So, you’re about to become a CSU Ram… but first…

Welcome to CSU Connect Orientation! We are excited that you will be joining the Colorado State University community this fall and have decided to attend CSU Connect Orientation. Before you arrive on campus for the CSU Connect Orientation program, we have some important information for you to review. The information contained in these pages will answer many of your questions and help you prepare to spend a day and a half with us on campus on Friday, April 23 and Saturday, April 24.

Inside this CSU Connect preparation guide you will find:

- Important information about your upcoming CSU Connect Orientation experience for both students and parents/families.
- Detailed steps which take you through how to prepare for CSU Connect (depending where you are in your transition, you may have several steps to complete before your on-campus experience – so read carefully!)

So, get out a pen and paper, and make sure to jot down any questions you may have.

We’re here to help…

If you have questions or concerns, you can contact our office for assistance at (970) 491-6011 or by e-mail at orientation@colostate.edu. Our friendly staff is available from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday to help you with any issues that may arise. Our goal is to have you prepared in advance of your session so that you can get the most out of CSU Connect Orientation.

Welcome Parents and Families!

Hello parents and families! We are so pleased your student has chosen to attend Colorado State University! From our experience, when students go to college, they bring their families with them (perhaps not physically, but very much emotionally!). Family support and encouragement are crucial for students’ success and we invite you to enter into a partnership with us to support your student at Colorado State University.

This partnership began when your student was admitted to CSU and now the next step is attending CSU Connect Orientation. We have designed a special Parent and family CSU Connect Orientation schedule that coincides with your student’s schedule to assist the whole family in the transition to the college experience.

CSU Connect gives students the opportunity to learn more about Colorado State, to make valuable connections with students, staff and faculty, to meet with an academic advisor and to register for fall classes. Parents and families will also learn more about academics and student involvement at CSU, meet with your student’s academic advisor and learn about how to support your student’s growth and development as a college student.

Students and their families have repeatedly told our staff:

“Coming to orientation made the first year at Colorado State University much easier.”

“I felt more connected and knowledgeable about resources and how to successfully navigate through this time of transition.”

“I feel much more comfortable sending my students to CSU after attending orientation.”
Parents and families must make a reservation for the CSU Connect Orientation program through our reservation system. Please visit www.orientation.colostate.edu/csucconnet. If you aren’t sure if you have a spot reserved simply refer back to the email to see who is confirmed to attend. Your student can also log into the reservation system with his/her eID to review the confirmation. If you have not reserved a spot in the session and you would like to attend the program with your student, you may add yourself to the reservation and pay the $60 per person fee online (please read the refund policy concerning cancellations).

Once again, we are thrilled that your student has chosen Colorado State University, and we look forward to welcoming you and your student to our campus this summer. If you have any questions about Parent and Family CSU Connect Orientation, you can contact our office at (970) 491-6011 or email orientation@colostate.edu.

Step 1: Learn more about CSU Connect Orientation!

CSU Connect Orientation is a day and a half program that will introduce you to the CSU campus, the many resources and services available to support your educational goals, and assist you with academic advising and class registration for the fall semester. CSU Connect is specifically designed for students who identify as racially/ethnically diverse which allows students to create a sense of community by engaging in dialogue about what it means to be a racially/ethnically diverse student at CSU.

Check-in for the program begins on Friday, April 23rd at 8 a.m. in the Lory Student Center (LSC) Registration Booth (on the second floor) (see map on page ???). The program concludes on Saturday, April 24th at 12 p.m., so please make travel plans accordingly.

What does the student schedule look like?

Check out the 2010 CSU Connect Orientation schedule at-a-glance. You will receive an official schedule when you check-in for the program.

Student Schedule—April 23, 2010
8:00 – 9:00am........Program Check-In – Lory Student Center (LSC) 2nd Floor Registration Booth
8:00 – 9:00am.........Discover CSU Fair and Light Continental Breakfast
9:00 – 9:30am.........Welcome to CSU Connect Orientation
9:30 – 10:15am.......Engaging with Academics
10:15 – 10:30am......Split into small groups/travel time
10:30 – 11:15am......Team meeting
11:15 – Noon.........Campus Tour
Noon – 1:30pm........Lunch in the residence halls
1:30 – 3:00pm........Intro to Advising
3:15 – 3:45pm.........Multiple Identities
3:45 – 4:15pm.........Team Meeting
4:15 – 5:00pm.........Meet the staff at Student Diversity Programs and Services
5:00 – 6:30pm.........Check into hotel
6:30 – 8:00pm.........Dinner and Entertainment
8:00 – 8:30pm.........Team Meeting and Challenge
8:30 – 10:00pm.......Student Social

Student Schedule—April 24, 2010
7:00 – 8:00am........Hotel Check-out
7:30am – 9:00am.....Light continental breakfast
8:00 – 8:50am........Learning Communities: Course Registration Process (required for students in learning communities)
8:00 – 8:50am.........University Honors Programs (Honors students and families only; required)
9:00 – 9:30am.........Housing presentation
9:30 – 10:00am.......Team Meeting
10:15 – Noon.........Class registration
What does the Family and Guest schedule look like?

