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Ellucian Ethos
Top 10 Project Ideas

If you've decided to simplify and strengthen your integrations with the Ellucian Ethos data model and integration platform, but you're not quite sure where to start, here are the 10 most common projects we see across the community. Whether you're beginning your first or your fifth Ethos project, there is something on this list for every institution.

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1 Simplify a repeatable process

Nearly every institution must share student data with an external system, such as scholarship, financial aid, or other information to a reporting agency every semester or year. Most often it requires sending student data from your ERP, such as Ellucian Banner® or Ellucian Colleague®, to an external system and receiving information in return that must be appended to the student record. Multiply that times thousands of students and you're left with a manual process that is laborious, slow, and fraught with human error.

Ethos allows you to establish an integration between the ERP and an external system, and then share the needed information each semester or year as required to improve efficiency and reduce errors. How quickly can information be shared? A single campus successfully processed nearly 50,000 transactions in less than 30 minutes.

2 Streamline a manual, paper-based process

Every institution still has a business process that requires a mountain of paper and numerous human touches just to complete the simplest of tasks. Multiply this by thousands of students or employees and it can be quite a drag on your limited IT resources, while also creating a poor user experience.

Put Ethos to work to integrate applications and streamline these processes. Whether it's your graduation application process or another manual operation, Ethos integration reduces errors, greatly improves staff productivity, and the student experience. How much of an improvement? One institution's registrar once spent weeks compiling spreadsheets for the graduation application process. With Ethos, that process has now been reduced to less than a minute.
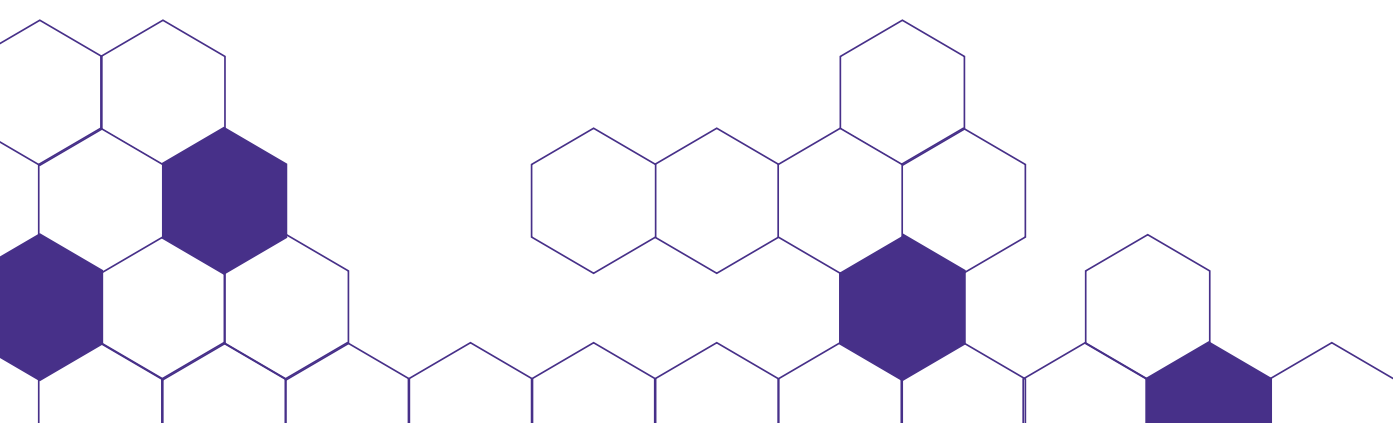
3 Connect students with employers

If your goal is to assist your students in finding employment after graduation, you are not alone. Today, many career development processes are still paper-based or disjointed, requiring students to seek employment on several different online applications.

Using Jobspeaker's packaged integration with Ethos, you can connect your students' academic data with employers databases to improve efficiency and time-to-placement.

4 Provide students virtual access to classrooms anywhere, anytime

Today's students balance outside obligations such as a job, a family, and more, which can make it difficult for them to be on campus or in a specific physical space from nine to five. But that doesn't mean they don't need access to the high-performance computing that many classes require.

Using VMWare's packaged integration with Ethos, you can open course delivery possibilities by reducing these physical barriers, opening the classroom environment to students regardless of their location. By integrating your ERP with VMWare, you can collect student data on a dynamic basis to determine which classes a student is enrolled in, and then provide access to specific virtual desktops.

5 Deactivate student and employee badges in near real-time

Physical and data security is priority one for nearly every institution. One major component of that is controlling access to both systems and physical spaces. Students and employees may come and go, but most current business processes around disabling access upon departure can take days, if not longer, leaving the campus vulnerable to risk.

Using TouchNet's packaged integration with Ethos, you can deactivate student and employee accounts. By leveraging the near real-time integration with Ethos, you can connect campus systems to collect student and employee data and control access, thereby increasing campus security while decreasing the drain on the IT team.

6 Budget check and budget reservation in near real-time

Many people making budget requests across the campus—often at the same time—can be an administrative nightmare for your finance team.

Using ESM Solutions and Chrome River's packaged integration with Ethos,you can accomplish near real-time budget check and budget reservation. By leveraging the integration with Ethos, you can better control expenses by checking and reserving budget requests in near real-time, enabling improved financial processes and experiences for both your finance team and business users across the campus.

7 Manage employer matches for donations

Your institution's supporters are making donations to fund your future initiatives. Help them maximize these contributions by assisting them in determining if an employee match is available.

By leveraging the pre-built integration with Double the Donation, you can notify donors that their donations may be matched while also guiding them through the process of obtaining that match.

8 Manage curriculum and new courses of study

Today's processes around managing new programs of study and integrating them with your ERPs can be disjointed and labor-intensive. Adding new curricula often require dual entry of data, creating the opportunity for human error and a sub-par experience for your team.

By leveraging the pre-built integrations with DIGARC and LeapFrog, you can integrate course information with the student data in your ERP and share that information in near real-time. This process improvement multiplied by all of your new programs of study creates huge opportunities for increased efficiencies, decreases errors, and moves your team from data entry to more valuable, student-facing projects.

9 Modernize the grade change process

While changing a student's grade may be a common occurrence for your instructors, the process around doing so is anything but efficient or repeatable. Updating numerous applications and obtaining sign-offs by various people can make this a very complex and lengthy process.

Many of our customers rely on Ellucian Workflow to move this process into an online workflow that enables campus constituents to take action through email, Ellucian Experience, or mobile solutions. With Ethos, you can integrate the people and applications needed to connect the data and departments necessary to streamline this task and realize time savings and other benefits.

10 Onboard new employees in the digital age

Paper and inter-campus mail is still at the core of many common processes around campus, and possibly the most prevalent is onboarding new employees.

Many customers are leveraging Ellucian Workflow to move this process into an online workflow that coordinates various campus departments to take action through email, Ellucian Experience, or mobile solutions. With Ethos, you can integrate the people and applications needed to connect the data and departments necessary to onboard employees quickly and efficiently.

Ellucian is the world's leading provider of software and services that power the essential work of colleges and universities. More than 2,500 institutions in 50+ countries rely on Ellucian to enhance operations and enrich the student experience for over 20 million students.

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