

Enterprise Program Enrollment Policy

At the outset of the Enterprise Program, participation at any level (i.e. students both enrolled and not enrolled in enterprise project courses) was encouraged in order to grow the program. Potential negative legal and ethical implications of this open participation practice have recently been raised however, and must be properly addressed. Allowing for the participation of students not enrolled in enterprise project courses presents increased liability, particularly for those students working in the lab/shop environments. Without the ability to track these students through the appropriate project courses, we are unable to ensure proper training/safety. In addition, by allowing students to participate in enterprise design/manufacturing related activities without enrolling in the associated courses, we are, in effect, allowing these students to take coursework without charging tuition – obviously an undesirable situation for both the university and for those students who are paying tuition for the same educational experience.

With these factors in mind, the Enterprise Governing Board has established the following Enterprise Enrollment Policy:

“Volunteer” student participation is not permitted in the Enterprise Program. In order for a student to participate on an Enterprise team, they must be enrolled in an appropriate Enterprise project course.

To support this policy, the following steps are being taken:

- Effective immediately, students who are not enrolled in either Teaming (ENG2961) or one of the enterprise project courses (ENG2950, ENG2960, ENG3950, ENG3960, ENG4950, ENG4960, ENG4900, and ENG4910) will no longer be granted access to the shop/fabrication areas, and will no longer be allowed to use machine shop equipment.
- As of Spring 2005 semester, all students participating in the Enterprise Program are expected to be enrolled in an appropriate enterprise project course.
- The Enterprise Program office is investigating the creation of 0-level enterprise courses, primarily to allow for the participation of freshmen who wish to evaluate the program and/or participate during their freshmen year. It is proposed that this be a 0-credit, 0-tuition project course, but will have a standard enterprise course fee. The course fee will be used to support students' use of the computing and lab facilities associated with the enterprise program. ENG0950 will be established as an introductory enterprise module, with instructor approval required. A second zero-level project course, ENG0960, will be established to handle extenuating circumstances that require a student take a semester off from the enterprise curriculum. Enrollment in ENG0960 will require approval of either the Associate Dean of Engineering or Enterprise Coordinator.
- Students who are in “super-senior” status (i.e. have already completed the enterprise project work necessary for the concentration/minor), and/or students who are taking a semester off from their project course work, will be required to enroll in a one-credit Special Topics course (ENG3990, ENG4990), which will be a graded course associated with their participation on an Enterprise team.

If this special topics course can be applied to the student's degree, then the student will be responsible for the associated tuition. For those students who can not apply the credit toward their degree, the Enterprise Program will offer a scholarship option:

Each year, the Enterprise Program will make available ten \$100 scholarships to be used as matching tuition dollars toward the cost of the one-credit project course. This scholarship option will be available to those students whose enterprise team agrees to pay the tuition credit balance, and will be awarded through a selection process administered by the Enterprise Governing Board.

Our intent is that through the administration of this policy, we will be supporting the unique and special nature of the Enterprise Program while also adhering to the legal and ethical standards expected of any program affiliated with Michigan Technological University. Questions and concerns regarding this policy should be directed to the Enterprise Governing Board.