

The Online Programs Newsletter

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MU's EPPIIC Values

- Exploration
- Public Mission
- Professionalism
- Inclusion
- Integrity
- Compassion

Greetings from the Director of Online Programs

Congratulations to all online programs students that graduated this spring! We are also excited to welcome the warmer weather of summer. For continuing online students, we wish you luck in your summer courses. We recommend reviewing summer course schedules

and start dates as we have summer courses beginning in May, June, and July. Fall courses begin on August 25th. We are excited to welcome our new incoming online students this fall! For all online students, please continue to reach out to us in the Online Programs

Office at 717-871-7200 or onlineprograms@millersville.edu so we can assist you through all online program processes.

Rebecca Boyer
Director of Online Programs



Financial Aid Hold Policy Changing July 2025

Online Programs usually registers our students before registration opens to the general student population. This means we often are registering you before the Office of Student Accounts puts financial holds on accounts for past due balances that

are greater than \$1000.

Beginning with the Fall '25 semester, if a student is registered for classes and is carrying forward a balance greater than \$1000, they are subject to having their schedule cancelled if the balance is not resolved

prior to the start of the term.

If your schedule is cleared, you will need to contact the OSA at osa@millersville.edu to resolve the past due balance before you can be re-registered for classes.

Online Student Spotlight: Ponzell Thatcher

What is your name and where are you from? Ponzell Thatcher. I'm from Lancaster, PA.

Tell us a little about yourself - family, hobbies, etc. I am a mother of 4 and grandmother of 3. I love to cook. Being in the kitchen is my favorite thing to do. I love traditional family recipes as well as trying new things I see online or on tv.

Which Online program are you completing? Business Administration

Why does online schooling at MU work for you? Online schooling works for me because as an adult learner I need the flexibility to at-

tend classes at a pace that fits into my lifestyle.

What is your current job? My current job is Fiscal Technician in Advancement Information Services at MU.

Did you work for MU before you started with Online Programs or was your position obtained during your degree completion? I started working at MU two years after I began the Online Program.

How are you using your MU online education in your current position? I am using a lot of the concepts I've learned in courses like Business & Society, and Leadership

in my current position. The concepts that were taught in these courses are helpful in building professional relationships, and to better understand the complexities of the relationship between business and society.

Do you have any advice for fellow online students? My advice to fellow students would be, this journey can be challenging at times, so give yourself some grace. You can do this!



Fun Facts & Statistics About Online Programs

Online Programs is one of the fastest growing departments here at MU. Started about 10 years ago with Nursing's RN to BSN program, we have now grown to include 14 programs. We currently have 987 active students enrolled in Online Programs.

Here is a breakdown by program showing current active students and the number of students who have graduated from each program. It is important to note that some programs, such as Early Childhood Education and Special Education have not been part of Online Programs long enough to have a cohort complete the program.

RN to BSN:

Active: 447

Graduated: 659

Social Work:

Active: 155

Graduated: 54

Business Admin. Degree Completion:

Active: 86

Graduated: 48

Business Administration Full Degree:

Active: 8

Management Degree Completion:

Active: 20

Graduated: 2

Management Full Degree:

Active: 7

Marketing Degree Completion:

Active: 16

Graduated: 5

Marketing Full Degree:

Active: 3

Early Childhood Education:

Active: 93

Special Education:

Active: 32

English/Writing:

Active: 43

Graduated: 4

Interactive & Graphic Design:

Active: 37

Graduated: 2

Emergency Management:

Active: 24

Graduated: 2

Communications/Public Relations:

Active: 16

Solidify a Healthy Routine for a Successful Summer Term

Summer can be a difficult time for online schooling as our minds and bodies tend to go into “vacation” mode. Here are some ways to solidify a healthy routine for a successful summer term.

Key points:

- Give your day purpose by maintaining structure
- Small, intentional actions put you in the right frame of mind
- As much as possible, recreate an in-person experience

Keeping up a healthy routine looks like going to bed and getting up at the same time each day; watching a recorded lecture at the same time of day; and also reading, doing homework, and studying at the same times. This structure gives your day purpose and ensures you get your work done.