Check out the 2010 CSU Connect Orientation schedule at-a-glance. You will receive an official schedule when you check-in for the program.

**Family and Guest - April 23, 2010**

8:00 – 9:00am........ Program Check-In – Lory Student Center (LSC) 2nd Floor Registration Booth
8:00 – 9:00am........ Discover CSU Fair and Light Continental Breakfast
9:00 – 9:30am........ Welcome to CSU Connect Orientation
9:30 – 10:15am...... Engaging with Academics
10:15 – 10:30am.... Split into small groups/travel time
10:30 – 11:15am ... Transitions
11:15 – 11:45...... Interest Sessions
Noon – 1:30pm..... Lunch in the residence halls
1:30 – 2:10pm..... Intro to Advising
2:20 – 3:00pm...... Paying for
3:15 – 4:00pm...... Faculty Panel
4:00 – 4:15pm...... Overview of SDPS offices
4:15 – 5:00pm...... Meet the staff at Student Diversity Programs and Services
5:00 – 6:30pm..... Check into hotel
6:30 – 8:00pm...... Dinner and Entertainment
8:00 – 8:30pm...... Parent and Family Connections 8:30
10:00pm............. Family Social

**Family and Guest - April 24, 2010**

7:00 – 8:00am...... Hotel Check-out
7:30am – 9:00am Light continental breakfast
8:00 – 8:50am...... Learning Communities: Course Registration Process (required for students in learning communities)
8:00 – 8:50am...... University Honors Programs (Honors students and families only; required)
9:00 – 9:30am...... Housing presentation
9:30 – 10:30am... Student Services Panel
10:45 – 11:30am .. Candid Conversations
Noon...................... End of program

**Lodging for CSU Connect**

Overnight lodging is provided for you at the beautiful Fort Collins Marriott on Friday, April 23 as part of the program for registered students and parents/family members.

Hotel information:

Fort Collins Marriott
350 East Horsetooth Road
Fort Collins, CO 80525
(970) 226-5200

Students attending the program with family members and guests will be housed together in the same hotel room. Students attending the program without family members will be assigned a room with another new student of the same gender.

To accommodate your travel plans, if you need to arrive a day early on April 22 or stay a day late on April 24, you can opt to stay in the Fort Collins Marriott at the rate of $90 per room. You can request this additional night of lodging through our online orientation reservation system.

All hotel reservations will be managed through Orientation and Transition Programs; however, the hotel will need a credit card from the room’s occupants for incidental charges.

**When can I eat?**

A light continental breakfast will be provided on both Friday and Saturday mornings as well as lunch and dinner on Friday.

For meals outside of the program’s schedule, the Lory Student Center on CSU’s main campus offers some great dining options, or you can check out Fort Collins for off-campus options. For more information about off-campus restaurants visit [http://www.visitftcollins.com/](http://www.visitftcollins.com/) and click on "Restaurants".
Directions and parking

CSU Connect Orientation is operated out of the Lory Student Center on the main CSU campus in Fort Collins, Colorado. Fort Collins, CO is located 60 miles north of Denver and 50 miles south of Cheyenne, WY just west of I-25.

- From I-25 take the Prospect Rd. exit (exit 268)
- Follow Prospect Rd. west to S. Whitcomb (about 4 miles)
- Turn right onto S. Whitcomb, S. Whitcomb becomes Meridian Ave.
- Continue onto Meridian Ave. through 2 stop signs
- At the third stop sign, turn right South Drive.
- Look for signs pointing you to the Morgan Library parking lot (Lot 425) and the Hartshorn Health Center lot (Lot 420)

A parking permit for the CSU Connect program will arrive in the mail for Lots 420 & 425. Bring this parking permit with you to CSU Connect Orientation. A permit is only required in these lots on Friday, April 23 (not Saturday, April 24) so be sure to scratch off the appropriate date on the permit before displaying it on your rearview mirror. Use this link for a detailed map: http://parking.colostate.edu/files/maps/mapside.pdf

What do I bring?

