



May 2, 2011

Dear Mountaineer Academic Program Participants:

As the Mountaineer Academic Program (MAP) moves forward into its 4th year, we are excited about the evolution of our program and the academic progress that we have seen many of our students make. We continue to be the only program of this kind in West Virginia, and are receiving more inquiries and applications for enrollment each year. We have expanded our program and services to better meet the needs of and promote the retention of our students. This dedication to constant improvement will continue in the future.

Over the past three years the program has grown from an enrollment of 37 students in our first semester to over 65 students in the present semester. The number of peer tutors has increased from 17 to over 50 tutors. To accommodate the increase in students and tutors, we have increased access to technology and learning materials. The program moved into a larger tutoring space and obtained additional evening space in an academic building. In the upcoming year we hope to increase student and tutor access to learning technology, increase program academic workshops and social activities, provide students with additional drop-in tutoring opportunities and incorporate civic engagement opportunities into the program.

In order for the MAP to continue recruiting highly qualified tutors and increase current services while preparing for future improvements, a fee increase will be implemented for the Fall 2011 Semester. The fee increase was approved by Jennifer McIntosh, Executive Director of the President's Office for Social Justice, Mary Roberta Brandt, Associate Director of the President's Office for Social Justice Rebecca Berger, Assistant Director of the Office of Disability Services and the MAP professional staff (cc'd below). This is the first fee increase for services since the inception of the program. We will continue to work diligently to contain the costs associated with the program. Despite our increase, we are still well below comparable programs across the country.

Therefore, effective Fall 2011, the cost for MAP coaching will be \$950.00. Tutoring services will be as follows, \$225.00 for 15 hours of tutoring, \$375.00 for 25 hours of tutoring and \$450.00 for 30 hours of tutoring. Program fees are based on a charge of \$15.00 per-hour of tutoring. This figure will be used to calculate additional costs for services if you use more hours than were purchased in your chosen coaching/tutoring package. More information about program fees and MAP service options can be found on the attached sheet.

We hope that you are pleased with the services that we provided thus far in your college career. Our goal is to continue providing quality services to our current and future students and to support you in your educational goals.

Sincerely,

Derek Fincham, MS, CRC

Coordinator

Mountaineer Academic Program

cc: Jennifer McIntosh, Executive Director-Presidents Office for Social Justice
Mary Roberta Brandt, Associate Director-Presidents Office for Social Justice
Rebecca Berger, Assistant Director-Office of Disability Services
Ashley Tasker, Academic Coach-Mountaineer Academic Program

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Mountaineer Academic Program Overview Information

Overview and Philosophy

The only program of its kind in West Virginia, the Mountaineer Academic Program provides supplemental academic support services to meet the needs of, and to promote the retention of, undergraduate students with documented disabilities. This program was developed in response to student and parent requests for additional comprehensive services for students with disabilities that previously were not provided.

The Mountaineer Academic Program supports students in maintaining their focus, accomplishing their educational goals, and making education accessible to those who learn differently.

This fee for services program provides students with a variety of service options. Students are encouraged to take part in both academic tutoring and in academic coaching as the combination of these two services has the greatest impact on student success.

Student participants are undergraduates majoring in degree programs of their choice. They are expected to meet the same academic requirements as other students within their degree areas. Since their curriculum is the same as other students, they can leave the university with the same degree as other graduates in their chosen degree field.

Mission Statement:

The Mountaineer Academic Program is a fee-for-service, academic enhancement program, which provides student centered supplemental academic support services for students with disabilities. These services meet the needs of and promote the retention of undergraduate students with disabilities at West Virginia University.

Vision Statement:

The Mountaineer Academic Program will be the leading academic support program in the state of West Virginia for post-secondary students with disabilities. The Mountaineer Academic Program aspires to retain and graduate knowledgeable individuals, who have acquired academic and life skills that allow them to become successful members of their local communities.

Academic Coaching:

MAP Academic Coaches Provide;

- Consistency through regular contact and individualized support specifically designed for Mountaineer Academic Program Students;
- Accountability through weekly meetings to discuss all aspects of academic progress;
- Guidance in using strategies to improve study skills, time management, and organizational skills;
- Assistance in major and career exploration as well as major and career decision-making;
- Encouragement and guidance for co-curricular involvement to help students balance academic requirements with other Commitments;
- Regular communication with tutors to share feedback about the student progress and how to best meet her/his needs.
- Referrals and communication with various academic support services that are beneficial to the student;
- Regular contact if permitted by the student with parents, faculty, and staff involved in the academic progress of the student.

Tutoring Program:

MAP Tutors Provide:

- One-on-one interactive content tutoring that fits the student's personal learning style and disability;
- Ongoing contact with the same person so that the student's needs and situations are truly understood;
- Consistency and accountability through regular appointments that span the entire semester and occur at least once a week;
- Feedback to the counselors and other tutors working with the same student to increase consistency in services;

Program Cost for Fall 2011:

MAP Coaching and Tutoring:

Coaching Plus Thirty Hours of Tutoring: \$950.00

- Provides students with weekly meetings with a MAP Academic Coach;
- Provides students with a structured student workbook to examine academic skill areas such as study skills, time management, goal setting, and major selection;
- Provides students with up to two hours a week of one-on-one tutoring;
- Provides students with access to the MAP Tutoring Center;
- Provides students with group learning opportunities.

MAP Tutoring Only Packages:

Level Three: \$450.00

- Provides students with the ability to use up to 30 hours of tutoring throughout the semester;
- Provides students with access to the MAP Tutoring Center;
- Provides students with group learning opportunities.

Level Two: \$375.00

- Provides students with the ability to use up to 25 hours of tutoring throughout the semester;
- Provides students with access to the MAP Tutoring Center;
- Provides students with group learning opportunities.

Level One: \$225.00

- Provides students with the ability to use up to 15 hours of tutoring throughout the semester;
- Provides students with access to the MAP Tutoring Center;
- Provides students with group learning opportunities.

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