
PARTNERS IN EDUCATION (PIE)

(Information sheet to be retained by the designated PIE Partner)

The primary mission of Middle Tennessee State University is to unite the closeness of a small college with the opportunities of a large dynamic public university—creating an environment where students explore their intellectual potential and realize the promise of their futures. MTSU prepares students to live productively and to become lifelong learners; to employ scientific knowledge and an understanding of culture and history; to think logically, critically, and creatively; to communicate clearly; to make sound judgments; to acquire working knowledge of a discipline or group of related disciplines; and to participate as citizens in the global community.

We believe that students are best served by a learning environment that meets their needs as individual through the integration of student life services and academic programs. Similarly, we believe that many students may also benefit from their participation in a collaborative partnership that includes the student, their family, and the MTSU staff.

The Partners In Education (PIE) program helps address the needs of students by creating such a partnership, fostering communication between students, their families, and the university. Through the Partners in Education program, PIE partners can request academic information and suggestions to help them provide effective support for their student.

Joining Partners In Education –To participate in the Partners In Education program, a student must sign and return the **Student Authorization for Release of Confidential Information** form (note that the release does not apply to personal counseling, health, or financial information protected by FERPA; however, if students are experiencing problems in these areas, MTSU staff will identify available resources). The student may withdraw the authorization at any time in writing or by appointment at the University College Advising Center.

There is no website where instructors post information relevant to the PIE program. Requests are handled on an individual basis.

Contact the PIE program coordinator to –

- Request information on students' grades, grade point average, and attendance.
- Get assistance to help set up services for the student.
- Make appointments for conferences with academic advisors or the coordinator of the PIE program. PIE partners who would like to have a conference with their student's academic advisor should telephone the PIE program coordinator at 615-898-2339 for assistance with arranging an appointment.
- Address questions, concerns, or problems. Call the PIE program coordinator at (615) 898-2339 Monday through Friday 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

To PIE Partner: Your Personal Identification Number (PIN) - The PIN requested on the Student Release of Confidential Information form is for the purpose of identifying the non-student PIE Partner when he/she calls to request information. Choose a PIN that is easy for you to remember.

What to expect from the PIE program

When you contact the PIE program coordinator and place a request for information about issues such as current course grade or attendance for a student, the student is "flagged" in our information system so that his or her instructors are prompted to supply information using our campus-wide academic information/alert system.

When the information you request is available, the PIE program coordinator will send it to you.

All activities of **Partners In Education** are directed toward strengthening the collaborative relationship between the student, the family, and Middle Tennessee State University, with the goal of improving the academic success and retention of students.