- A photo I.D. (driver’s license, passport, or government issued photo ID) in order to get your Ram Card (student ID)
- Immunization forms (if you haven’t already mailed them to CSU Health Network)
- A list of your AP, IB, and transfer courses/credit, if applicable, to share with your academic advisor
- Comfortable clothes and shoes (there will be campus tours and a significant amount of traveling between buildings)
- Water bottle
- Backpack or bag (we will be giving you a lot of materials)

Are there language translation services available?

If you require any language translation accommodations, please call our office at (970) 491-6011. Due to a limited number of translators available, we cannot guarantee translation services but will do our best to accommodate any requests. Requests must be made more than one week prior to the program. The CSU Connect program schedule will be available in Spanish upon request.

How can I talk to Student Financial Services?

Good question! Student Financial Services (SFS) will be available on Friday, April 23 from 10:20 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. and on Saturday, April 24 from 8:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. by appointment only. Appointments can be made at the program during the Discover CSU Information Fair at the SFS table and throughout the program with SFS staff in the Lory Student Center.
Step 2: Determine what placement exams you need to take and complete them online!

Don’t get nervous! Placement exams are designed to make sure you take classes that are consistent with your preparation; placement exams are not a condition for admission to CSU. There’s nothing more difficult than struggling through a class for which you’re not ready. Read through the description of each placement exam to determine which exams you need to take. Please visit each of the exam websites for additional information, study guides, and online exams. If you are unsure about which exams you need to take, please call our office at (970) 491-6011 and we will work with you to identify the appropriate exams.

There are charges for each placement exam completed. Exam charges are automatically assessed to your student account with the University. For test accommodations, contact Resources for Disabled Students at (970) 491-6385 (V/TDD).

Math Placement Exam (MPE)

You must study for and take the CSU Math Placement Exam (MPE) from home using a personal computer BEFORE attending CSU Connect. The results of this exam may affect your ability to register for some classes.

Visit: www.math.colostate.edu and click on “Math Placement” for review materials and instructions.

Please note: If you have taken the AP Calculus exam, we still strongly recommend that you take the MPE. AP scores are not finalized until late in the summer. Without your AP score or MPE results, you will not be able to register for courses that require math as a prerequisite (such as chemistry, physics, economics, or math).

If you need special arrangements for taking the Math Placement Exam because of a learning or physical disability, please contact the PACe Office at least one week in advance of attending CSU Connect, 137 Weber Building, (970) 491-5761.

English Composition Placement Exam

Students who score 600 or higher on the SAT critical reading or 26 or higher on the ACT English are eligible to register for CO150 without taking the Composition Placement/Challenge Exam. Students who do not have transfer credit for a course equivalent to CO150 or CO130, or students who score lower than 600 on the SAT critical reading or lower than 26 on the ACT English must take the Composition Placement/Challenge Exam to be placed in an appropriate composition course.

Please note: In order to register for a composition course at CSU Connect, you will need to take this exam online at least one week prior to CSU Connect. If you have questions about the Exam, please contact the English Department at (970) 491-1898.

Visit: http://writing.colostate.edu/comp/placement.cfm for the online exam.

Foreign Language Placement Exam

Students who plan to enroll in a foreign language course must take the placement exam ONLY IF they have experience in the language or if they transfer in foreign language “wildcards” (L 1**, L 2**, etc.).

For information about foreign language placement exams, please contact the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at (970) 491-6141.

Visit: www.colostate.edu/Depts/FLL/ for the online exam.
Step 3: Begin Registration Ready

Before attending your scheduled CSU Connect session, you must start the Registration Ready process. Log in to RAMweb using your eID at: www.ramweb.colostate.edu. This process should be mostly completed before attending CSU Connect. Please note that you will not be able to enter your advising code during the Registration Ready process because you will receive this code from your academic advisor during CSU Connect. If you have any questions regarding Registration Ready, please use the "Contact Us" link in RAMweb and select “Registration Questions”.

Step 4: Complete your immunization forms

Colorado state law requires that all students enrolled for one or more classes and born on or after January 1, 1957 must provide proof of two vaccinations for measles, mumps, and rubella prior to enrollment. All new students are required to submit Immunization records to Colorado State University.

For more information about immunization requirements you can visit: www.health.colostate.edu/ MedicalServices/Immunizations/index.cfm.

