



Chat Q & A from MACC's 1.29.26 Zoom-In about the new Tuition Discount MACC Member Benefit

Q: Where can I see MACC's partner page to access this tuition benefit?

St. Mary's: MACC's partner page is live now: <https://www.smumn.edu/admissions/trusted-partnership-program/macc/>

Q: What does the MACC Tuition Discount benefit include?

St. Mary's:

- St. Mary's: Trusted Partner Scholarships- discounts on tuition
- You and/or your spouse are eligible (while you work for a MACC member organizations or another organization that is a St. Mary's partner)
- Application fee waived
- Flexible programs and diverse learning formats, many 100% online
- Access to campus events, career fairs, and networking opportunities
- Renowned curriculum taught by experienced faculty with practical industry knowledge
- Access to a global network of over 58,000 alumni in various fields worldwide
- Career Services Center with multiple resources and job search platforms

Q: What organizations are eligible for the Tuition Discount?

From St. Mary's: MACC member organizations are eligible for this as a benefit of being part of MACC (Metropolitan Alliance of Connected Communities).

See the alphabetical list of other eligible partners, including MACC, here:

<https://www.smumn.edu/admissions/trusted-partnership-program/>

Q: What is the tuition discount eligible for?

St. Mary's: Tuition discount is eligible for online bachelor's, graduate certificates, master's and doctorate programs. Not eligible for Winona traditional undergraduate programs (in person 4 year programs).

Q: Can you do a graduate certificate without going for a Master's Degree? And what if you don't have a Master's Degree at all (just a Bachelor's)? Can you still get a Graduate certificate?

From St. Mary's: Yes! As long as you have a bachelor's degree, you can take any of our certificates without doing a full master's programs.

Q: Is this eligible for certificates?

St. Mary's: Yes, but you must have a bachelor's degree to get a certificate.

Q: What if your employment ended mid-trimester?

From St. Mary's: The discount will continue thru the trimester.

Q: I have my master's degree in international studies but I was looking if I can get paralegal certificate, is that possible?

From St. Mary's: To explore information about specific programs, use the 'request information' link on this page: [Metropolitan Alliance of Connected Communities - Saint Mary's University of Minnesota](#)

Q: How much is the discount?

St. Mary's: Scholarship is broken down into the following amounts:

- Online Undergraduate Programs \$50 off per credit per semester
- Master's Programs & Graduate Certificates \$70 off per credit per semester
- Doctoral Programs \$90 off per credit per semester

Costs are different depending on program - for the AI certificate, you get \$70 off per credit per semester. So cost per credit would be \$705. Roughly \$8,500 for the AI certificate (12 credits).

Q: How many credits for a graduate certificate?

St. Mary's: All graduate certificates are 12 credits

Q: How does this compare to tuition reimbursement policies?

St. Mary's: If your employer has a tuition reimbursement policy, it would exist under your employer's HR policy. Tuition discount is through Saint Mary's as an institution as part of the partnership benefit with MACC. Degree seeking students only (so master's, doctorate, online bachelor's or graduate certificates). Financial Aid hosts other scholarships beyond just ours, and filling out the FAFSA will also help you get more financial assistance!

Q: Where can I find more info about all scholarships offered at Saint Mary's as well as FAFSA information (federally funded dollars).

St. Mary's: <https://www.smumn.edu/about/offices-services/financial-aid/>

Q: Where do I get information about specific programs?

St. Mary's: Reach out to our Admissions counselor: [Metropolitan Alliance of Connected Communities - Saint Mary's University of Minnesota](#)

Q: What if I have questions about the tuition discount program in general?

St. Mary's: Reach out to Allie Maas (amaas@smumn.edu)

Q: What if I want St. Mary's to come to my workplace and share about the MACC Benefit: Tuition Discount program with St. Mary's?

St. Mary's: Reach out to Kevin Ebben (kebben@smumn.edu) . He's been known to bring donuts or pizza to his in-person presentations!

Other MACC Resources outside of the tuition discount benefit:

MACC's Workforce Solutions Hub:

<https://macc-mn.org/WhatsNew/AskMACCWorkforceSolutionsHub.aspx>

MACC's Policy/Federal Response Hub:

<https://macc-mn.org/WhatsNew/2026PolicyImpactHub.aspx>

Register for MACC's February 5th Zoom: 2026 Legislative Preview

<https://macc-mn.org/WhatsNew/MACCZoomsIn.aspx>

If you want to make sure you don't miss an email: <https://mailchi.mp/macc-mn.org/subscribe-to-macc-emails>