

Learning Support Program Description 2025-2026

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 Team

Director of Student Services

Anna Pavichevich, apavichevich@depaulprep.org

Learning Specialists

Katy Mellon - Department Chair, kmellon@depaulprep.org

Christopher Kuller, ckuller@depaulprep.org

Nicole Rand, nrand@depaulprep.org

Caleigh O'Neil, coneil@depaulprep.org

Lourdes Danaher, ldanaher@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.

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
- Read directions orally
- Read test orally
- Separate setting testing for students who require a reader

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

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, testing in a separate space, 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.

Students who are approved for accommodations unavailable at DePaul College Prep are able to receive them at identified testing centers.

College Board and ACT Information

Grade Level	College Test	College Testing Organization	All-School Testing Date	College Testing Accommodations Eligibility and Requests
9th Grade	PreACT 8/9	ACT	Fall	Testing accommodations are listed in: • 504 Plan or IEP • Private Evaluation <i>Example: 50 percent extended time in one day.</i> DePaul Prep may provide documented accommodations in-house without a formal request to ACT.
9th grade	PSAT 8/9	College Board (PSAT and SAT)	Spring	Testing accommodations are listed in: • 504 Plan or IEP • Private Evaluation Parents/Guardians must sign a Consent Form. Consent allows DePaul Prep to submit a request to CollegeBoard for testing accommodations. The requested testing accommodations must match the accommodations listed in a student's 504 or IEP Plan. CollegeBoard must approve the request for a student to receive accommodations. Once approved, testing accommodations apply to all CollegeBoard exams, and additional requests are not required.

10th grade	PreACT 10	ACT	Fall	Testing accommodations are listed in: • 504 Plan or IEP • Private Evaluation <i>Example: 50 percent extended time in one day.</i> DePaul Prep may provide documented accommodations in-house without a formal request to ACT.
10th grade	PSAT 10	College Board (PSAT and SAT)	Spring	Approved accommodations for the PSAT 8/9 will carry over to the PSAT 10. <i>If a student needs a request for accommodations, please see the eligibility instructions for the PSAT 8/9.</i>
11th grade	PSAT/NMSQT	College Board (PSAT and SAT)	Fall	Approved accommodations for any PSAT will carry over to the PSAT/NMSQT. <i>If a student needs a request for accommodations, please see the eligibility instructions for the PSAT 8/9.</i>

11th grade	ACT	ACT	Spring	Testing accommodations are listed in: • 504 Plan or IEP • Private Evaluation Parents/Guardians must sign a Consent Form Consent allows DePaul Prep to submit a request to ACT for testing accommodations. The requested testing accommodations must match the accommodations listed in a student's 504 or IEP Plan. ACT must approve the request for a student to receive accommodations.
12th grade	SAT	College Board (PSAT and SAT)	Fall	Approved accommodations for any PSAT will carry over to the SAT. <i>If a student needs a request for accommodations, please see the eligibility instructions for the PSAT 8/9.</i>
12th grade	No Exam	No Exam	No Exam	No Exam

Extended Time Policy For Students with Accommodations

Extended Time Policy for Classwork & Homework

- **Homework:** All homework is due at the start of the next class session, due to the block schedule (class every other day) no additional extension is granted.
- **Classwork:** for work given in class and due at the end of the same class period, extended time is provided to 11:59pm that same day.
- **Long-term assignments:** multi-day/week assignments, students are granted an extension of an additional 24 hours- to receive this student must notify teacher at least 24 hours in advance of 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 be addressed to the student.