

# Getting Involved at CU Boulder-Where Do I Start?

## General Tips-

- Attend the Student Organization Fair and the Volunteer Fair. Both are held within the first three weeks of classes and give you the opportunity to meet with dozens of student groups, departments and community organizations.
- Working on campus is a great way to get connected. Visit the Student Employment office in Regent 205 or look on CU Connect (click on the Financial Tab) to see open positions. College students that work 10-20 hours a week on campus statistically do better in their classes. Meet people and get paid!
- If you are looking to find out what is happening on campus, check out the CU Events Calendar at <http://www.colorado.edu/events>. Bookmark this site or you can sign up for an RSS feed for updates. You can search for events by type: Arts/Culture, Athletics, Academic, Sports/Recreation and Entertainment.
- Read your Buff Bulletins and Student E-memos! Though it may be tempting to delete them, it is the number one way that student groups advertise on campus.
- Visit Student Group offices in the UMC. Many (not all) student groups have offices located on all floors of the UMC. You can find a current listing at <http://umc.colorado.edu/fun/studentGroups>
- If you are planning to live on campus, join a RAP (Residential Academic Program). Take classes with people you are living with around a theme/interest. Go to <http://housing.colorado.edu/raps> to learn about the different RAPs.
- Also, talk to your RA (Resident Adviser). They are a great resource and are also students so they know where to go and who to talk to.
- And, don't forget there the staff and faculty working here, willing to help point you in the right direction if you ask for help. If you cannot find a group that shares your interests, it's easy to start your own. Visit the SOFO (Student Organization Finance Office) on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor in UMC room 231.
- Get out there! Go to events, hang out on campus, read flyers, and meet people. There are literally hundreds of opportunities to get involved at CU if you keep your eyes open and are willing to try something new. Someone smart once said, *"The world is run by those who show up."*

I'm interested in **Student Government**:

- CU's student government is called **UCSU (University of Colorado Student Union)**. Their office is in the UMC in room 125. Great ways to start getting involved are on Freshman Class Council, the Diversity Commission, or on one of the joint boards (Rec Board, E-Center, Health Board, UMC Board, and Finance Board). You can check their website for any positions that are open or visit their office. <http://www-ucsu.colorado.edu>
- If you live on campus, you can also participate in your hall government through **RHA (Residence Hall Association)**. Talk to your RA to find out when the meetings are and how to get involved.
- Additionally, there are governing opportunities and student groups within your academic majors and college. Visit your department's main office for information on how to get involved.

I'm interested in **Music, Film, Media, and Entertainment**:

- **Radio 1190** is CU's student-run radio station. Students can volunteer as DJs or participate in the Street Team. Go to [www.radio1190.org](http://www.radio1190.org) for more information or visit them in the basement of the UMC.
- **Program Council** located in UMC 401, hosts free or low-cost entertainment for students like concerts, sneak-peaks of movies not yet in theaters, and comedy. The Friday Night Film series provides free movies for students every Friday at CHEM 140. Students can apply to work for the PC production or security crew, or volunteer for Street Team. Go to [www.programcouncil.com](http://www.programcouncil.com) for more information.
- Become a member of **The Herd** and get access to all of their events including pre-football game parties, the ski bus, trips, and local discounts. Visit [www.cuherd.com](http://www.cuherd.com)
- The **CU Independent** is the on-line student newspaper located at [www.cuindependent.com](http://www.cuindependent.com)
- International Film Series-If you like independent, foreign, and art-house films check out [www.internationalfilmseries.com](http://www.internationalfilmseries.com) They screen over 100 films per year and offer a student discount.
- **The Connection**-Located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the UMC, Boulder's only bowling alley which also offers billiards, video games, big screen TVs, poker tournaments and pool/bowling leagues.
- You can experience live music, art, theater and dance performances hosted on campus each week. Many are free or offer student discounts. Visit the campus event calendar (see above) to see what is offered.

