March 25, 1905

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was March 25, 1905, the day the Northwest Missouri State Teachers College in Maryville was created by the Legislature.

The started, as many did during this time, as a teaching — or “normal” — school. The 5th District Normal School trained instructors in rural, northwest Missouri. At one point, they had 1,000 students taking part in course work. The school covered a 19-county area.

When lawmakers created the five districts, Maryville was chosen because of the donation of 86 acres of land for the new teaching school. The first classes there started on June 13, 1906.

A name change would come in 1919, thanks to the Missouri General Assembly, and the school became Northwest Missouri State Teachers College. A second name change would come 30 years later to remove the word “Teachers.” In 1972, “College” became “University.”

But, it all started on March 25, 1905, the date marking legislative creation of what is now Northwest Missouri State University, on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Sources: [Northwest Missouri State University archives](http://www.nwmissouri.edu/archives/normal/firststudents/index.htm), [Northwest Missouri State University history](http://nwmissouri.smartcatalogiq.com/en/2014-2016/Undergraduate-Catalog/Northwest-Missouri-State-University/History) and the *Missouri Senate Journal*)