



Frequently Asked Questions:

- What is “The Magis Program?”

The Magis program was piloted in the 2015-2016 school year, as the program for provisionally admitted students. Prior to then, provisionally admitted students came to Loyola either via Summer Bridge, which was a financial burden for Loyola families, or through Fall-Spring Enrichment. Neither of these programs focused heavily on curricular ties to English (Expository Writing) or Math (Fundamentals of Algebra), and there was often question as to what was the “provision” of students’ admission. Prior to the Magis Program, students were required to take “Protocols of Learning,” which was a 1-credit course akin to the national model of University 101, but which had no connection to academic coursework. Historical data showed that students who were admitted via Summer Bridge or Fall-Spring Enrichment had 4-year graduation rates that ranged from 18% to 36% and 6-year graduation rates that ranged from 40% to 45% - significantly lower than the general population.
- How many students are provisionally admitted?

As you can see from the numbers below, prior to the Magis Program, there was a large portion of the undergraduate population that was provisionally admitted. In the past two recruiting cycles, the Student Success Center has worked with the Office of Admissions to review applications of students who fit the profile for provisional admission. This has resulted in a much more manageable population of provisional students, and allows the faculty members involved to have more individual instruction time with these, our most academically vulnerable first-year students.

Academic Year	Regular Admits	Provisional Admits	Total Cohort	% of Cohort Provisionally Admitted
2006-07	413	107	520	21%
2007-08	388	107	495	22%
2008-09	495	195	690	28%
2009-10	586	210	796	26%
2010-11	519	248	767	32%
2011-12	702	155	857	18%
2012-13	676	190	866	22%
2013-14	513	107	620	17%
2014-15	495	114	609	19%
2015-16 ¹	624	41	665	7%
2016-17 ²	569	61	630	10%

¹ Pilot year of the Magis Program

² Preliminary stats – not official



- What does the program look like?
First, the “provision” in “provisionally admitted” is clear: students must earn a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher by the end of the first academic year in order to return for the following year. In effect, students who enter via the Magis Program are admitted already on academic probation. Students and parents attend a presentation on these expectations at all sessions of the New Student Orientation prior to the beginning of the fall semester, and each student is required to sign a contract indicating that they understand the conditions of their admission. Students are advised by a special advisor in their first year (the Magis Advisor): Dr. Sue Mennino in the College of Arts & Sciences, Dr. Brad Petitfils in the College of Music and Fine Arts, and Ms. Liz Rainey in the College of Business. There are 3 “tracks” in the Magis Program: (1) students who are provisionally admitted for English remediation only; (2) students who are provisionally admitted for Math remediation only; and (3) students who are provisionally admitted for both English and Math remediation. Students who take either ENGL-A100 (Expository Writing) or MATH-A092 (Fundamentals of Algebra) must also take a 1-credit hour Magis Enrichment course, which places students in a classroom setting with the instructor of record in English or Math. This 1-credit course takes the place of the Protocols of Learning course, and allows faculty members to have more individual instruction time with this at-risk student population. Magis students must also take a year-long 0-credit colloquium course, which is led by members of Loyola’s staff (from Student Affairs, Financial Aid, Mission & Ministry). The Magis Colloquium covers transitional topics, including conflict resolution, time management, financial literacy, and study skills.
- Who is in charge of the Magis Program?
During the admissions cycle, Ms. Susan Oakes is responsible for deciding which students will be provisionally admitted. Once students accept and enroll at Loyola, the Magis Program is directed by Dr. Brad Petitfils.
- Is there a fee for the Magis Program?
No, there is no fee added to the students’ bills.