THE GOAL IS TO THRIVE

CU-Boulder’s more than 5,000 graduate students play a vital role in the university’s research, scholarship, creative works, and teaching.

One of the first steps to thriving in graduate school is lining up your resources. Your graduate studies here will likely be both engaging and challenging. And as if the academics aren’t enough, there’s also all the other stuff you’ll need to deal with in beginning a new phase, living your life while being a graduate student, and being part of a vital campus community.

Do yourself a favor and familiarize yourself with the following resources, which are designed to help you with all the “small” stuff.

First Week Checklist

- Attend your departmental orientation.
- Attend graduate student orientation. The United Government of Graduate Students (UGGS) hosts a campuswide orientation August 19 from 8:30 a.m to 12:30 p.m. www.colorado.edu/uggs
- Attend the Graduate Teacher Program Intensive. Seminars on pedagogy and professional development are offered August 21–23. Additional workshops are offered throughout the year. www.colorado.edu/gtp
- Complete Discrimination and Harassment Training (required for all CU-Boulder employees). You will find instructions for how to complete the training at hr.colorado.edu/dh/Pages/Training.aspx
- Attend CAPS workshops such as Getting Off to a Smart Start in Graduate School and GradSpeak. counseling.colorado.edu
- Get your Buff OneCard and RTD CollegePass. Visit the Campus Card Office, C4cn180, to pick up your cards. Buff OneCards come loaded with Campus Cash, which can be used for printing and at certain eateries. More can be added at www.buffonecard.com.
- Log in to MyCUInfo.colorado.edu to confirm your schedule, pay your bill, check on financial aid, and take care of logistics.
- Waive or sign up for health insurance and submit immunization forms. www.colorado.edu/healthcenter
- Find a job (if you need one). See MyCUInfo for job listings. Domestic students who qualify for federal financial aid may also be eligible for work-study awards. International Students should check with ISSS regarding their visa status and employment prospects.
- Reserve a study carrel. Graduate student study carrels at Norlin Library can be reserved for the year on a first-come, first-served basis by presenting your Buff OneCard at the circulation desk.
- Begin establishing Colorado residency. To qualify for in-state tuition for your second year, the first steps are: get your Colorado driver’s license, register your vehicle in Colorado, and register to vote. See registrar.colorado.edu for additional details.

Need Advice?

DEGREE PROGRAM SPECIFICS
Contact your department graduate advisor for information on department policies, degree requirements, and courses.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVICE
International Student and Scholar Services can provide advice on a variety of topics ranging from immigration to employment and housing. colorado.edu/oie/isss

BROAD, CAMPUSS-BASED QUESTIONS
Graduate School advisors provide information and guidance to students and staff on general Graduate School information, policies, and rules; campuswide degree requirements; thesis and dissertation format guidelines; and graduation requirements. gradinfo@colorado.edu, 303-492-8220. See also the Graduate School website, colorado.edu/graduateschool.
Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) offers individual counseling, groups and workshops, thesis and dissertation support groups, crisis intervention, alcohol and drug counseling, and career assessments. All counseling services are free for registered students, and walk-ins are accepted Monday–Friday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. counseling.colorado.edu

**Connect with Other Students**

**Professional Development**

**GRADUATE TEACHER PROGRAM**

www.colorado.edu/gtp

Provides professional development opportunities, career consulting, videotape consultation, and teacher training for graduate students in all schools and colleges. GTP offers three certificates and weekly workshops focused on improving teaching, as well as annual fall and spring intensives.

**CAREER SERVICES**

Careerservices.colorado.edu/public

Offers workshops, events, individual coaching, and online resources to help graduate students begin searching for post-graduate employment.

**FOREVER BUDDS**

alumni.colorado.edu/foreverbudds

Students become lifelong members of the Alumni Association the day they set foot on campus. As a Forever Budd, you can explore networking opportunities and participate in student alumni events.

“**IF YOU’VE EVER LIVED IN BOULDER, THERE’S NO NEED TO EXPLAIN HOW AWESOME IT IS TO LIVE HERE, AND IF YOU HAVEN’T, WORDS CANNOT EVEN BEGIN TO EXPLAIN IT!”** —Houman Farokhzad

**SIGMA XI**

www.colorado.edu/engineering/ECE/sigmaxi/sigmaxi.html

A scientific research society that includes members from the area federal labs and IBM labs.

**RELIGIOUS CAMPUS ORGANIZATIONS**

www.colorado.edu/studentgroups/roco

An officially recognized entity that provides religious outreach to the CU-Boulder community. Members work together to help students stay spiritually connected. Many have special centers or churches close to campus.

**VOLUNTEER RESOURCE CENTER**

volunteers.colorado.edu

Helps students, staff, and faculty find community volunteer opportunities that match their interests.

**ADDITIONAL CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS**

Ask your department contacts, and visit the Student Organization Finance Office (SOFO): sofo.colorado.edu

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

- Info specifically for incoming graduate students: admissions.colorado.edu/graduate/admitted-students
- Info for graduate students in general: colorado.edu/GraduateSchool/resources
- Info for all students: www.colorado.edu/audience/students

See also in this publication:
- Campus map, inside back cover
- Get connected (with information technology), page 3
- Academic calendar, page 7
- Paying your tuition, page 9
- Buy books and supplies, page 10
- Stay healthy, page 15
- Transportation, page 16
- Creating a safe campus, page 34
- Campus resources from A to Z, page 42
- Alcohol and safety policies, page 58

“**THERE ARE MANY THINGS TO LIKE ABOUT BOULDER: MOUNTAINS, SKIING, HIKING, RESTAURANTS, AND HOT SPRINGS. BUT FOR ME, THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT OF BEING IN BOULDER IS THE AMAZING SUPPORT NETWORK OF COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS WHO MAKE CU-Boulder A FANTASTIC PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK.”**

—Magdalena Stawkowski