

Academic Programs and Supports: **PAWS**



Structure

What is the overall course structure?

- PAWS is a 2-year, 4-semester program that is housed at the University of Missouri (UM). PAWS students do not take courses in the summer.
- PAWS students take 12-15 credit hours per semester, consisting of a combination of PAWS-specific courses and electives from the UM Course Catalog.

Courses

What types of courses are required of PAWS students?

- PAWS program-specific courses include:
 - Seminars specific to PAWS students
 - A course about preparing for personal success
 - Courses related to developing safe and strong relationships
 - Courses to engage in career exploration

What other courses from the university catalog can PAWS students take?

- PAWS students take at least one UM course per semester.
- After the first semester, students continue to enroll in at least one UM course but can elect to enroll in up to two UM courses if they would like.
- Students take UM courses for credit; however, discussions about possibly auditing the course will occur on an as-needed basis.

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Completion

What type of credential, certificate, or degree do students earn upon completing the program?

- Students will earn a certificate of completion after completing the 2-year program.

Supports

What supports do PAWS students receive related to their academic coursework?

- PAWS students engage in study halls and have access to peer coaching.
- PAWS students also have daily check-ins each morning with a member of the program staff via Zoom. Check-ins are related to:
 - Students' daily schedules
 - Changes in the daily schedule
 - Upcoming events
 - Last-minute preparations
- Mizzou Career Center is available to all UM students and offers drop-in hours, workshops, and full- or part-time job listings.

Key Contact

Maggie Center

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[PAWS Program Website](#)

