New Student Checklist
Fall 2026

CIU
Columbia International University

Congratulations on being accepted to Columbia International University!
This checklist is designed to help you become RAM READY!
Sections are divided into MONTHS when items can be worked on.
If you are accepted mid-year, just follow the steps in order.

AFTER ACCEPTANCE

☐ **SECURE YOUR SPOT!** 👉 **ciu.edu/deposit**
- Submit $100 Enrollment Depost
- Submit $100 Housing Deposit (Resident Students only)

☐ **LOGIN TO MyCIU** (Student Portal) 👉 **my.ciu.edu**
- Your login information was sent to your personal email upon acceptance.
- This will be your go-to place to find information about housing, financial aid, your bill, etc.
- ❓ Contact Admissions | admissions@ciu.edu | 803.807.5024

OCTOBER

☐ **COMPLETE FAFSA** (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) 👉 **studentaid.gov**
- The 2026-2027 FAFSA opens on October 1, 2025.
- CIU FAFSA code: 003429
- You may need help from your parent/guardian due to the specific tax/financial questions.
- This is how federal, state, and institutional aid is awarded from CIU.
- ❓ Contact Admissions | admissions@ciu.edu | 803.807.5024

JANUARY

☐ **ACCEPT FINANCIAL AID OFFER & COMPLETE DOCUMENTS** 👉 **my.ciu.edu>My Financial Aid**
- You will receive an email detailing your financial aid offer within 3-4 weeks after the FAFSA is submitted.
- Login to MyCIU to accept/decline your awards and complete requested documents.
- ❓ Contact Financial Aid | finaid@ciu.edu | 803.807.5036

☐ **ACCOMODATIONS & RESOURCES** 👉 **ciu.edu/academics/student-success**
- Our Academic Success Center provides personalized accommodations and assistance for students with physical impairments, learning disabilities, dietary restrictions, mental health needs, etc.
- Provides mentoring and tutoring services, a program for Hope Scholarship recipients and more!
- ❓ Contact Academic Success Center | academicsuccess@ciu.edu | 803.807.5611

FEBRUARY

☐ **HOUSING APPLICATION** 👉 my.ciu.edu>Campus LIfe>Residence Life
- This is how you are housed and matched with a roommate based on your preferences.
- Once you are matched, find your roommate info on MyCIU.
- To live off campus, you must meet specific criteria. Request the Appeal Form from Admissions.

❓ Residence Life | reslife@ciu.edu | 803.807.5488

☐ **REGISTER FOR AN ADMITTED STUDENT DAY** 👉 ciu.edu/visit
- Required event for all new students offered Friday, May 29 or Friday, June 26.

❓ Contact Visit CIU | visitciu@ciu.edu | 803.807.5058

☐ **LOGIN TO CIU EMAIL** 👉 outlook.office.com
- You will receive an email with your CIU email address and password.

❓ Contact Information Technology | 803.807.5199

MAY & JUNE

☐ **ATTEND ADMITTED STUDENT DAY** 👉 ciu.edu/visit
- Required event for all new students offered Friday, May 29 or Friday, June 26.
- Meet future classmates, register for classes, review financial offers.

❓ Contact Visit CIU | visitciu@ciu.edu | 803.807.5058

☐ **REGISTER FOR CLASSES AFTER MAY 29** 👉 my.ciu.edu>Academics>Advising
- Schedule an appointment with your Academic Advisor to plan your first semester courses.
- Instructions can be found at the link above.

❓ Contact Advising | advising@ciu.edu | 803.807.5625

☐ **SUBMIT FERPA** (Permission To Access Records) 👉 my.ciu.edu>Academics>Forms>FERPA
- Gives permission for your parents/guardians to access your academic and financial records.

☐ **COMPLETE HEALTH FORMS** 👉 my.ciu.edu>Campus Life>Forms
❓ Contact Health Services | healthservices@ciu.edu | 803.807.5056

☐ **SUBMIT PHOTO FOR STUDENT ID**
- Take photo in front of white backdrop/wall.
- Email photo to RamID@ciu.edu | Subject Line: Your FIRST & LAST NAME, STUDENT ID#
- You will receive an automated confirmation email that it has been received.
- ID will be ready for you in August during move in/check in.

☐ **SCHEDULE RAM READY VISIT (Optional)** 👉 ciu.edu/visit
- Schedule an on campus appointment with your Admissions Counselor and Academic Advisor
  to complete oustanding checklist items. (Appointments are available June 29-August 14).

❓ Contact Visit Office | visit@ciu.edu | 803.807.5058

JULY

☐ **REVIEW & RESOLVE BILL** 👉 **my.ciu.edu>Finances**
- Bills will be ready by mid-July.
- If you select the interest free payment plan, your first installment must be paid by **AUGUST 14.**
- If you select to pay your bill in full, payment must be made by **AUGUST 14.**
❓ Contact Student Accounts | ciuaccounting@ciu.edu | 803.807.5016

☐ **ADMITTED STUDENTS WEBINAR** 👉 **ciu.edu/visit**
- Wednesday, July 15 at 4:00 PM (Registration link above).
- Helpful "Ram Ready" information for students and their parents.

☐ **REGISTER YOUR VEHICLE** 👉 **my.ciu.edu>Campus Life>Home>Vehicle Registration**
- Parking decals can be picked up at the Security Office when you move in/check in.
❓ Contact Security | 803.807.5555

☐ **READ STUDENT HANDBOOK** 👉 **my.ciu.edu>Campus Life>Student Handbook**
- Submit Digital Acknowledgement Statement at end of booklet.

AUGUST

☐ **SUBMIT FINAL TRANSCRIPT** 👉 **parchment.com**
- Your final high school or college transcript needs to be submitted after you graduate or finish classes.
- You can do through the link above or contact your school directly.
- Official transcripts should be emailed to admissions@ciu.edu from institutonal official.
- You will not be able to register for classes your second semester if these are not received.

☐ **SUBMIT TEST SCORES** (AP/B/SAT/ACT/CLT **If requested)**
- Official scores can be requested through the testing website.

☐ **TEXTBOOKS** 👉 **ciu.edu/academics/textbooks**
- CIU uses a textbook rental program that you'll be automatically enrolled in.
- Textbooks are estimated at $20 per credit hour and will be charged to your student account.
- We encourage you to review our textbook resources on our website for more information,
  including how to change your preferences or opt out if needed.
- Physical textbooks will be mailed to the address listed on your application prior to classes
  starting and must be returned with the label provided at the end of your course.
- Digital textbooks are accessed by going MyCIU>Quick Links menu> Bookstore> Log In
  Username = CIU email address | Password = same as MyCIU and Canvas.
❓ Contact Slingshot | support@slingshotedu.com | 888.392.2930

☐ **MOVE IN & CHECK IN** (Resident & Commuter Students) 👉 **ciu.edu/welcome-weekend**
- Check link above for specific dates and times.

☐ **START CLASSES MONDAY, AUGUST 24!**
- CIU Alert - Students are automatically registered for our campus emergency notification service.
  - Parents & Guardians can be added by signing into 👉 **ciu.omnilert.net**