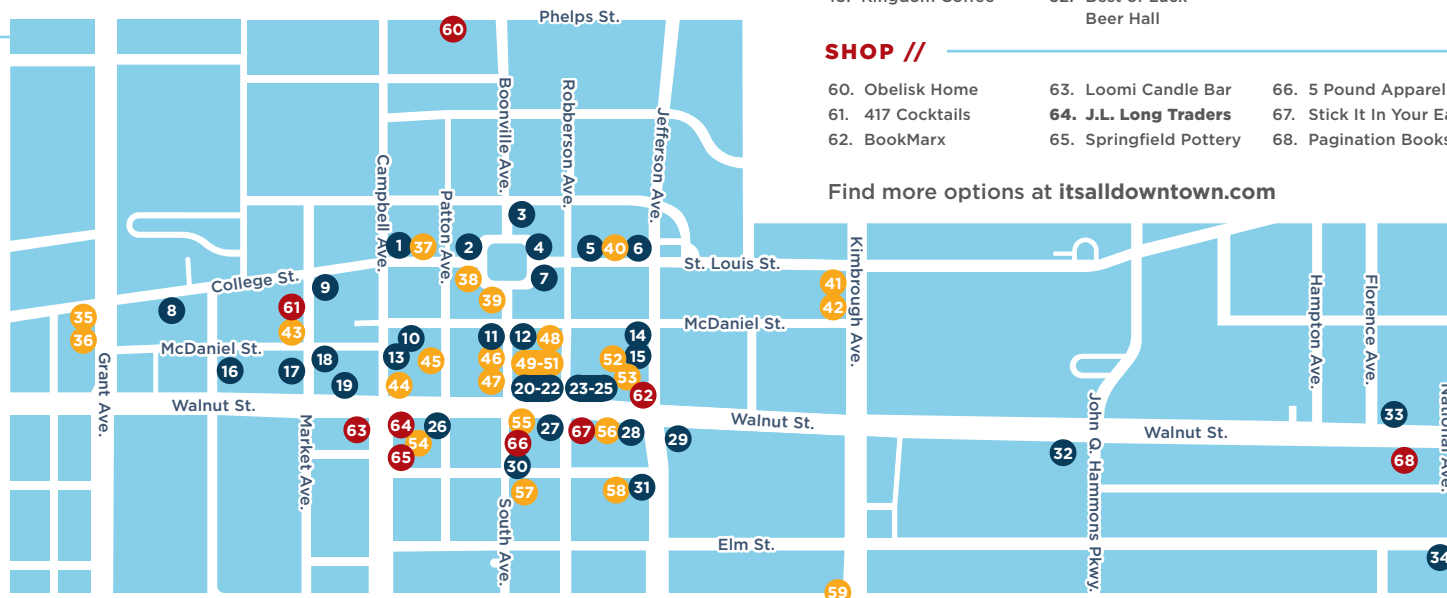
DRINK //

35. Cufflink Coffee
36. Mother's Brewing
37. Tabak Co.
38. The Golden Girl Rum Club
39. The Coffee Ethic
40. Dublin's Pass
41. Hold Fast Brewing Co.
42. Billiards of Springfield
43. Kingdom Coffee
44. Inner Circle Vodka Bar
45. The Dive on Patton
46. Finnegan's Wake
47. Mudhouse
48. Vantage Rooftop Bar & Conservatory
49. Skinny Slim's Public House
50. Sweet Boy's
51. Hour House
52. Best of Luck Beer Hall
53. **MudLounge Coffee & Cocktails**
54. Red Room Lounge
55. The Vault Bar and Grill
56. Shot Shack
57. Eyrie Rooftop Bar & Kitchen
58. 417 Taphouse
59. The Flea

SHOP //

60. Obelisk Home
61. 417 Cocktails
62. BookMarx
63. Loomi Candle Bar
64. **J.L. Long Traders**
65. Springfield Pottery
66. 5 Pound Apparel
67. Stick It In Your Ear
68. Pagination Bookshop

Find more options at itsalldowntown.com



HISTORIC C-STREET



EAT //

1. Ms. Gilmore's Vintage Suitcase & Tea Room
2. Blue Heron Farm & Bakery
3. La Habana Vieja
4. **Café Cusco**
5. Pizza House
6. Van Gogh's Eeterie
7. That Lebanese Place

DRINK //

8. Moon City Pub
9. Ruthie's Off C-Street
10. Lindberg's Tavern
11. Q Enoteca
12. Chabom Tea & Spices
13. **Big Momma's**
14. Eurasia Coffee Co.

