

# 2024-2025 Financial Aid Terms and Conditions

## General Terms and Conditions

This information explains the terms and conditions under which you are eligible to receive financial aid at Colorado Mesa University/CMU Tech (CMU). As a student receiving financial aid, you are certifying that you agree to the following terms and conditions and that you understand your rights and responsibilities herein. Please read this carefully and thoroughly. In each statement, “I,” “me” or “my” refers to you, the student.

- By accepting all or a part of the financial aid offer granted by CMU, I agree to use all federal, state and institutional financial aid received only for educational expenses at CMU.
- By accepting the terms and conditions of financial aid, I am allowing federal financial aid to pay any debt incurred to Colorado Mesa University as outlined in [Financial Responsibility Agreement](#) signed prior to registration.
- I agree to conform to financial aid [policies and requirements](#) regarding Financial Aid Satisfactory Academic Progress and Official and Unofficial Withdrawals.
- I understand that the amount of my financial aid will be equally and automatically split between Fall and Spring semester.
- If I plan to attend courses during the summer term, I must submit the Summer Supplemental Aid Application to have my eligible financial aid funding apply to these courses. Failure to do so will result in a balance on my student account that will be my responsibility to pay.
- I understand that academic engagement is mandatory for all types of financial aid. If I am unable to engage in my courses for any reason, it is my responsibility to drop/withdraw from the courses and return all unearned financial aid.
- I understand that policies and procedures may change during an award year as the result of regulatory changes.
- I understand that all financial aid is contingent upon my continued financial aid eligibility status. CMU reserves the right to review and adjust or cancel any financial aid award at any time due to changes in my status or the availability of funding.
- I understand that a change in residency status or enrollment status may affect eligibility for financial aid. Enrollment status includes non-attendance, ineligible classes, dropping, adding, withdrawing, or receiving an incomplete grade (I) in a course(s).
- I will promptly notify the Registrar’s Office of any change in name, address, phone number, and/or program of study.
- I will promptly notify the Financial Aid Office of any additional financial resources received from sources outside of the CMU Financial Aid office. These resources may result in a reduction of a financial aid offer and/or require the repayment of financial assistance received during the academic year.
- I understand I may not receive financial aid from more than one institution during a given term. If I attend more than one institution in any given academic year, my eligibility may be affected by aid received at those institutions. I agree to provide proof of aid used at my prior institutions.
- I understand that there are federal annual limits on the Pell Grant and Federal Direct Loans.
- I may request to have my financial aid application reviewed by the Financial Aid Office if there has been a significant change in my financial situation or personal circumstances. I will be prepared to submit documentation proving these extenuating circumstances. I understand that such requests will be reviewed individually and may not affect my financial aid offer.
- I must supply accurate information on all forms submitted to the Financial Aid Office.

- I understand that if I decide not to attend CMU, it is my responsibility to officially drop my courses and/or decline any aid offered. Failure to do so could result in outstanding charges owed by me to CMU and/or federal financial aid programs.
- I agree to regularly check my student-issued email account. I understand that email is the official communication with CMU. I am responsible for all communications sent to me through this address.
- I understand that audited courses will not count for enrollment purposes.
- I am aware that some financial aid sources may have additional requirements and/or terms and conditions that I must adhere to for payment and future renewal of funding.

## Release of Information/Data/FTI

Data obtained by CMU through the Free Application of Federal Financial Aid including Federal Tax Information (FTI) is used for the application, award, and administration of financial aid. Due to the nature of this information, it is the responsibility of the CMU Financial Aid Office to ensure the safe keeping and non-disclosure of this data.

- I understand that my personal and Federal Tax Information will be used for sole purpose of authorized individuals who are granted access to this information with an official and legitimate need, for the purposes of determining eligibility for and amount of federal, state, and institutional aid.
- I understand that in addition to these terms and conditions, I will need to submit written consent for the disclosure and discussion of my Federal Tax Information.
- I understand I will not be able to discuss any other individuals FTI, even those who are listed as contributors on my FAFSA without their written consent.

