



MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY



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STUDENT ATHLETE SUPPORT SERVICES

*Our vision is simple:  
We provide*  
**GAMEPLANS FOR  
THE FUTURE.**

We are committed to providing our student-athletes with the academic tools necessary to be successful in the classroom, but also prepare them for their future. Our goal is for each and every student-athlete to leave MSU with not only a degree, but a plan for employment or postgraduate study.



The Clara Bell Smith Academic Center is a 31,000 square foot facility that was funded by private donations, led by a \$2.5 million donation by former NBA player Steve Smith. The building was named in honor of his mother, Clara Bell Smith.



# ACADEMIC SERVICES



**We provide each student-athlete with a comprehensive and individualized academic support plan. The guidance, resources and support that each student-athlete receives enhance their development both academically and personally.**

**The first stand-alone Academic Services building in the country, the Clara Bell Smith Center provides students with 2 large tutorial rooms, 10 small tutorial rooms, 2 computer labs and an auditorium.**

### **ACADEMIC COORDINATORS**

Teams are assigned a sport specific Academic Coordinator who monitors each student's academic success from freshmen orientation to graduation.

This is accomplished through weekly academic meetings, implementing time management and learning strategies, and organizational skills.

### **DEGREE COMPLETION**

Every student-athlete is given the tools to leave Michigan State University with a meaningful degree. Academic Coordinators will provide degree specific requirements and guidance to meet this goal.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

In weekly meetings, Academic Coordinators monitor eligibility and academic progress to ensure student-athletes are on track for eligibility and graduation.

### **CLASS SCHEDULING**

Academic coordinators work in conjunction with college advisors to arrange classes around practice and competition schedules.

### **CAMPUS CONNECTIONS**

Academic Coordinators serve as an avenue to connect student-athletes with staff and faculty within various majors and fields.

### **LEARNING AND RETENTION SERVICES**

Undergraduate student tutors are provided to assist in a wide variety of academic areas. In addition, graduate students serve as Learning Assistants to enhance the overall learning experience by providing additional support when needed.







**CAREER DEVELOPMENT**





**Career development is based on a three-part process that consists of career exploration, career development, and career placement.**

## **Some of the tools used to accomplish this include:**

### **WORKSHOPS**

Career workshops are held frequently to address resume and cover letter writing, interviewing skills, and networking.

### **LINKED-IN AND RESUME OFFICE HOURS**

Office hours are held bi-weekly throughout the year to assist with Linked-In profiles and resumes.

### **CAREER FAIRS AND STUDENT- ATHLETE CAREER MIXER**

In addition to the University's Career Gallery, SASS hosts a Career Mixer strictly for student-athletes. This intimate mixer is encouraged for all student-athletes regardless of year in school or major.

### **SPARTAN CAREER NETWORK**

The Spartan Career Network connects student-athletes with employers, former student-athletes, and MSU alumni all over the world who are seeking individuals for full-time jobs and internships.

### **FINANCIAL LITERACY**

A nationally recognized presenter interacts with student-athletes about saving during college, credit card statistics, and weighing the financials of job opportunities.





**COMMUNITY OUTREACH**



**The Community Outreach program allows student-athletes to gain valuable experience, learn new skills, and develop a sense of involvement that will stay with them throughout their life.**

**Numerous outreach opportunities are arranged by the  
Student-Athlete Development Program including:**

**STUDENT-ATHLETE FOOD DRIVE**

Each December student-athletes collect non-perishable foods from the surrounding neighborhoods to donate to the Greater Lansing and MSU Foodbanks.

**MARCH IS READING MONTH**

Student-athletes read to elementary age students.

**TEAMS FOR TOYS**

Each team adopts a family in an underprivileged area, raises money and purchases, wraps, and delivers gifts to the family.

**SPARTAN BUDDIES**

Student-athletes are trained to volunteer in pediatric wards.

**REQUESTED OUTREACH**

Student-athletes can participate in various opportunities throughout the year such as DARE graduations, assembly speakers, celebrity readers, etc.







**LEADERSHIP**



**SASS implements a variety of programs and workshops to help in your personal and leadership development.**

## These programs and workshops include:

### **STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SAAC)**

Two representatives are chosen from each team to serve on this committee. The group meets twice a month to develop and improve the overall student-athlete experience by promoting opportunity and leadership, protecting student-athlete welfare, and fostering a positive student-athlete image.

### **STUDENT-ATHLETE DIVERSITY AND LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

Through the Department of Athletics' Student-Athlete Engagement unit, all student-athletes are given the opportunity to improve their leadership skills and experience diversity programming. Leadership opportunities can happen through a variety of ways including Breakfast with the Athletic Director, Diversity and Leadership Committee, Student-Athlete

Leadership Training Course (EAD 315) and arranged Student-Athlete Focus Groups that contribute to the advancement of MSU Athletics.

### **DIVERSITY AND LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE (DLC)**

Regarded as a national leader in multicultural programming, MSU student-athletes have the opportunity to participate in the Diversity and Leadership Committee (DLC). The DLC is comprised of a Leadership Team of student-athlete leaders committed to advocacy, education and fostering a sense of community. In collaboration with RISE (Ross Initiative in Sports for Equality), whose mission is to improve race relations and drive social progress, this program is devoted to creating a supportive environment for all student-athletes with an intent focus on racial, ethnic, and cultural identities.

# ACADEMIC AWARDS & HONORS

## **NATIONAL AWARDS**

Qualifying student-athletes are awarded MSU, Big Ten, NCAA and CoSIDA Academic All-District and All-American Awards and Scholarships.

## **SPARTAN ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE GALA**

Student-athletes with a 3.0 GPA or higher and graduating seniors are honored in April of every year with an Academic Excellence Gala held

at the Breslin Center. Over 1,000 people attend including coaches, college deans, the University President as well as student-athletes and their parents.

## **GRADUATION OPEN HOUSE**

A Graduation Open House is held at the end of each semester to celebrate those student-athletes that have graduated.



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## STUDENT-ATHLETE SUPPORT SERVICES

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