Completed immunization records can be mailed to:

CSU Health Network
Immunizations Department
Colorado State University
Ft. Collins, CO 80523-8031

Step 5: Complete your advising questionnaire

A big part of your CSU Connect Orientation will be academic advising and registration. In order to help your advisor best prepare to meet with you, please complete the advising questionnaire if you have not already done so. This important information is given to your academic advisor and will help with your advising session during CSU Connect Orientation. Log in to the Orientation Reservation system https://wsnet.colostate.edu/cwis11/ using your eID and complete/update the advising questionnaire.
Step 6: Visit your academic college website and explore other important online resources

CSU has a number of resources and services available to support your transition to CSU. We will be going over a number of these resources in more depth at CSU Connect Orientation, but take a few minutes now to visit these resource websites.

Academic Colleges

CSU has eight academic colleges that house more than 150 programs of study. Click on your college to learn about your new academic home at CSU. Not sure what college you are a part of? You can visit the Undergraduate Programs of Study to search by major (www.admissions.colostate.edu/academics/poslist.aspx).

- College of Agricultural Sciences - www.agsci.colostate.edu
- College of Applied Human Sciences - www.cahs.colostate.edu
- College of Business - www.biz.colostate.edu
- College of Engineering - www.engr.colostate.edu
- College of Liberal Arts - www.libarts.colostate.edu
- College of Natural Sciences - www.natsci.colostate.edu
- College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences - www.cvmbs.colostate.edu
- Warner College of Natural Resources – www.warnercnr.colostate.edu

If have not decided on a major we have a special home for you, the Center for Advising and Student Achievement (CASA: www.casa.colostate.edu/Advising/) works with all undeclared students. Visit CASA now to learn more about the unique opportunities for undeclared students!

Academic Resources

All of the resources and services at CSU are provided to help you succeed academically. Here are a couple resources that are particularly important in your transition.

- Academic Calendar – www.events.colostate.edu
- Morgan Library – www.lib.colostate.edu
- RAMweb – www.ramweb.colostate.edu
- The Institute for Learning and Teaching – http://tilt.colostate.edu/
- The Writing Center - http://writing.colostate.edu/

Here are some other campus resources that you may be interested in visiting prior to CSU Connect.

- Disability Services (RDS) – www.rds.colostate.edu
- CSU Health Network – www.health.colostate.edu
- Off Campus Life - www.ocsral.colostate.edu
- Parking Services – www.parking.colostate.edu
- Student Diversity Programs and Services (SDPS) - www.studentaffairs.colostate.edu/student-diversity.aspx
- Student Financial Services (SFS) – www.sfs.colostate.edu
- Student Leadership, Involvement, and Community Engagement (SLICE) - www.slce.colostate.edu

Parents/Families

Parents and families, we have a resource just for you. The Parent and Families website (www.parentsandfamily.colostate.edu) is your gateway to everything CSU including paying bills, getting academic help, important campus news and updates, information about the RAMFAM Association, and much more.

Important dates

As a student it is your responsibility to be aware of important dates and deadlines. For a list of important dates and deadlines, visit CSU Events and Calendars: www.events.colostate.edu.
Ram Welcome

Ram Welcome: Experience CSU is an orientation and transition program for all new first year and transfer students. Build upon your orientation experience and begin your successful adjustment to Colorado State University by exploring academic programs, meeting faculty and staff, learning about the many services available to support your college experience, becoming part of the CSU campus community, connecting with other new and current students, learning traditions, and discover what it means to be a CSU Ram!

Ram Welcome begins on move-in day, Thursday, August 19, 2010 starting at 8a.m. and continues through Sunday, August 22, 2010 (classes for students begin Monday, August 23, 2010). For more information about Ram Welcome, visit: www.ramwelcome.colostate.edu.

Ram Welcome does not replace your experience at CSU Connect Orientation; it enhances it. Once you return to campus for Ram Welcome, you are just days away from beginning your collegiate career at CSU. Ram Welcome will put the finishing touches on your preparation and will assist in your continued transition into the University.

RamLink

Now that you have registered for CSU Connect Orientation it’s time to set up your RamLink account. What is RamLink? We’re glad you asked. RamLink is your online involvement network at CSU. Students at CSU use their RamLink account to connect with student clubs and organizations, involvement and service opportunities, and to connect with other students who have similar interests and passions. To set up your RamLink account visit: https://wsnet.colostate.edu/cwis21/WebAuth and sign in with your eID. Once in the site, set up your profile and begin browsing for opportunities!
Once again, welcome to CSU Connect Orientation and Colorado State University! If you have any other questions about CSU Connect, please let us know. You can contact the office at (970) 491-6011 or orientation@colostate.edu. We look forward to meeting you in April!

See you in April!

2010 Orientation Team!