

# ExSEL Frequently Asked Questions

## 1.) How much does it cost?

- The program is free, but students are required to enroll in the one credit course UN 1000 “Frameworks for Success” upon joining
- UN1000 is a one credit, graded course that is applicable towards Free Elective requirements. Cost for tuition for the course is \$350.00 for in-state residents and \$759.00 for out-of-state tuition. There should be no additional cost for course materials.

## 2.) How do I sign up?

- If the student received a contract by mail, fill it out and return it to us via mail or fax or they can also
- Visit [www.exsel.mtu.edu](http://www.exsel.mtu.edu) to complete the online contract

## 3.) I turned in my contract; do I need to do anything else?

- Yes, attend the Parent/Student Orientation Meeting on August 23<sup>rd</sup> from 3-4 in M&M U115.
- The student will be automatically enrolled in UN1000

## 4.) What are the criteria to participate in this program?

- In the 2008-09 academic year, incoming first-year and transfer students were invited to participate in the ExSEL program based on two criteria:
  1. The student had an Academic Index of  $\leq 200$ . This score is a combination of class rank based on class size, composite ACT score and high school GPA.
  2. The student attended a school, where the school or district was considered by the State of Michigan as not meeting Annual Yearly Progress.

## 5.) I wasn't invited to join, but I heard about ExSEL, can I participate?

- The deadline for our original invitees is August 1<sup>st</sup>. After that deadline, as long as there are openings for the program, you may participate.
- Please note, to date there has never been an instance where we had to turn a student away

## 6.) The deadline to join ExSEL has passed, can I still join?

- Yes! There is still space, please submit a contract (see 2)
- Please note that the deadline is used to encourage students to turn in their contract; we accept students until the start of classes, and throughout the semester.

## 7.) What are the benefits of participating in this program?

- General support from staff through one-on-one meetings, email communication, etc.
- Each student will be set up with a Peer Mentor Group (see 8)
- Tutoring sessions for math and other courses as arranged
- Events such as the Business and Dining Etiquette Dinner
- Success strategies in UN1000, Frameworks for Success class
- Early grade & mid-term grade monitoring allow time to identify any needed support (see 9)

## **8.) What is a Peer Mentor Group?**

- Each ExSEL participant will be paired with a Peer Mentor Group
- The Peer Mentor Group is lead by an upperclassman who is often a past participant of the ExSEL program
- This group provides an opportunity for students to share experiences and ask questions from an upperclass student and their peers about being successful at Michigan Tech
- Students and their mentors will arrange a regular meeting time and to get together once a week

## **9.) What is “grade monitoring”?**

- For early warning progress, instructors are asked to provide an update at 4<sup>th</sup> week. This is voluntary on their part and progress for every class a student is enrolled in is not always received.
- All first-year students have their midterm grades made available to them. These are indications of Satisfactory (at or above a C) or Unsatisfactory (below a C) progress.
- Student transferring from another Institution or who are not first-year students do not receive midterm grades.

## **10.) Can the ExSEL staff talk to parents about a student’s performance?**

- Only if the student has given their parents Banweb guest access.
- We are glad to help in whatever way we can, but prefer that the student shares the specifics of their performance with the parent or guardian.
- We do not contact parents following progress reporting for early warning grades.
- Parent(s) or guardian(s) may access midterm and final grades on Banweb with the appropriate guest access.

## **11.) What if a student is enrolled in UN1010 as part of a learning community?**

- Students may still participate in ExSE, but they will take UN1010 instead of UN1000.

## **12.) How will I know about tutoring or other opportunities?**

- ExSEL sends regular emails and/or postcards to notify students of tutoring opportunities, study sessions, special events and other important information.

## **13.) I would like to talk to someone about participation in this program.**

- If you have any questions you may email ExSEL staff at [exsel@mtu.edu](mailto:exsel@mtu.edu). You may also email the ExSEL Coordinator at [karmen@mtu.edu](mailto:karmen@mtu.edu) or the Director of ExSEL & Academic Enrichment at [slliebau@mtu.edu](mailto:slliebau@mtu.edu).

## **14.) Note:**

- ExSEL is not a remedial program; every student invited has been accepted to Michigan Tech in good standing. The program is voluntary and intends to provide another resource to support success.