IT/Computer Services is working with Starfish EAB to complete the integration of Starfish and Brightspace. We anticipate this to be complete by the end of the week.

In the meantime, we would like to highlight the following two features in Starfish that you can use to promote your students’ success this semester.

Appointment scheduling in Starfish

Instructors can use Starfish’s appointment scheduling feature to promote student connection and a seamless New Paltz student experience. Over 18,000 student appointments were logged in Starfish each year over the past two academic years, with nearly 80% of these appointments made by students themselves.

Setup up your office hours is easy and includes just two steps:

1. Synchronize your Outlook and Starfish calendar — this allows busy times on your Outlook calendar to display on your Starfish calendar.

2. Set up available blocks of time (office hours) that students can meet with you — this gives you the ability to easily set up a recurring block of time that is available to students to meet with you.

After you follow the Set Up Your Office Hours directions to sync your two calendars and set up your blocks of office hours, your students will be able to easily set up appointments with you.

Raise a flag in Starfish to identify students who may need time-sensitive support

Instructors who raise a flag in Starfish activate a larger network of support, known as each student’s Starfish Success Network. This makes it easier for advisors, instructors, coaches, and other college personnel to collaborate and better address the issue impacting each student’s success. Assessment findings suggest that students who respond to an advisor’s outreach tend to have better outcomes than those who do not.

Partnerships for Student Success

Questions? Please feel free to reach out to Chelsea Reid, Retention Coordinator and Starfish point of contact, Center for Student Success. In her role, Chelsea collaborates with instructors, administrators, staff, and students in support of our students’ educational success and their degree attainment, with a focus on supporting the degree completion of student cohorts with distinct barriers to success.

Chelsea is available to provide instructors with individualized guidance and assistance. She can be reached on ext 3590 or via email. Her drop-in Starfish Office Hours schedule is available here.

Thank you for your continued partnership!

Why Starfish?

Starfish’s history at New Paltz can be traced back to the 2016 – 2017 Academic Year, following the strategic planning council’s recommendation for an early academic warning system. The goals for this system reflect broader institutional priorities to enhance student success through the introduction of evidence-based models and approaches to support an increasingly diverse student population. In addition to New Paltz, a total of thirty-two (32) SUNY institutions currently use Starfish to support their college-wide student success efforts.

Center for Student Success

Old Main Building, Room B106
(845) 257-3580
CSS@newpaltz.edu