

## **Source: Mizzou administration approves extension for Eli Drinkwitz, now awaiting signature**

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Nov. 26, 2025

[https://www.stltoday.com/sports/college/mizzou/article\\_e78038e7-ff8d-4afe-a4a1-b524fe9d23e5.html](https://www.stltoday.com/sports/college/mizzou/article_e78038e7-ff8d-4afe-a4a1-b524fe9d23e5.html)

Behind the story: The day before Thanksgiving, the saga over whether Missouri football coach Eli Drinkwitz would stay and sign a contract extension or leave for another job came to a climax. The university's board met that afternoon and approved a new contract for him. I scooped that the deal was done and awaiting his signature that night, before national insiders reported the news. Drinkwitz then signed and announced the new contract the following morning.

Full text: COLUMBIA, Mo. — University of Missouri administration greenlit a proposed contract extension for football coach Eli Drinkwitz on Wednesday, a source familiar with ongoing discussions told the Post-Dispatch.

The UM System Board of Curators met in closed session Wednesday afternoon to discuss the proposed terms, paving the road for a new long-term deal for the sixth-year coach.

No deal had been signed as of Wednesday night, so it's not across the finish line quite yet.

The agreement could be finalized this week — maybe as soon as Thursday. The Thanksgiving holiday and Mizzou's Saturday road game at Arkansas could add some fluidity to the situation, though there is now significant optimism that Drinkwitz will remain in Columbia.

Barring last-minute tweaks, the extension is expected to be a six-year contract, a source said, which is what required special approval from the Board of Curators. Drinkwitz is also likely to receive a substantial raise and additional money to spend on his coaching staff.

The deal, if or when finalized, will be his fourth extension at Missouri. His most recent came in February.

Drinkwitz was considered to be a potential target for coaching searches at Louisiana State, Auburn, Penn State and Florida at various points over the last month. It's not clear how concrete his discussions, if any, were with those programs, but a signed extension with Mizzou would put an end to that speculation.