The Male Success Initiative (MSI) is committed to the recruitment, enrollment, and persistence of male students of color at Prairie State College (PSC). The program helps these students achieve their educational goals by providing:

- One-on-one academic advising with a program coordinator
- Orientation for new MSI students
- Career planning
- Priority registration
- Service learning
- First year seminar-Man Up: The Road to College Success
- Mentoring and tutoring
- Social and cultural activities
- Connections to the student club, Protégé
- Workshops and guest speakers
- College transfer assistance
- Guest speakers for students majoring in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM)

**Mission Statement**

The MSI program supports the academic success and professional aspirations of males of color attending PSC.

**Vision**

We will create an environment where male students of color are supported, encouraged, and empowered to achieve their academic and professional goals.

**Program Goals**

- Engage in community service
- Strategies that promote success in college
- Enhance communication skills, self-discipline, and self-motivation
- Develop leadership skills
- Promote goal setting and positive decision-making skills
- Increase the persistence rate of male students of color at PSC

**The Curriculum**

Eight Week Course
COL 101 - First Year Seminar: Man Up: The Road to College Success

Students explore the challenges and choices they face as college students and as men of color. MSI members set educational and career goals, explore their values and decision-making skills, and learn effective study skills/strategies.

**Eligibility**

All male students of color who have been admitted to PSC and have registered for classes are eligible to join the MSI program.

**MSI Benefits**

- Staff and faculty mentors
- Academic support
- Improved self-confidence and self esteem
- Increased motivation
- Opportunities for student leadership

**Dual Degree Program – Male Success Initiative (DDP-MSI)**

The Dual Degree Program-Male Success Initiative provides an excellent opportunity for men of color to earn their associate and bachelor’s degrees, at a fraction of the cost of any university in the Chicagoland area.

The goal of DDP-MSI is to increase the number of males of color who enroll in the Dual Degree Program and earn their associate degree, transfer to Governors State University (or any other regionally accredited, not-for-profit university that best meets their academic needs), and graduate with their bachelor’s degree.