Usually, it's the small, intentional ac-

tions we take every day that help put ourselves in a mindset of readiness. We recommend these actions below to solidify or bolster your routine:

- **Watch for changes in sleep patterns.** There are a lot of reasons why a person can sleep poorly. Some of those reasons might be serious, like depression, stress, or anxiety; but sometimes we just stay up late because we like to do it. Be aware of the reason why your sleep patterns might be changing and either talk to your doctor or a therapist about it or just make adjustments as necessary.
- **Wear clothes that you would normally wear to class.** Just like changing into comfortable pajamas signals your brain it's time to go to sleep, getting dressed for the day is another form of mental preparation. It's a small action that tells your brain, “It's time to

get to work!”

- **Consider taking a walk between classes.** In-person classes on campus are held at the same times each day and there are at least 20 minutes in between so students have enough time to get to their next class. Recreating this can give you a mental and physical reset before your next class or activity.
- **Set aside time every few days to review and study.** This is different from reading for class and doing homework. Look at your planner or calendar and schedule time to review what has been covered over the past couple of classes. Ask yourself how the new material relates to the older material and how does it all fit together in the context of the class. Make sure you can solve problems without any help from notes.

Mark Your Calendars



You are a part of the MU family and community!!! We'd love for you to visit campus and what better time then for Homecoming 2025.

Homecoming is October 3-4, 2025.

Some of the planned events include a parade, Maker's Market & Skully Shoppes, 'Ville Block Party, Food Truck Experience and of course a FOOTBALL game!!!

Drop/Add Period—What is it?

The drop/add period is the time frame for you to drop or add a class at the beginning of a semester without penalty - financially or academically.

NOTE: For most summer classes, the drop/add period is one day after the start of the class due to the accelerated rate of the course.

After the drop/add period ends, if you wish to drop a class, you will need to withdraw from the class. Withdrawing from a class will show as a W on your degree audit. This does not affect your GPA. The

amount of a refund, if any, is determined by when you withdraw from a class.

The deadline to drop/add or withdraw from most courses in the spring and fall semesters can be found on the appropriate academic calendars found on the registrar's website.

For refund policies, refer to the Office of Student Accounts website



Office of Online Programs

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Lombardo Welcome Center
PO Box 1002
Millersville, PA 17551

Phone: 717-871-7200
Email: OnlinePrograms@millersville.edu



Millersville's Online Programs are designed for adult learners who wish to complete their degree. We offer degree completion programs in the following programs:

- Bachelor's in Business Administration
- Bachelor's in Public Relations
- Bachelor's in Design in Interactive & Graphic Design
- Bachelor's in Early Childhood Education
- Bachelor's in Special Education
- Bachelor's in Emergency Management
- Bachelor's in English with a Writing Studies Concentration
- Bachelor's in Marketing
- Bachelor's in Management
- Bachelor's in Nursing
- Bachelor's in Social Work

We're on the web:
Millersville.edu/onlineprograms

MU's IT Help Desk - Available Services for Online Students

As you know, sometimes the best laid plans fall apart. You may have everything set up and ready to go and then something goes wrong. Don't panic! We have a great tech support team here at MU.

If you find yourself having technical issues at any point during your program, feel free to reach out to our IT Help Desk. The IT Help Desk provides technical support for students through a variety of channels, including remote-in troubleshooting.

Services provided by our Technical Assistance Center (TAC) include:

- Maintenance & troubleshooting of computing devices & the Microsoft Windows operating system
- Installation of purchased software, including the Microsoft

Windows operating system

- Assistance in updating purchased software, including Microsoft Windows operating systems, Java, Adobe Flash, and others
- Removal of malicious software
- Preventative care of computing devices by provision of anti-malware products
- Diagnosis of potentially failing hardware
- Diagnosing of internet connectivity problems
- Attempt recovery of lost or misplaced files
- Assistance with mobile devices: iCloud sync, email setup, and general inquiries

TAC technicians may also be able to provide services to students not listed above.

Many problems are able to be resolved over the telephone by using the MU IT Help Desk, a free-of-charge call-only service.

Please have your Student ID (P#) ready when you call.

Phone: 717-871-7777

Email: help.desk@millersville.edu