## Cost of Attendance and Financial Aid Offer

An estimated Cost of Attendance (COA) is used when determining financial aid packages. The COA includes tuition, fees, course materials, housing, food, personal expenses, and transportation. All COA budgets are built to reflect full-time enrollment (12 credit hours for undergraduates and 6 credit hours for graduate students) and living arrangements as defined by the [CMU Housing Residency Policy](#).

- I understand my financial aid offer cannot exceed my COA, and that my COA does not reflect the actual out-of-pocket amount I may owe to CMU.
- I understand I am not guaranteed to receive financial aid that meets my entire COA.
- I understand that my financial aid offer is developed based on full-time enrollment and that not enrolling as a full-time student will mean that my financial aid offer will be revised.
- I understand that my financial aid offer is subject to change due to changes in my financial status, academic status, enrollment status, or changes in the availability of funds.
- Between the time of campus fee assessment and campus census date, I am aware that my COA will be adjusted to the actual costs of tuition, fees and on campus living expenses.

## Financial Aid Eligibility Determination

CMU determines eligibility for federal, state, and institutional financial aid by utilizing information obtained from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). For Colorado Asset students, CMU determines state and institutional aid eligibility by utilizing the information obtained from the Colorado Application for State Financial Aid (CASFA).

- By completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), I understand that a federal processor uses the information provided to determine eligibility and the results are forwarded to CMU.
- My eligibility for need-based aid is determined by the financial information provided through my FAFSA/CASFA application and is subject to adjustment or cancellation if errors are later discovered.
- Financial aid offers are created based on my eligibility criteria and the availability of federal, state, and institutional funds and are awarded according to federal, state, and institutional guidelines and regulations.

- My financial aid package may be a combination of several types of aid including grants, scholarships, loans, and/or work-study.
- Financial aid eligibility will only be determined after I have submitted all required application documents. Incomplete files will not be processed.
- If I am in default on a prior federal student or parent loan, you are not eligible for financial aid.

## Aid Eligibility & Enrollment

- I understand that my financial aid eligibility requires me to be enrolled in an eligible degree and/or certificate program.
- I understand that Federal Pell Grants will be offered at the full-time enrollment level. If I choose to enroll at less than half time, I understand that my Federal Pell grant will pay on a prorated scale depending on the number of credits I enroll in.
- Colorado State Grant, SEOG, Federal or Colorado Work Study, and most Colorado Mesa University scholarships all require full-time enrollment status. I understand that if I am enrolled less than full-time I will not be eligible to receive these funds.
- If my enrollment status changes throughout the term, my aid may be adjusted accordingly, and I am responsible for paying any resulting balance due in full.
- I understand federal regulation mandates that if I receive a financial aid disbursement and do not attend any classes at CMU, then I will be responsible to return all financial aid funds to CMU.
- CMU's [Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy](#) requires that I maintain an institutional cumulative GPA based on completed credits, to complete at least 67% of all institutional credits attempted, and to graduate within 150% of my declared program's published length. I understand that if I fail to comply with these standards, I will lose my financial aid eligibility.

Completed CMU Credits	Required Cumulative CMU GPA
1-15	1.7
16-29	1.8
30-45	1.9
46+	2.0
Graduate Students	3.0

- I understand the following situations may affect my enrollment status and therefore the payout of my financial aid:
  - **Semester Withdraw:** If I withdraw from CMU and receive federal financial aid, I understand that a Return to Title IV calculation must be performed. A percentage of federal aid must be returned based on the effective date of the withdrawal.
    - As such, I will be expected to repay the “unearned” portion of my federal financial aid and am aware that the funds which are returned may create a balance with CMU, which must be paid in full before I can re-enroll.
  - **Failing All Classes in a Term:** I understand that if I receive all F’s in a given semester, I will be notified by email to my CMU student email account, of my responsibility to request that one of my professors provide my last date of attendance to the Financial Aid Office by the stated deadline and that a Return of Title IV calculation (see above description) must be processed.
    - Should the financial aid office not receive a response from at least one of my professors stating the last day of attendance; by the given deadline, a Return of Title IV funding calculation will occur at 50% of the earned level regardless of my actual attendance.
    - As such, I will be expected to repay the “unearned” portion of my federal financial aid and am aware that the funds which are returned may create a balance with CMU, which must be paid in full before I can re-enroll.

