OER: The Office of Outreach and Engagement Recruitment exists to develop a pipeline of high ability students who have the potential to attend Notre Dame and other highly selective institutions.

Vision: Through the Notre Dame cornerstones of leadership, service, faith and academics, we strive to shape and cultivate high ability students’ natural gifts, ignite their imaginations, and prepare them to impact the world for the greater good.

NDignite Connection Program Overview:

- Online Programming Six Sundays Per Semester (September-December; February-May)
  - NDignite Connection LIVE: Students join a live broadcast on Sundays from 4:30-5:00pm EST and hear from featured speakers such as ND faculty, students and alumni, and influential community leaders.
  - NDignite Connection Online Learning Center: Students access broadcasts and complete assignments through the NDignite Connection Online Learning Center (ndignite.stemcity.com).
  - Time commitments range from 1-2 hours per session in order to view the NDignite Connection LIVE broadcast and complete the assignment.

Student Expectations - Students are required to meet the following expectations:

- All NDignite Connection participants should be enrolled in grades 7-8 unless otherwise approved by OER staff.
- Students should rank in the top 5% of their class (3.8 GPA; A's or 97 grade average)∗.
- Students should be self-motivated, self-disciplined, and exhibit a sincere interest in participating in the program.
- Students should have regular access to a computer with Internet.
- Students shall make every effort to attend and participate in all NDignite Connection activities.

∗We understand that ranking systems vary by school. Please contact the OER office with any questions regarding academic requirements.
• Students will successfully complete and upload assignments by Sunday at 11:59pm one week after the LIVE broadcast
• Students will be accountable for checking all communications (email and otherwise) from the office and responding to communications
• Students are expected to commit 100% of themselves to all program activities and assignments (participation will be tracked to determine future eligibility in the program)
• Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that benefits their family and themselves at all times, and to abide by all NDignite Connection community standards

Parent Expectations

• Parents are expected to encourage, motivate, and assist their son/daughter in meeting his/her expectations and deadlines
• Parents will be responsible for reminding their son/daughter to check email and communicate with OER staff if questions arise
• Parents will ensure that their son/daughter participates in all programmatic activities

Program Opt-Out/Student Dismissal

We understand that NDignite Connection participants are involved in many other activities and have various time commitments outside the program. If a student determines that the NDignite Connection program is not a “good fit” at any time, they may request to be removed from receiving NDignite Connection communications by contacting the OER office. Students will continue to receive college readiness communications and information regarding University webinars but will no longer receive communications pertaining to program activities.

In addition, students who do not complete 75% of their assignments by the end of each semester will be dismissed from participating in special contests but will continue to receive NDignite Connection communications unless the students opt-out.

NDignite Connection Curriculum

The curriculum will prepare students to successfully navigate middle and high school, prepare them for admission into pre-college programs, and ultimately prepare them for the admissions process at highly selective colleges and universities.

The NDignite Connection curriculum is designed to prepare students for the college admissions experience and expose them to the Notre Dame cornerstones of leadership, service, faith, and academics. We utilize the following core
competencies, the University of Notre Dame's First Year of Studies Dean's A-List, and college preparation activities to accomplish this mission:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Core Competencies</th>
<th>FYS Dean's A-List Challenge</th>
<th>College Prep Activities</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Self-Awareness and Discovery</td>
<td>• Active Learning, Discovery, and Inquiry</td>
<td>• Navigating High School and Planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Respect for Diversity</td>
<td>• Creative Thinking and Action</td>
<td>• Intro to Test-Prep Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Resiliency and Adaptability (EQ)</td>
<td>• Pursuit of Truth and Knowledge</td>
<td>• Intro to Financial Aid Resources</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Creativity (CQ)</td>
<td>• Mastery of a Skill/Talent</td>
<td>• Intro to Admissions</td>
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<td>• Leadership</td>
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<td>• Spirituality</td>
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<td>• Service</td>
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NDignite Connection Successful Completion

Successful completion of the NDignite Connection program is contingent upon the following:

• Student has maintained a class rank in the top 5% of their class through the duration of their enrollment in the program
• Student has watched all broadcasts (live or recorded) before completing assignments
• Student has completed 75% of assignments at the end of each semester (7th-8th grade)

Communications from the University of Notre Dame

As a member of the NDignite Connection community, students will receive periodic emails from the University of Notre Dame regarding Pre-College opportunities, undergraduate admissions, and financial aid.

Notre Dame Admissions and Financial Assistance

Students who apply for undergraduate admissions, are admitted to the University of Notre Dame, and have applied for financial aid are considered for all University need-based scholarship programs. The University is committed to meeting the demonstrated financial need of all accepted students who apply for financial aid.