I'm interested in **Sports, Athletics, and Recreation**:

- Start at CU's **Recreation Center**. If you are a full-time student you are already a member for free. You can work-out, swim, ice-skate, or take an aerobics, dance, or yoga class. Also, check out the outdoor program which offers many trips, outdoor activities, and a Challenge Ropes Course. <http://www.colorado.edu/rec-center/>
- Also at the Rec Center, you can try out for a **Club Sport** or get a team together and participate in **Intramurals**.
- Finally, CU is home to many different NCAA Athletic Teams. Check out [www.cubuffs.com](http://www.cubuffs.com) for schedules of games. Most are free or offer student discounts. Don't forget about **Homecoming**, a campus tradition that is held every fall. Visit [www.cuhomecoming.com](http://www.cuhomecoming.com) for dates and information. Go Buffs!

I'm interested in **Greek Life-Fraternities and Sororities**:

- Visit [www.colorado.edu/greeks](http://www.colorado.edu/greeks) for information on each of CU's social and multicultural fraternities and sororities. A great way to meet people, develop leadership skills and serve the community.
- Formal recruitment for women's social (Panhellenic) sororities happens each Fall semester. You have to sign up to participate in advance on the website above.

I'm interested in **Political and Environmental Issues**:

- The **Environmental Center** is located on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the UMC. They have many employment and volunteer opportunities, as well as host events related to sustainability and the environment. <http://ecenter.colorado.edu>

- Other active student groups include: CoPIRG, CU BioDiesel, Amnesty International, New Era, College Democrats, College Republicans, 180>11, Student Worker Alliance Program, Model United Nations (UN), and STAND.

I'm interested in **Community Service, Internships or Leadership:**

- **CU GOLD** (Gaining Opportunities through Leadership Development) is an organization that provides free leadership resources to any CU student to help them become a better leader. Visit their office in UMC 444 or visit [www.colorado.edu/umc/cugold](http://www.colorado.edu/umc/cugold)
- The **Volunteer Resource Center** can get you connected to community service opportunities or help you participate in Alternative Breaks. Visit their office on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the UMC or their website <http://www.colorado.edu/vrc> for a database listing of possible volunteer opportunities.
- **Career Services** can help you find internships while you are a student, and prepare you for a career after you graduate. Visit them in Willard Hall or sign up for Career Services Online at <http://careerservices.colorado.edu>

I'm interested in **Different Cultures and Diversity:**

- Paid and volunteer opportunities for students can be found at the Advocacy Centers. They also offer a safe space, resources, work with various affiliated students groups, and sponsor many events. All centers are open and welcome to anyone on campus.
  - **GLBTRC** (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Resource Center)-located in Willard Hall room 227.
  - **Women's Resource Center**-located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the UMC in room 416.
  - **SORCE**-located on the 2nd floor of the UMC
  - **Community Health**-located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the UMC in room 411.
  - **Disability Services**-located in Willard Hall in room 322.
  - **Center for Multicultural Affairs (CMA)**-located in Willard Hall room 115A.
- **Dennis Small Cultural Center (DSCC)**-Located on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of the UMC in room 417, the DSCC sponsors free programming like films, forums, cooking, dance and art classes that celebrates many cultures, as well as provides a safe space for underrepresented student groups. [www.colorado.edu/umc/dsc](http://www.colorado.edu/umc/dsc)
- **Cultural Events Board (CEB)**-This student-directed board of UCSU hosts speakers and events that fill cultural voids on campus like Former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan or the annual International Festival. Each year they look for student voting members for the board. Visit their office in UMC 319.
- **Multicultural Greek Organizations** (see Greek Life above).
- **Office of International Education**-If you are interested in studying or traveling to another country, visit their office to learn how to fit this into your budget and coursework. Go to [www.colorado.edu/OIE](http://www.colorado.edu/OIE) or visit their office in basement of the Environmental Design building.
- There are many other active student groups related to cultural and ethnic identity on campus. A few examples: Black Student Alliance, Chinese Student Association, Persian Student Alliance, Saudi Student Association, United MEXA and United Mexican American Students, Oyate Native American Student Organization, Turkish Student Association, South Asian Student Association, Aloha Club, African Student Association, Hillel, and the Muslim Student Association.

I'm interested in finding others who share my **Religion:**

- All campus based religious organizations are affiliated with **RCO (Religious Campus Organizations)**. Their office is located in the UMC room 122 and they can get you into direct contact with any religious group on campus and information on local services.