



## Learning Support Program Description 2024-2025

### Learning Support Program Philosophy

The goal of the Learning Support Program at Depaul College Prep is to:

- Work with Tier 3 students to come to an actionable understanding of their **individual learning styles**, strengths, and challenges;
  - Teach students how to use tools and strategies in order to develop successful habits of **independent learners**;
  - Engage students in scaffolded learning opportunities that promote **successful academic growth outcomes**; and
- Create an environment that promotes **confidence** in independent learning.

Tier 3 Students receive more intensive, individualized support to improve their academic outcomes and include those who have:

- A private neuropsychological evaluation (updated in the last three years)
- An active IEP
- An active 504 plan

In order to ensure consideration of appropriate support and services, documentation of learning needs for all Tier 3 students should be submitted by August 1st. This includes any information regarding testing or evaluations in progress after a student's acceptance date.

Student documentation of learning needs, such as a 504 plan, IEP, Private Evaluation, Neuropsychological Evaluation, or Psychoeducational Evaluation received **after August 1st** will be accepted; however, **Learning Support services cannot be guaranteed.**

### Case Manager Role

All students with a DePaul College Prep Accommodations Plan will be assigned a Case Manager. The Case Manager will work with students and families to manage reevaluations, make sure that accommodations are accurate, communicated, and being used appropriately, and serve as primary liaison with the staff and family regarding the student's learning plan.



***FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL***

Dear DePaul Prep Families,

Along with our Learning Support Team, I am pleased to share with you our unique approach to the support systems we have created for our Diverse Learners. At DePaul Prep, we know that not every student learns in the same manner. At times, students will require a level of support that provides guidance and coaching about how to realize success in school. Our goal will always be to support students academically and emotionally to maximize their potential. This is why our Learning Support Program is in place.

A critical aspect of our approach to supporting Diverse Learners is our partnership with parents. Parents hold the primary responsibility for their child and it is our desire to work in partnership with parents to ensure that all of our students are academically successful and prepared for college upon graduation from DePaul Prep. This means working closely with students and parents for the four years they are with us to ensure that home and school support are in sync and aligned with one another. We look forward to building relationships with our newest families and strengthening those partnerships with our current families. Your child's growth and development is a priority for us and we commit to working with you to maximize their time with us here at DePaul Prep.

Megan Stanton-Anderson  
Principal, DePaul College Prep



## Meet the Learning Support Team

### Director of Student Services

Anna Pavichevich, [apavichevich@depaulprep.org](mailto:apavichevich@depaulprep.org)

### Learning Specialists

Katy Mellon - Department Chair, [kmellon@depaulprep.org](mailto:kmellon@depaulprep.org)

Christopher Kuller, [ckuller@depaulprep.org](mailto:ckuller@depaulprep.org)

Nicole Rand, [nrاند@depaulprep.org](mailto:nrاند@depaulprep.org)

Caleigh O'Neil, [coneil@depaulprep.org](mailto:coneil@depaulprep.org)

Lourdes Danaher, [ldanaher@depaulprep.org](mailto:ldanaher@depaulprep.org)

Samantha Toomey, [stoomey@depaulprep.org](mailto:stoomey@depaulprep.org)

Aaron Mesh, [amesh@depaulprep.org](mailto:amesh@depaulprep.org)

### Services Offered by Learning Support

Grade	Structured Study Hall	Curriculum Support & Consultation	Executive Functioning Support	Accommodations Support
9	✓	✓ Regular	✓ Regular	✓
10	Upon recommendation	✓ In collaboration with course content teacher	✓ Occasional	✓
11		After student consultation with course content teacher	As needed	✓
12		After student consultation with course content teacher	As needed	✓



## **Structured Study Hall**

**Structured Study Hall** is run by the Learning Specialist Team. The Structured Study Hall block is designed with two primary aims:

- Executive Functioning Skills acquisition and instruction, integrating tools, skills and strategies from the SMARTS executive functioning curriculum
- One-on-one and small group academic curriculum support with Learning Specialist(s)

## **Executive Functioning**

**Executive Functioning** is a set of mental skills that include working memory, flexible thinking, and self-control. Students will learn executive function strategies during weekly Structured Study Halls or in one-on-one meetings upon request, that help to promote academic success. Some of the key executive function processes include: goal setting, cognitive flexibility, organizing and prioritizing, accessing working memory, and self-monitoring and checking.

