

PROJECT EXCEL

Project EXCEL is nationally recognized as a highly successful, comprehensive academic support system for students with learning differences. Initiated in 1982, Project EXCEL is designed to support students through individual and small group learning. In partnership with a dedicated staff and within a structured program, students participating in Project EXCEL work to attain a college education and realize their dreams. Visit msj.edu/excel for more information.

93%
SUCCESS RATE

93 percent of surveyed Project EXCEL students over the past three years have found full-time or part-time employment, are pursuing graduate education, volunteering full-time, or have entered into military service within six months of graduation.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Diagnosis of a learning difference, such as a learning disability and/or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.
- Acceptance into the University.

EXTRA SERVICES

In addition to the federally mandated services such as accommodated testing, note-takers, texts in alternate formats, etc. (provided at no charge), Project EXCEL offers:

- Adult professional tutoring.
- Student progress monitoring.
- Academic advising with attention to each student's specific learning needs.
- Organization and time-management skills development and coaching.
- The Study for Success course for incoming freshmen.
- Direct instruction in academic success strategies, reading in content areas, and development of coping skills.
- Executive function support (impulse control, emotional control, flexible thinking, working memory, self-monitoring, planning and prioritizing, task initiation, and organization).
- Optional freshmen mentoring.

COMMIT TO YOUR GOALS

Students are successful if they:

- Work with professional tutors.
- Develop and utilize organizational and time management strategies.
- Discover their strengths.
- Acquire new skills.
- Gain independence.

EARN A DEGREE

- Choose from more than 40 degree programs.
- Participate in cooperative education.
- Explore a wide variety of careers.
- Polish professional skills.

LEAVE AS A SUCCESS

EXCEL graduates are living and working all over the country in a wide variety of occupations.



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The Project EXCEL program is proud to be recognized by College Consensus for our commitment to provide effective, specialized supports for students diagnosed with a learning difference. Student growth, graduation, and success are at the core of the Project EXCEL program.



As a Project EXCEL student, you are a partner in your education as you discover your strengths, address learning challenges, and acquire skills. Along with a willingness to recognize disability so you can focus on ability, you'll be expected to demonstrate a desire for academic support and to advocate for services and assistance. As you actively pursue your college degree, you'll develop effective strategies for studying, time management, and decision making.

EXCEL PROGRAM

The EXCEL Program is designed to provide comprehensive academic support for undergraduate students as they move from the secondary setting to post-secondary studies. Offerings include:

- Individual study schedules.
- Weekly professional tutoring.
- Weekly coaching sessions for freshmen to enhance time management and organizational skills; thereafter, sessions are based on GPA criteria or by request.
- Study for Success, a two-credit hour course.
- Monitoring of student progress and academic counseling (as needed).
- Instruction in learning strategies, reading in the content areas, and developing coping skills.
- Consultative advising with attention to each student's specific learning needs.
- Executive function support (impulse control, emotional control, flexible thinking, working memory, self-monitoring, planning and prioritizing, task initiation, and organization).
- Mentoring offered for freshmen students.

Project EXCEL prides itself on being a "custom fit" academic support program, not a "one-size-fits-all" and is a fee-based service. Visit www.msj.edu/excel for the latest information.

"The reason I came to the Mount was because of Project EXCEL, and I haven't looked back since. Choosing the Mount was and probably will be one of the best decisions that I have ever made. Thanks to the Mount and Project EXCEL, I am now the student that I always knew I could be."

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

The Career & Experiential Education Center (CEEC) provides students with high impact practices including: co-op, service learning, and student philanthropy. Additionally, the CEEC assists students in achieving their professional goals through career development events, courses, and career coaching, as well as assistance with resume and interview preparation.

The Wellness Center provides Counseling and Health Services to all registered and enrolled students at no extra cost to students. The Wellness Center is staffed by licensed mental health providers and a Registered Nurse. A Medical Assistant and two doctors are available by appointment throughout the academic year. A student can visit the Wellness Center to schedule appointments or call 513-244-4949 for counseling services and 513-244-4769 for health services.

The University provides Read Write software to enrolled students. Read Write is a literacy support software that has been designed to address difficulties with writing, spelling, grammar, vocabulary, and reading.