SHOP //

15. Cymphony's
16. Springfield Mercantile Co.
17. **Askinosie Chocolate**

Find more options at historiccstreet.com

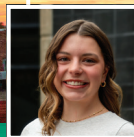
TOP PICKS

EAT // **CAFÉ CUSCO**

DRINK // **BIG MOMMA'S**

SHOP // **ASKINOSIE CHOCOLATE**

Springfield offers the perfect balance between a big-city vibe and a small-town feel, making it a great place for college students and young professionals. The city provides a combination of academic support and professional development, with numerous opportunities for recent graduates. Additionally, Springfield's sense of community and easy access to nature and local events make it an ideal place to live and grow independently.



ELIZABETH SVEC

HOMETOWN: Joplin, MO

UNIVERSITY: Missouri State University

MAJOR: Public Relations & Marketing

CLASS OF 2025

FAVORITE COFFEE SPOT:

The Workshop

FAVORITE RESTAURANT:

Greek Belly

I really love Springfield because it has all the benefits of the big city with the charm of a small town. Springfield has given me so many opportunities, making me the person I am today. It is the perfect place for college students and young professionals. The community is vibrant with something always happening, from summer farmers' markets, to live music and festivals.



AVERY MERCER

HOMETOWN: Springfield, MO

UNIVERSITY: Drury University

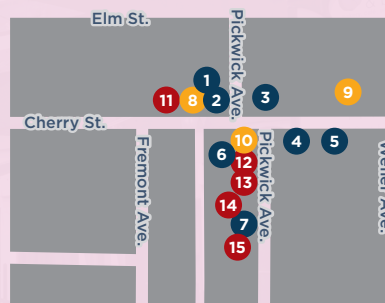
MAJOR: Marketing & Strategic Communication

CLASS OF 2027

FAVORITE COFFEE SPOT: MudHouse

FAVORITE RESTAURANT: Greek Belly

CHERRY & PICKWICK



EAT //

1. Sleepy Opossum Cafe
2. Skully's
3. Ott's Pasta
4. Imo's Pizza
5. Team Taco
6. Pickwick & Cherry
7. **Tea Bar & Bites**

DRINK //

8. The Royal
9. **Tie & Timber**
10. Cherry Picker Package x Fare

SHOP //

11. Artistree Pottery
12. **Culture Flock**
13. Howler Bike Co.
14. The Local Bevy
15. Ellecor Interior Design

EAT // **TEA BAR & BITES**

DRINK // **TIE & TIMBER**

SHOP // **CULTURE FLOCK**

TOP PICKS

GALLOWAY



EAT //

1. Cellar + Plate
2. Metropolitan Grill
3. Bambino's
4. Niji Sushi Bar & Grill
5. **The Rock**
6. Galloway Grill

DRINK //

7. **4 by 4 Brewing Co.**
8. Great Escape Beer Works

SHOP //

9. **Pine**
10. Pure Hot Yoga
11. Acacia Spa
12. Firehouse Pottery
13. Splatter Art Studio

EAT // THE ROCK
DRINK // 4 BY 4 BREWING CO.
SHOP // PINE

TOP PICKS



BRANSON



TOP PICKS

EAT // ARNIE'S BARN AT TOP OF THE ROCK
DRINK // ST. JAMES WINERY BRANSON
SHOP // THE BRANSON LANDING
PLAY // SILVER DOLLAR CITY

EAT //

1. Gettin' Basted BBQ
2. Mel's Hard Luck Diner
3. Mellow Mushroom Pizza
4. Big Whiskey's
5. Cantina Laredo
6. **Arnie's Barn at Top of the Rock**

DRINK //

6. Waxy O'Shea's Irish Pub
7. **St. James Winery Branson**
8. Downing Street Pour House
9. Vintage Paris

SHOP //

10. Tanger Outlets
11. Andy B's Bowl Social
12. **The Branson Landing**

I plan on staying in Springfield after I graduate because of its welcoming environment and amazing job opportunities. My favorite thing about living in Springfield is all of the fun attractions, and how everything is easily accessible. Springfield is a great place for college students and young professionals, offering lots of educational and career opportunities, and an extremely welcoming community.



KENNA HUMBLE

HOMETOWN: Ozark, MO

UNIVERSITY: Ozarks Technical Community College

MAJOR: Elementary Education

CLASS OF 2026

FAVORITE COFFEE SPOT: 7 Brew

FAVORITE RESTAURANT: Chick-Fil-A

Photo Credit to Branson Lakes Area Chamber

Find more options at explorebranson.com

GET OUTDOORS

When you're ready for a study break, Springfield has many ways you can enjoy the outdoors! Check out these Ozark Greenways trails and explore the parks and hidden gems along the way.