## **Curriculum Support & Consultation**

Learning specialists provide **curriculum support** for 9th grade students either one-on-one or in small groups during structured study hall. Students in 10th, 11th, 12th grades must prioritize working with their teacher first before **consulting** with a learning specialist for curriculum help.

## **Accommodations Support**

Every Tier 3 student receives a **Student Accommodations Plan** that outlines the classroom and testing accommodations available to them at DePaul College Prep. This document is written after review and in consideration of a student's 504, IEP, or neuropsychological evaluation, and shared with the student, their family, and their teachers to ensure access to accommodations. A Student Accommodations Plan will only be written after the receipt of appropriate documentation.

## **Collaborative Team Teaching**

Collaborative team teaching is an educational approach where a learning specialist and content teacher work together to plan, deliver, and assess instruction in a shared classroom. This model is used at DePaul College Prep to support all students by combining the expertise of different educators.

## Student Accommodations Plans 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th Grades

Being able to provide accommodations with fidelity is a priority for the Learning Support team. Listed below are some of the most common accommodations that DePaul College Prep is able to offer students during the school day driven by a student's documented learning needs.

### Available Testing Accommodations

- Extended time by 50 percent
- Separate setting testing
- Read directions orally
- Read test orally (digital screen reader)
- Mark answers in test booklet (no Scantron)

### Available Classroom Accommodations

- Extended time on:
  - Classwork
  - Projects, Papers, and Long Term Assignments
- Preferential seating
- Allow the use of a calculator
- Allow notes and assignments to be typed
- Access to ebooks and audio books

DePaul College Prep **does not offer curriculum modifications.**

The amount or complexity of work will not be modified, limited, or reduced for students with diverse learning needs.

### CollegeBoard and ACT Accommodations

Tier 3 Testing Accommodations Coordinator: Nicole Rand, [nrand@depaulprep.org](mailto:nrand@depaulprep.org)

DePaul College Prep submits requests for testing accommodations to the CollegeBoard and ACT. **A signed parental consent form is required to have on-file before requests are submitted.** Specific testing accommodations are based on accommodations included in a student's private evaluation report, IEP, and/or 504 Plan.

**During all-school testing days, DePaul College Prep is able to provide the following accommodations for students who are approved for them:** extended time by 50 percent and the option to write responses directly in the test booklet (no Scantron).

**During all-school testing days, DePaul College Prep is unable to provide the following accommodations:** double time, triple time, individual testing, testing across multiple days, testing in a small group, and access to either a human reader or audio recording of the exam.



## **Extended Time Policy for Students with Accommodations**

### **Extended Time Policy for Classwork & Homework**

- **Homework:** work made due at the next class session, no extension is granted (due to block schedule).
  
- **Classwork:** for work given in class and due at the end of the same class period, extended time is provided until the start of the next class.
  
- **Long-term assignments:** multi-day/week assignments, extended time is provided up to 24 hours - student must notify teacher by end of school day on the due date

### **Extended Time Procedure for Classroom Assessments**

- DePaul College Prep offers **a maximum of 50% extended time**
  - The student is responsible for speaking to the teacher at the end of the testing period to request extended time.
  
  - Extended time must be used either after school on the day of the exam or in the next possible study hall period. Students are responsible for planning ahead to stay after school in the case that extended time is needed.



## World Language Requirements

While the Illinois State Board of Education does not require a world language for meeting minimum high school graduation requirements, DePaul College Prep (DCP), as a college prep high school, does. Most 4 year colleges and universities require students to have 2 years of a world language and many recommend 3 years. Highly selective universities require 4 years of world language. DCP offers French, Spanish, and Mandarin as world language options. Because DCP does not accept transfer credit for required courses, American sign language would not be accepted and would not meet the graduation requirement.

### Languages offered at DePaul

- Spanish \*Recommended for students with a language-based learning disorder
- Mandarin
- French

**Please note:** Students who are considering the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program during 11th and 12th grades will need to take a foreign language during 9th and 10th grades.

### Email Communication

**All emails will be responded to within the school hours of 7:15 am until 3:15pm. Emails received outside of this time will be responded to by the end of the next school day.**

Students will be held responsible for reading and responding to emails received by teachers and the Learning Specialist team directly. Students must communicate on their own behalf. Parents will be included in email communication from the Learning Specialist team; however, emails will often be addressed to the student.