



Navigating
Cost & Financial Aid
at **CU Boulder**



Office of Financial Aid
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**



Bursar's Office
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO **BOULDER**



Who we are

Office of Financial Aid – apply for financial aid like loans, grants & work-study

Bursar's Office – bills, payments, refunds & ensuring aid pays student charges

New Student
ORIENTATION

Tuition and fees

Tuition and fees begin to calculate for fall around the middle of July after a student is registered for classes.

Although many students have agreements with their parents to pay the tuition and fees, the payment of all tuition, fees and charges becomes an obligation of the student upon registration at the University of Colorado Boulder.



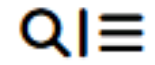
New Student
ORIENTATION 

 New Student & Family Programs
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

Authorized payers



- Authorized payers (AP) can be anyone a student chooses.
- APs can
 - view the tuition bill and current account activity
 - pay online
 - enroll in payment plans
 - discuss the bill with the Bursar's Office over the phone and in person after identity verification



Your Current Finances



Favorited

Tuition & Fees

Show Balance

Main Campus Balance

Continuing Education
Balance


Info: Tuition and fees for Continuing Education courses are charged in addition to and separate from your main campus tuition and fees.

[View/Pay Bill](#)


[View Payment Plans](#)

Log in to Buff Portal

Granting authorized payer access


View Payment Plans 

Financial Aid Status

Show Info 

Financial Aid To-Do's Action Required SAP Status


Enrollment Status **Full Time - 0** Financial Aid & Scholarships Offered - Fall 2026

[Enrollment Status Info](#) 


[View All Financial Aid & Scholarships](#)

[Apply for Financial Aid](#)


Critical Tasks

Authorize Aid Complete 


Payment Plans


- Not Enrolled - Main Campus 
- Not Enrolled - Continuing Education


Account Setup

Authorize Payer 





If someone is helping pay your bill, you can authorize them as a payer. Authorized payers can view and pay the tuition bill and sign up for payment plans. They will also receive an email when the next bill is available online.

[Add/Edit Authorized Payers](#) 

[About Authorized Payers](#) 

Direct Deposit for Tuition and Fee Refunds No Action Needed 


Other Resources


- Financial Aid & Scholarships 
- Financial Aid To-Do's 3 
- Quick Links 
- Contact Resources 

Account Setup

Authorize Payer

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[Add/Edit Authorized Payers](#) 

[About Authorized Payers](#) 

Students – log in to **Buff Portal** Authorized payers – log in to **CUBill&Pay**

The screenshot shows the CUBill&Pay website interface. At the top left is the logo for CUBill&Pay, UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER. At the top right is a 'Profile' dropdown menu. A left sidebar contains navigation links: Message Board, Payment Methods, User Preferences, **View & Pay Accounts** (highlighted), Transaction History, Payment Plan, and Messages. The main content area is titled 'View & Pay Accounts' and features a light blue banner with an information icon and the text 'Did you know that you may be eligible for a payment plan?' and a 'Sign up for a Payment Plan' button. Below the banner are two account cards. The first card is for 'CU Boulder Main Campus Tuition And Fees' with a 'View Account Details' link and a 'Current Balance' of '\$0.00'. The second card is for 'CU Boulder Online / Continuing Education Tuition And Fees' with a 'View Account Details' link and a 'Current Activity' section showing a 'Current Balance' of '\$0.00'. Both cards have a 'Pay' button at the bottom.

CU Boulder Main Campus Tuition And Fees [View Account Details](#)

CU Boulder Online / Continuing Education Tuition And Fees [View Account Details](#)