## Payment of Aid

- Financial aid awarded in the form of grants, scholarships, and loans will be applied toward my student bill first and will pay outstanding tuition, fees, and authorized charges I owe to CMU.
- I understand that the earliest funds will disburse each term as follows:
  - The majority of CMU aid will be disbursed to my CMU student account 10 days (about 1 and a half weeks) before each term
  - Aid that requires enrollment verification will disburse after CMU's census date each term
- If I am scheduled to receive more financial aid (not including work-study) greater than the balance I owe CMU, I understand I may be issued a refund.
- If eligible for a refund, I understand it will be issued through direct deposit or a paper refund depending on my preference. Electronic refunds will be sent to the bank account I specify in the ePay app. Physical paper checks will be mailed to the permanent address on file. It is my responsibility to ensure that my address is valid.
- I understand that if I receive work-study funds (federal, state, or institutional) it is my responsibility to locate and secure on-campus employment. Through this job I will work to earn my work study funds through semimonthly pay checks on the 15<sup>th</sup> and last day of each month, as outlined by the CMU Payroll Office.
- If I accept loans, it is my responsibility to electronically sign a Master Promissory Note and complete loan counseling before funds are disbursed. It is also my full responsibility to repay the loan and meet all other terms and conditions set forth by the loan and its servicer.
- By accepting federal loans, I am aware that loan fees will be charged to originate my student loan and are calculated as a percentage of the total loan amount. These loan fees are deducted from each loan disbursement and will be subtracted directly from the loan before it is disbursed to my student account.

## Colorado Mesa University Merit Scholarship Recipients

Merit scholarship recipients must meet the following criteria to remain eligible for the scholarship and agree to the terms below for scholarship renewal.

- I understand that merit scholarships are awarded based on the criteria set forth by the CMU Admissions Office and the information I provided in my admission application to CMU.
- I understand that my merit scholarship is for undergraduate course work only leading to my first bachelor's degree or a maximum limit of 120 credits, including prior credits earned through AP/IB, concurrent coursework and/or transferred credits from another institution. Credits taken beyond the lifetime limit of 120 credits will not be paid for by this scholarship.
- I understand that I must enroll in at least 12 credit hours for each fall and spring semester. Any summer courses I choose to enroll in will not be paid for by my scholarship.

## First Time Freshman

- Renewable First-Time Freshman merit scholarships have the following conditions, and if these conditions are not met, I understand I my eligibility for my original merit scholarship will be affected:

Scholarship	Minimum Credit Hours/semester	Minimum Cumulative Institutional GPA	Maximum Lifetime Credit Hours <i>Including prior credits</i>
In State Distinguished Prior to 2024	12	3.5	120
<i>Students awarded an in state Distinguished Scholarship prior to 2024 will be evaluated and awarded on their original Terms &amp; Conditions until all recipients have graduated or reached maximum award.</i>			
In State Distinguished Beginning 2024	12	3.75	120

<i>Only students originally awarded an In-State Distinguished Scholarship will be evaluated and awarded above the Trustee level of merit during the annual evaluation process.</i>			
Trustee	12	3.5	120
Presidential	12	3.25	120
Academic Achievement	12	3.0	120

### First-Time Freshman Annual Merit Assessment

- I understand that each fall semester I will be assessed and notified by email of my current merit status.
  - Maintaining Merit** Student has met the requirements for maintaining their merit scholarship.
  - Low GPA Merit Warning** Students not meeting the required Cumulative CMU GPA to maintain their level of Merit
  - Max Credit Merit Warning** Students with 100 credits including prior credits earned through AP/IB, concurrent course work and/or transferred credits from another institution.
- If placed on Low GPA or Max Credit Warning I understand the warning period will be for the following spring semester or the next term I attend.

