

MTC

CAMPUS REOPENING

By Executive Order, face coverings must be worn in state buildings, which includes all Midlands Technical College campuses.

Top 10 Parent/Supporter FAQs

1. What types of courses are being offered on campus?

As part of the response to COVID-19, Academic and CCE courses for Fall 2020 can be taken in four different ways. In addition to traditional on-campus and online courses, the college also now offers virtual and hybrid classes. The new virtual class format meets digitally via web conferencing (such as Zoom) at set times with live, real-time instruction and classmate interaction. Online courses are self-paced with due dates for assignments, and hybrid courses are a mix of traditional on-campus and online or virtual.

Search the MTC course offerings to see how specific classes are being offered this fall semester: <https://mtconline.midlandstech.edu/mtcacsearch/coursesearch>

2. What types of courses have you moved to online/virtual?

Until the pandemic hit, a normal fall semester at MTC would be made up of about 75% on-campus and 25% online courses. Based on data about the virus and student feedback, we decided that a major shift in course delivery options was necessary.

The new virtual offerings will make up 45% of fall courses, with another 16% being delivered online, 33% being delivered on-campus, and 6% in the hybrid format.

Online and virtual courses will not switch to on-campus during the semester. On-campus courses have the possibility of moving to online or virtual during the semester.

Search the MTC course offerings to create a schedule that fits your comfort level - <https://mtconline.midlandstech.edu/mtcacsearch/coursesearch>

3. What is the difference between the 4 types of courses being offered this fall?

MTC has more course delivery options than ever before. The goal is to accommodate the desires of every student wishing to start or continue their educational pursuits. Here are the four different ways you can take an Academic or Corporate and Continuing Education course.

- > **On-Campus** - Traditional. Classes meet on campus.
- > **Online** - 100% online. Due dates given for projects and assignments. Self-paced so you can work on your own time - 24/7.
- > **Hybrid** - Some class sessions meet on-campus, and some classes meet online or virtual.
- > **Virtual** - 100% online. Meet with your instructor and class members live on specific days at specific times. Uses web conferencing software like Zoom.

4. What happens if my student is in an on-campus course but needs—or wants—to flip to a virtual course?

For all courses, faculty will work with students who cannot attend one or more class meeting to help them continue successfully in the course. The student should be sure to communicate the need to his/her faculty member(s) as soon as possible.

5. Can you guarantee that an on-campus class will remain on-campus all semester?

As we head into the fall and winter seasons, there are still a lot of unknowns with the virus. MTC remains committed to student and employee safety, and the college is prepared to be flexible in order to maximize the student experience and minimize the impact on learning.

6. How can I get financial aid? How do I know where my student stands with his/her financial aid?

The first step to applying for all forms of financial aid including grants, scholarships, loans, and work study is completing a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) at the [Federal Student Aid website](#). Please list MTC's school code, 003993, on the FAFSA to have your student's application sent to Midlands Technical College. After the FAFSA has been submitted and processed, the Office of Student Financial Services will send the student notification of all eligible federal, state, and college awards.

If any additional documentation is required, the Office of Student Financial Services will send a request via the student's MTC email account. Students should sign into MyMTC and access MyFinancialAid to easily manage their financial aid package from submission to completion.

The Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) is available to assist students and parents with completing the FAFSA. Contact EOC at 803.822.3749 or eoc@midlandstech.edu.

7. How is the bookstore operating, and can we use financial aid for books/supplies?

The [Barnes and Noble bookstore](#) will continue to operate on campus and online. Students may use their financial aid to purchase books and supplies. When ordering online, the bookstore will mail books and supplies to the student free of charge until September 4, 2020.

8. How does course registration work? What do we do if my student has to join a waitlist for a class?

During the Zoom advising appointment, Academic and Career Advisors utilize a program called Student Planning to help students understand their program of study. The advisor will then place recommended fall courses on the student's visual "timeline" in Student Planning. At the close of the appointment, the student will be "web enabled" through August 26 – meaning they are able to add courses, drop courses, or switch the scheduled sections of courses through that date.

[You can view a helpful YouTube video here](#) that walks through registration in Student Planning. A downloadable guide (with step-by-step registration instructions), as well as a link to drop-in registration assistance over Zoom, is [available in MyMTC](#).

If a course or a desired section of a course is full, a student may join a waitlist for that course or section. The student simply selects the word “Waitlist” when adding the section to their plan in Student Planning. Should a seat become available in the course, students will be notified via their MTC e-mail in the order in which they joined the waitlist. The student then has a specific amount of time to register in the class before the seat is offered to another student on the waitlist.

There is no guarantee that a student on the waitlist will be able to enroll in that section. If other sections of the course are available, students should register in a section that is available. The student could also then join a desired section’s waitlist.

Please note, students in waitlists are not registered for the course, so a waitlisted course does not calculate into your tuition/fees. You are only charged for the course when you are registered in the course.

9. What is the difference between online orientation and the COL course?

Online orientation is required for new freshmen, new transfers, and readmitted students, and it is completed before the student’s first advising appointment. This free, online course takes approximately 1 hour to complete. Students are added to the course in the D2L platform within 24 hours of admission. Online orientation prepares the student and answers some of these key questions:

- > Am I in the right MTC program for me and my career goal?
- > How will I cover the cost of college, especially if I need financial aid?
- > What does MTC expect from me?
- > When do I need to make important decisions?
- > When can I meet with an advisor and register for my courses?

COL 101, 105, and 106 – MTC’s student success courses – are courses students take in their first semester. They engage students in deeper exploration of career pathways in their School of Study, equip students with a more thorough understanding of their programs of study, and prepare students for success with tools and activities they can use from their first semester through graduation. COL courses build upon the foundation started in online New Student Orientation.

10. How is the college offering students support this fall?

Counseling and Career Services is continuing to provide personal, academic, and career counseling for students. Students also have access to 48 online workshops that include helpful topics on How to Reduce Test Anxiety, Study Tips and Notetaking Strategies, and Stress Management Techniques. Student Employment Services is assisting students with searching for part-time and full-time job opportunities. Student Life is providing fun, interactive weekly activities including Bingo, Trivia, and Music Breaks.

MTC is providing face-to-face tutoring during established hours as well as online tutoring 24/7. Students taking online and virtual classes can find spaces to work on campus using their own devices and the college's internet. Students are also welcome to use college computers and internet on campus for their online and virtual courses. Students needing help with research can come to one of our campus libraries or chat with a [Librarian virtually \(Ask-a-Librarian\)](#) to get assistance.

Midlands Technical College works to make sure its programs, services, and activities are accessible. Disability Services actively coordinates with faculty and staff of the college to provide equal access to the college's educational programs, services, and courses on a case by case basis. [Should a student need to request an accommodation](#), it is the student's responsibility. A student's initial request for accommodations should preferably occur prior to the beginning of a program or course, but can be requested at any time.