Account Detail

Current Balance: \$0.00

Current Activity

Current Balance: \$0.00

Pay CU Boulder Main Campus Tuition and Fees

Pay CU Boulder Online / Continuing Education Tuition and Fees

New Student
ORIENTATION

Billing

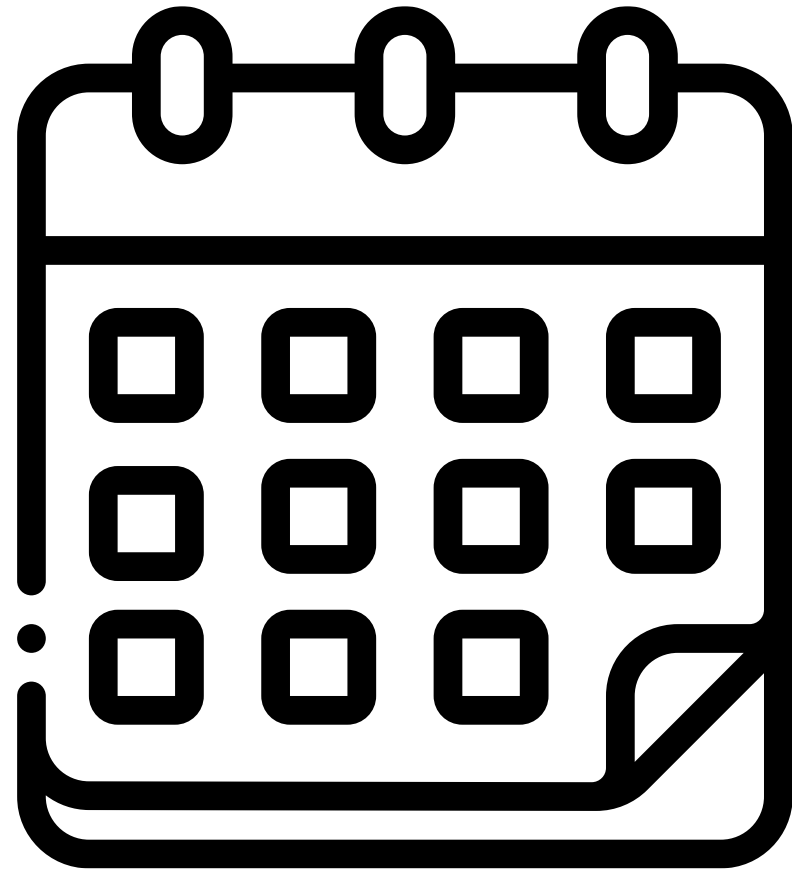
- Bills are issued monthly.
 - First fall bills are available in mid-August.
 - First spring bills are available mid-January.
- Email notifications are sent to students and authorized payers.

What's on the bill

- Tuition
- Mandatory fees
- Health insurance
- CU Book
Access/bookstore
charges
- Payments
- On-campus housing
- Meal plans
- Parking permits
- Optional fees
- Grants, loans and
scholarships



First due dates by semester



Term	Tuition due date
Fall	Sept. 5
Spring	Feb. 5
Summer	June 5

Tuition tiers

by academic program

Tier 1 (Base Rate)

- Arts & Humanities
- Education
- Music
- Exploratory Studies
- Open Option in A&S
- Social Sciences
 - Not Including Psychology

Tier 2

- Communication, Media, Design and Information (CMDI)

Tier 3

- Engineering
- Natural Sciences
 - Includes Psychology

Tier 4

- Business

CU Boulder Undergraduate Tuition Guarantee

Included

- CO residents:
tuition and
mandatory fees
- Nonresidents:
tuition (billed at a
flat-rate)



Not included

- Course- and program-
specific fees
- Health insurance
- Room and board
- Parking permits
- Residential Academic
Programs (RAP)
- Other optional fees



College Opportunity Fund (COF) for Colorado resident undergraduates



- \$116/credit hour tuition discount from the state of Colorado to reduce out of pocket costs for residents.
- Apply through College Assist website.
- Authorize CU to apply the stipend to your bill when you enroll.

Payment options

Bank Account (eCheck)

Checking or savings account

International Payments

Flywire

College Savings Plan (529)

Credit or Debit Card

2.85% Service Fee

3rd Party Sponsors

Payment Plans

Mail & Drop Box

Bursar's Office – OCM
University of Colorado Boulder
2055 Regent Dr., room 175
41 UCB
Boulder, CO 80309-0041

Refunds

Direct deposit is highly encouraged.

- Fast, safe and secure
- Refund checks are processed overnight once per week.



New Student
ORIENTATION



Action items

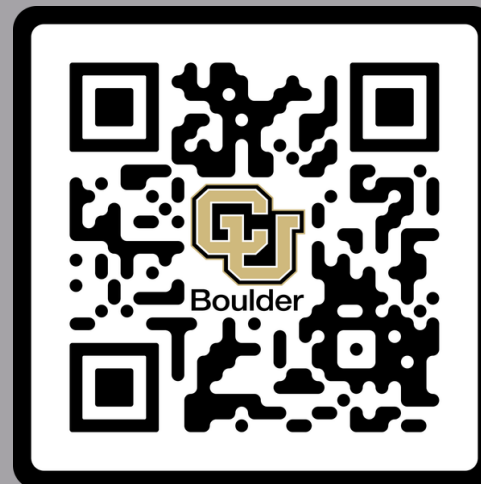
- Set up authorized payers.
- Set up direct deposit for refunds.
- Review Resources on the Bursar's website.
- Check your account every month.
- Be aware of payment due dates and university deadlines for dropping and adding classes etc.
- Read all emails from the Bursar's Office. We do not send spam.