### Annual GPA Merit Re-evaluation (Sliding Scale)

- I understand that each spring semester my level of merit will be evaluated and adjusted as needed based on my Cumulative CMU GPA. Scholarships will be adjusted no higher than Trustee unless I am an original recipient of the Distinguished Scholarship.
- The adjustment of my level of merit is subject to change each spring semester and I understand I may lose or gain merit depending on my cumulative CMU GPA.
- If my cumulative CMU GPA falls below a 3.0, I understand that my scholarship will be cancelled without further notice, and I will be placed on Merit Suspension. Once on Merit GPA suspension, I could appeal the decision if I faced extenuating circumstances within the prior semester.
- If my merit suspension appeal is approved, I will be placed on Merit Probation and will be awarded at the level of Academic Achievement for the following term that I attend.
- If my merit suspension appeal is denied, I understand that the decision of the review committee is final, and my Merit Scholarship will be canceled.
- I will not be allowed more than two merit suspensions during my time at CMU.

### Merit Max Credit Evaluation

- I understand that the semester that I reach 120 credit hours including prior credits earned through AP/IB, concurrent course work and/or transferred credits from another institution. I will be placed on Max Credit Suspension and my scholarship will be cancelled without further notice.

### Other Merit Scholarships

- Other renewable merit scholarships have the following conditions, and if these conditions are not met, I understand my eligibility for my original merit scholarship will be affected:

Scholarship	Minium Credit Hours/semester	Minimum Cumulative Institutional GPA	Maximum Lifetime Credit hours <i>including prior credits</i>
First Generation	12	3.0	120
Next Generation	12	3.0	120
Phi Theta Kappa	12	3.2	120
Pacific Northwest	12	3.2	120
Two Rivers	12	3.0	120

## CMU Promise Residency

- To be eligible for the [CMU Promise Tuition Program](#), I understand that county residency follows the same principles as the CRS 23-7-101, et. Seq. which governs tuition classification for in-state students and that CMU Promise status requires domicile in one of the CMU Promise counties, for the year immediately preceding the first day of class or proof of membership to the Ute Tribes of the region (Southern Ute Tribe, Ute Mountain Utes, or Uintah and Ouray).
- I understand that the burden of proof is on me to provide clear and convincing evidence of CMU Promise eligibility

## CMU/CU Partnership

The Engineering Partnership Program offers students the opportunity to earn a University of Colorado Boulder engineering degree in Civil, Electrical and Computer, or Mechanical Engineering entirely on the campus of CMU. The first two years are taught by Colorado Mesa University and the last two years of engineering courses are taught by faculty of the University of Colorado Boulder in Grand Junction.

- As a participant in the CU/CMU Engineering Program I understand that while enrolled in lower division courses with CMU I will pay CMU tuition, am eligible for CMU financial aid and scholarships, and my financial aid will be disbursed by the CMU Financial Aid Office.
- Upon completion of my lower division courses, I understand that my program will transfer to the CU Boulder program requirements. Meaning, I will be responsible for paying [CU Boulder tuition](#), financial aid will be disbursed by CU Boulder and I may be eligible for CU Boulder scholarship opportunities.
- I understand that CMU Admissions Based Merit scholarships are not applicable once I have transferred to CU Boulder and will not be paid. Foundation, and/or athletic scholarships may also not be applicable once I have transferred to CU Boulder.
- It is my responsibility to contact the scholarship provider of any private scholarships received outside of CMU to ensure the funds are sent to the CU Boulder instead of CMU.
- If I have received the tuition classification from CMU of either the Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) or Mountains & Plains as a student at CMU I may be eligible for a scholarship from the University of Colorado Boulder Engineering Partnership Program that is equal to the difference between the CU Boulder out-of-state tuition rate and 150% of full-time CU Boulder in-state tuition. It is my responsibility to connect with CU Boulder staff to complete this process.