
Connect Program

Support for students on the autism spectrum



The Connect program is funded by the Neurodiverse Student Success (NSS) Fund and managed by the SMC Student Disability Services office. Funding has currently been secured from generous donors to support programming through the 2022 Academic Year.

Connect Program

SMC students who choose to disclose a diagnosis of autism and are registered with the SDS office will be invited to participate and engage in the Connect program offerings. The program provides additional resources and supplementary support initiatives beginning with their first year and continuing through to graduation to help strengthen academic, social, employment and life skills to enhance the student's college experience.

Support Offerings

- Academic Support
 - Meet weekly with the Neurodiverse Success (NSS) Coach to discuss academic progress and challenges and receive guidance about campus resources. The coach will customize appointments to meet the student needs, with a primary focus on strengthening executive functioning skills and communication strategies
- Career Support
 - Work in paid on-campus internships with departments across the campus
 - Work with their NSS Coach to talk specifically about career goals, get help with resume writing and interview practice and support
- Social Support
 - Attend SDS sponsored events to support social opportunities in a safe and inviting place
 - Work with a peer mentor, meeting about once a week to share meals, participate in activities of their choosing and attending campus events together
- Additional Support
 - Use of the Sensory Room & checkout of hammocks to use across campus
 - Invitation to attend guest speakers and special events