FERPA begins first day of class



Want family to speak on your behalf, or talk to us about your aid?



Set up Consent to Release & create a FERPA passphrase

New Student
ORIENTATION

 New Student & Family Programs
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

Types of financial aid

Federal

From the FAFSA:

- Pell Grant
- Loans: subsidized, unsubsidized & Parent PLUS
- Work-study

University

- CU Boulder grants
- Scholarships

Financial Aid Offer

2026-27



Office of Financial Aid
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

Chip Herd

Student ID: 111111111

As of 3/18/2026

Your Financial Aid

	Fall 2026	Spring 2027	2026-27
Federal Pell Grant - Fall	\$1,190.00	\$0.00	\$1,190.00
Federal Pell Grant - Spring	\$0.00	\$1,190.00	\$1,190.00
CU Boulder Gold Grant	\$3,875.00	\$3,875.00	\$7,750.00
CU Boulder Grant-Tuit Tier 3	\$2,040.00	\$2,040.00	\$4,080.00
Colorado Student Grant (CSG)	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00
Colorado Work-Study-Need	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00	\$5,000.00
Direct Subsidized Loan 1	\$1,750.00	\$1,750.00	\$3,500.00
Direct Unsubsidized Loan 1	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00
Totals:	\$14,855.00	\$14,855.00	\$29,710.00

Example: how aid pays your bill

Total aid

\$29,710

—

Work-study

\$5,000

—

**Aid that will pay
the bill**

\$24,710

Estimated Total Cost *(billed by CU + not billed by CU)*

Fall 2026
\$22,068

Spring 2027
\$22,068

Total 2026-27
\$44,136

Overview of Expenses

Tuition & fees	\$19,158
Housing & food	\$20,682
Books & supplies	\$1,200
Transportation	\$1,314
Personal	\$1,782

Cost after Aid for 2026-27

Net Cost
after grants & scholarships
\$24,926

Remaining Cost
after student loans & work-study

\$14,426

Lock in your aid



Accept your financial aid in **Buff Portal**

New Student
ORIENTATION

Next steps

**Check email
often**

**Complete To-Do's
in Buff Portal**

**Apply for
Parent PLUS or
private loans in July**

**Complete loan
requirements**

Special circumstances

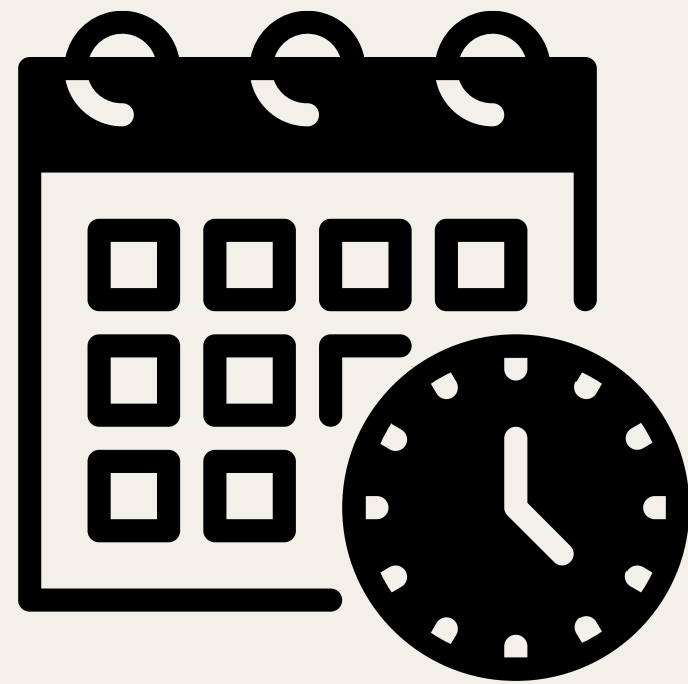
Examples

- Loss of employment
- High medical expenses not covered by insurance
- Separation or divorce



What if my financial situation has changed since completing the FAFSA?