DOCUMENTATION

The documentation includes a psychoeducational evaluation administered within three years of application, current Multi-Factored Evaluation (MFE) or Evaluation Team Report (ETR). The documentation must present reasonable evidence that college academic requirements can be successfully met.

Academic difficulties existing concomitant with a diagnosed ADD and/or ADHD will be considered in the review of the diagnostic profile and documentation.

Official disability documentation must be sent directly to Project EXCEL from the original source. In order to be considered, the assessment must be recent and be conducted by a certified and/or licensed professional. If available, the following components are helpful in designing a plan for individual students:

1. Aptitude testing (must include scaled scores).
2. Achievement testing (must include standard scores).
3. Disclosure of all concomitant conditions, including a diagnostic summary stating the Diagnostics and Statistics Manual diagnosis, discussion of functional implications, and recommendations for the post-secondary setting.

The Project EXCEL staff realizes that not all evaluations contain this information.

PROJECT EXCEL APPLICATION PROCESS

Students must be admitted to Mount St. Joseph University before applying to Project EXCEL.

Students interested in Project EXCEL are encouraged to apply as early as possible. Space is limited, and each application is evaluated carefully to identify students whose needs best match the scope of support offered in Project EXCEL. Applying to Project EXCEL requires the steps listed below. The forms, along with an application checklist, can be found at www.msj.edu/excel.

THE FORMS

1. Completion of the following forms:

- Project EXCEL General Information Form.
- Project EXCEL Applicant Information Form.
- Project EXCEL School Record Form (traditional students only).

2. Submission of the following data:

- documentation (psychoeducational administered within three years of application).
- letter of recommendation from a non-family member who knows the student well.

3. On campus interview with the director of Project EXCEL.

ON THE WEB

Go to www.msj.edu/excel to access a fee schedule and to download Project EXCEL application forms. Students must be admitted to the Mount before applying for Project EXCEL.

Visit www.msj.edu/financial-aid for the latest information on financing options, case studies, and an estimator tool.

Check out www.msj.edu/catalogs for information on courses and academic policies.

Visit www.msj.edu/apply or contact the Office of Admission for more information about applying to the Mount.





ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS EXTRA SERVICES COMMIT TO YOUR GOALS EARN A DEGREE LEAVE A SUCCESS

DISABILITY SERVICES

In compliance with Section 504 of the rehabilitation Act of 1973, Mount St. Joseph University provides academic adjustments and auxiliary aids for students with physical or mental impairments that substantially limit or restrict one or more of such major life activities as walking, seeing, hearing, or learning.

The Mount provides, at no charge, these reasonable academic adjustments and auxiliary aids to meet the individual needs of eligible students. Advocacy assistance on disability related issues is also provided. Eligibility depends on the nature of the impairment and its impact on the particular individual and is based on documentation from a qualified professional.

To inquire about services, please schedule an appointment with the Director of the Learning Center & Disability Services.

ABOUT THE MOUNT

As a Catholic university rooted in the values of the Sisters of Charity, Mount St. Joseph University is dedicated to the success and well-being of its students, empowering them to become competent, compassionate, critical thinkers ready to make a meaningful impact on the world. Students at the Mount are inspired to think beyond the classroom and redraw the bounds of what's possible for their future.

The Mount community is distinctive in caring for those in need, acting with courage, and serving the common good. More than 98 percent of those who earn a degree from the Mount are employed, pursuing graduate studies, or volunteering within six months of graduation. This reflects the career certainty that comes from an education at the Mount and the tremendous talents of its alumni. The Mount fosters life-long learners who serve, care, and contribute to the world beyond their front doors.



MOUNT ST. JOSEPH UNIVERSITY®

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Mount St. Joseph University ("the University") is committed to providing an educational and employment environment free from discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, or other minority or protected status. This commitment extends to the University's administration of its admission, financial aid, employment, and academic policies, as well as the University's athletic programs and other University-administered programs, services, and activities.

The University has designated the chief diversity and inclusion officer, (513) 244-4467, Office of Diversity and Inclusion, as the individual responsible for responding to inquiries, addressing complaints, and coordinating compliance with its responsibilities under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and other applicable federal and state civil rights laws. The University has designated the director of Learning Center & Disabilities Services, (513) 244-4524, as the individual responsible for responding to inquiries, addressing complaints, and coordinating compliance with its responsibilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.