Mission

Mount Mary’s Promise Program strives to open the doors of opportunity for first-generation, low-income college students by offering guidance in all aspects of the college experience. Promise Scholars benefit from a supportive environment that celebrates their achievements and assists them with individual challenges they might face. The Promise Program is committed to providing Promise Scholars the tools, resources, and mindset necessary to be successful college students and morally responsible leaders with a strong sense of social justice.

Purpose

The Promise Program is a federally funded Student Support Services TRiO program. We serve first-generation and low-income college students in an effort to help them remain in good academic standing, persist in college, and graduate with a 4-year degree.

Contact Information

Nicole Gahagan, Promise Program Director
HL 015 (Lower Level of Haggerty Library)
(414) 258-4810, ext. 264
gahagann@mtmary.edu
www.mtmary.edu/promise_program.htm
Services Provided

Professional Tutoring
Tutoring is available in the areas of math, physical science, biological science, writing, and study skills. Promise Scholars are able to schedule 30-60 minute appointments with tutors Monday-Friday during the academic year.

Academic and Personal Development Workshops
Promise Scholars are invited to more than a dozen workshops each semester about topics such as time management, study techniques, resume and cover letter composition, stress management, and writing.

Financial Literacy Information and Training
Promise Program staff is available to assist with financial aid planning and scholarship searches. Promise Scholars are also welcome to attend interactive informational sessions about managing personal budgets and planning for a financially fit future.

Counseling
The Promise Program Counselor can address a wide variety of issues. The Counselor is available for confidential short-term and/or crisis counseling sessions and can make referrals to community resources.

Academic Advising
Promise Program Advisors work in partnership with your academic advisor to ensure proper course selection and the completion of degree requirements. Promise Program Advisors also assist students with planning for college success by creating and monitoring academic, career, and personal goals.

Career Development
Promise Scholars benefit from activities such as researching career options, identifying job shadowing opportunities, performing mock interviews, and writing cover letters and resumes with the assistance of Promise Program staff.

Advanced Degree Planning
The Promise Program is available to assist students with planning for an advanced degree. Promise Program staff can assist with identifying potential graduate schools and programs, preparing for entrance examinations, and navigating the admission and financial aid processes.

Cultural and Educational Enrichment
Promise Program activities provide cultural and educational experiences that increase students’ self-awareness and empowerment and also enhance the knowledge and understanding of diverse perspectives.

Supplemental Grant Aid
Promise Scholars who are already receiving Pell Grants may still have unmet financial need. If they are actively engaged in the Promise Program, they may qualify for additional monetary aid. Federal government and Mount Mary College eligibility requirements apply.

Eligibility and Application Process
The Promise Program serves students throughout their first undergraduate academic career. Enrollment in the program is limited to approximately 140 students. Students who would like to apply to the program should submit a Promise Program Application to the Promise Program office, located in the lower level of Haggerty Library. Applications are available online or upon request (please visit our website, call, or email to receive an application). Upon receiving your completed application, the Director will verify your eligibility and set up a phone or in-person meeting to discuss your interest in the program.

In order to participate in the Promise Program, students must:
- be US citizens or nationals or meet residency requirements for federal student financial assistance; and
- be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in the next academic term at Mount Mary College; and
- have a demonstrated academic need for Promise Program services; and
- be first-generation (no parent/legal guardian obtained a bachelor’s degree); and/or
- be low-income (an individual whose family’s taxable income for the preceding year did not exceed 150 percent of the poverty level amount. See http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio/incomelevels.html).

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