Chat with us



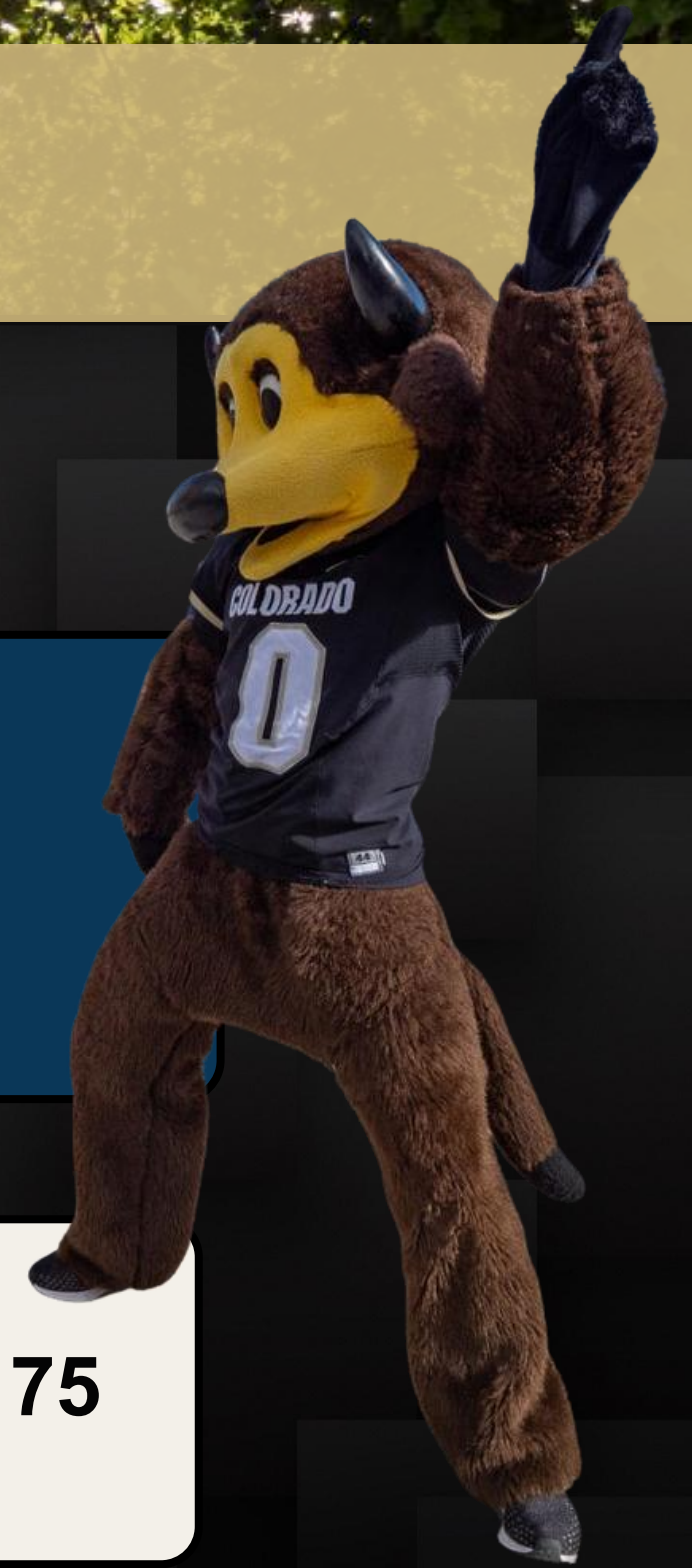
**Monday to
Friday
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.**



**Bursar: 303-492-5381
Financial Aid: 303-492-5091**



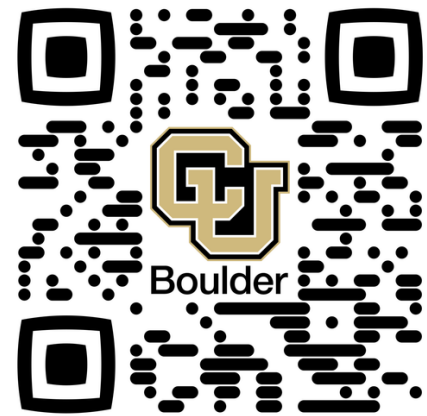
Regent Administrative Center 175



Find us online



Financial Aid



Bursar