BONUS // FRISCO HIGHLINE TRAIL

A historic railroad line, the Frisco Highline Trail was converted to 35 miles of cycling, walking, and running trail that connects Springfield to Bolivar. There are many stops along the way, so be sure to plan out your route before you hit the trail.

Visit ozarkgreenways.org for more information on Springfield's trails.

OTHER PLACES TO ENJOY THE OUTDOORS

MISSOURI

- Springfield Conservation Nature Center
- Ozark National Scenic Riverways
- State Park Marina at Table Rock Lake
- Lake Springfield
- Two Rivers Bike Park
- Busiek State Forest
- Ha Ha Tonka State Park

ARKANSAS/BUFFALO NATIONAL RIVER

- Lost Valley Trail
- Whitaker Point Trail (Hawksbill Crag)
- Big Bluff & The Goat Trail
- Hemmed-In Hollow

LOCAL FLAIR



All of **Kraft Macaroni and Cheese** is made right here...that's right, your blue box mac and cheese is a local treat!



You can find them all over the country, but Springfield is the only place where you'll find the original and largest granddaddy of outdoor stores, **Bass Pro Shops**. *Bonus:* The Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium was named **America's No. 1 Aquarium** in 2024.

Did you know, all of the world's **French's Yellow Mustard** comes straight from a factory in Springfield?



Fun Fact: Academy Award winner **Brad Pitt** grew up here!



Can't decide between custard or a frozen fruity **favorite**? You don't have to—we've got you covered with original **Andy's Frozen Custard** and **Pineapple Whip**!

Like you some **Cashew Chicken**? You can thank Springfield's own David Leong.

Enjoy your Starbucks on the go? The first **bottles of Starbucks' Frappuccino** were produced right here in the 417!

The phrase "Get your kicks on **Route 66**" has even more meaning in 417-land as the birthplace of the beloved Mother Road.



H-O-T-T-O-G-O, **Chappell Roan** is from SWMO! This Willard native turned pop powerhouse and Grammy winner proves there's nothing small about local talent.



Stick a fork in it - Springfield takes the cake with the **world's largest fork: 35 feet high** and 11 tons of stainless steel!



Vital Farms nests its "Egg Central Station" in Springfield, where **six million** pasture raised eggs are cleaned, packed, and prepped daily to travel nationwide.



THINGS YOU'LL WANT TO FOLLOW

LoveSpringfield
@lovespringfield



417 Magazine
@417mag



The Network
@sgfthenetwork



Downtown Springfield
@downtownsgf



Explore Branson
@explorebranson



WORK WORK WORK

You can see opportunities for fun in the 417 are abundant, but we know as graduation day approaches, you'll be looking for your dream job - and odds are, it could be right here in Springfield! From national headquarters to emerging tech companies and global manufacturers to small startups - once students start looking, they usually find opportunities worth exploring at some of the companies listed below.

MANUFACTURING/ ENGINEERING

- 3M
- Digital Monitoring Products
- John Deere Reman
- Kraft Heinz Company
- Multi-Craft Contractors
- Paul Mueller Company
- Positronic
- SMC Packaging Group
- SRC Holdings Corp
- The French's Food Company
- Vital Farms

HEALTH CARE

- Beyond Healing Center
- Burrell Behavioral Health
- Citizens Memorial Hospital
- CoxHealth
- Dynamic DNA Laboratories
- Jordan Valley Community Health Center
- Lakeland Behavioral Health System
- Mercy Springfield Communities
- One Call Care Management
- Veterans Healthcare System of the Ozarks

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- CPI Technologies
- The Miller Group
- Cencora
- Duck Creek Technologies
- Jack Henry & Associates
- JMARK Business Solutions
- Pitt Technologies
- Mostly Serious
- Netsmart Technologies, Inc.
- Pearson-Kelly Technologies

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- American National
- Bass Pro Shops
- FORVIS/Mazars
- Chase Card Services
- Olsson
- Expedia
- Great Southern Bank
- Crawford, Murphy & Tilly, Inc.
- O'Reilly Auto Parts
- Paddio
- T-Mobile

DON'T SEE WHAT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR?

No worries, Springfield is full of thriving companies looking for bright, young talent like you. Reach out to us at thenetworkspringfield.com/contact or visit springfieldchamber.com/jobs for more possibilities.