

Schedule Optimizer FAQs

What is Schedule Optimizer?

Schedule Optimizer is an enrollment planning tool that allows students to find conflict-free schedules based on the courses they need to take and their obligations outside of school, such as work.

Can I still use the Class Search in Campus Connect?

Absolutely. The Class Search is not going away. Schedule Optimizer contains the same information as the Class Search, however, it also allows students to search through all of the possible combinations of sections for the courses they want to take.

What browsers work best for Schedule Optimizer?

Schedule Optimizer supports the latest version of the 3 major browsers: Chrome, Firefox, and Edge. However, it does not support browsers running in compatibility modes, such as the internet explorer compatibility mode.

When I click Schedule Optimizer in the Manage Classes tile, it will not open. What should I do?

Make sure that the pop-up blocker is disabled.

Will the classes I put in the planner in Campus Connect appear in Schedule Optimizer?

No. The original planner is more for laying out what you might take in your time at DePaul, based on when those courses are typically offered. Schedule Optimizer is a term-specific tool that attempts to create the best schedule possible for one quarter.

Will my filters be saved every time I leave Schedule Optimizer?

Yes. Your filters should be exactly as you left them last time you were in Schedule Optimizer.

When should I filter by college?

When you want to see only courses being offered through that college. However, most undergraduate and a few graduate degrees have curricula that cross colleges, so to see the full list of possible course options for a given term, we recommend not filtering by college.

There is a class I really want to take, but I cannot select it from the course dropdown.

The course dropdown shows classes that are scheduled for the selected term. Therefore, if that course is not being offered that term, it will not be listed in the course list. If you know the course is being offered, but it's still not in the list, double check your filters to ensure they wouldn't filter out certain courses based on the search criteria –such as *Open Class Only*.

If I add a class using the “Search by Instructor” tab, will I still see all sections of that course?

No. The sections not being taught by the instructor you chose will be disabled. If you would like to see all sections of a course in your generated schedule options, add the class using the “Search by Course” tab.

If I want to see all of the courses being offered that meet one of the Liberal Studies Program Learning Domains like Arts and Literature, how can I search?

Using the third search tab under the “Select Course” button, type in the name of the learning domain for which you would like to search and a list of courses that meet that learning domain requirement will appear. Note: Only one requirement designation may be searched at a time.

Can I search by a certain day of the week, if I want to see only courses being offered that day?

No. There is no way to filter down the subjects by day of the week, however, you can build breaks for the days on which you cannot schedule classes, and that will block those days of the week from consideration in the generation of schedules.

I picked the courses I need and clicked “Generate Schedules.” Now it says I have 1000+ possible schedules. I’m overwhelmed. How can I look at a more manageable number of schedules?

There are a few options that you can try. First, you might focus on the courses you have to take. For example, if you need to take MAT 135, uncheck all other courses and generate only the schedules that work for MAT 135. Click through the possibilities, and pick the section that works best for you. Add the other courses back into your schedule generation and continue to lock and unlock sections that work in your overall schedule. Another option to reduce the number of possible schedules is to add in your breaks to see if your non-course-related obligations filter those results down.

What does the little lock symbol on the class sections do?

When you are looking through all possible schedules, if you find a specific section for one of your courses that you prefer, you can lock that section down, and the number of possible schedules will decrease based on how the other courses you’ve selected fit around that locked section.

Where can I find additional details about a class?

When you select a course, you will see a brief description of that course. Once you generate a schedule and begin to scroll through the different options, select the information button next to a specific section and you will see more details about that section, such as the topic, if it meets a requirement designation, and if there are enrollment requirements, such as prerequisites that you must complete before taking that course.

Why can I lock a lab or discussion, but not the lecture that goes with that class?

If a class has a required lab or discussion, it is tied to the lecture in the system. The lock will appear next to the section that is listed first based on the class number—by locking one part, you lock the entire lecture and lab/discussion combination.

If I lock something in Schedule Optimizer, does that mean I am guaranteed a seat in that section?

No. Schedule Optimizer is a planning tool only. All registration will still take place in Campus Connect.

I selected a few classes and generated schedules, but then I tried to add another class and no schedules are being generated. What should I do?

Check your filters. If you changed any of your filters, such as location, when you were selecting the new course, and your previously-selected courses do not have any sections that fit within that filter, then you may need to expand your filter selection again to see all of the course options.

If I uncheck something from my Course Cart or Current Schedule in Schedule Optimizer, will it be dropped or deleted in Campus Connect?

No. If you uncheck a box next to a course in your Course Cart or Current Schedule with Schedule Optimizer, then the tool will no longer be able to create a conflict-free schedule with that course in mind. If you've decided you no longer want to take that course, you will still need to drop that class in Campus Connect.

How do I make sure that I have enough time between classes?

On Schedule Optimizer's main page, click the "Advanced Options" tab to access Class Padding. Select a length of time ranging from 0 to 90 minutes between all of your selected courses. Please note that the more padding between classes, the fewer options that may be available. If you're having trouble generating a schedule, consider shortening the class padding time, while still maintaining ample time for cross-campus travel.

Will Schedule Optimizer check my enrollment history to see if I've met the prerequisites before allowing me to add courses to my Course Cart?

No. You are responsible for making sure that you've met necessary prerequisites or have added correct co-requisites to your Course Cart before attempting to register in Campus Connect. If you have not yet met the prerequisites, you will be prevented from registering within Campus Connect.

What happens if Campus Connect times out while I am working in Schedule Optimizer and I sent classes to my course cart?

Log back into Campus Connect. The classes that you sent over from Schedule Optimizer should be waiting for you within the term for which you were planning.