Transfer Student Resource Guide

A GUIDE FOR NAVIGATING CU BOULDER
Transitioning to Boulder

WELCOME TO CU BOULDER

Congratulations on becoming a Buff!
This resource will help you navigate your transition to the University of Colorado Boulder. Please use this resource to answer some of your questions and ease the strain of transitioning to a new campus.

Resources

RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

The CU Boulder campus is large and spread out. However, depending on your major, there are parts of campus that you may not need to visit very often. There are a few resources that you should be aware of as you transition to campus.

The Non-Traditional Student Organization (NTSO) is dedicated solely to transfer students who need help navigating the campus, meeting other transfer students, and learning about other services available to you. They are located in the University Memorial Center (UMC), room 451. Please email for more information: NonTradStudents@colorado.edu or www.Colorado.edu/studentgroups/ntso

New Student & Family Programs
Regent Administrative Center, Suite 1B80
Boulder, CO 80309
welcome@colorado.edu
303-492-4431
(basement of Regent Hall, enter on the east side of the building)

Off-Campus Housing & Neighborhood Relations
UMC 313
Boulder, CO 80309
303-492-7053
ochnr.transfers@colorado.edu

A Transfer Student Liaison is available to answer any questions you have. Email to join their mailing list to receive regular updates.

Office of Victim Assistance
Center for Community, S440
CU Boulder, 140 UCB
Boulder, CO 80309-0140
assist@colorado.edu
303-492-8855

Office of Veteran Services
Center for Community, S482
CU Boulder, 120 UCB
Boulder, CO 80309-0120
veterans@colorado.edu
303-492-7322
Don’t Forget…

PAY ATTENTION TO DEADLINES

Follow all deadlines listed in your student account or on other CU forms/websites, as rarely can those deadlines be forgiven. This particularly holds true with tuition billing, housing requests, and financial aid.

MINIMUM ACADEMIC PREPARATION STANDARDS (MAPS)

MAPS are requirements for all students graduating high school after May 1988. Students who enter the University with missing MAPS requirements must complete those credits prior to graduation. Each college at CU Boulder lists their requirements at: https://catalog.colorado.edu/undergraduate/admissions/minimum-academic-preparation-standards/.

FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) before February 15 for the best consideration of all sources of financial aid. More information is available at: http://www.colorado.edu/financialaid/apply-aid/transfer-students.

Transfer Students are automatically considered for certain scholarships and grants when the admission application is complete (see: http://www.colorado.edu/scholarships/auto-consider/transfer). Other scholarships may be awarded through completion of the CU Boulder Scholarship Application. Information can be found at: www.colorado.edu/scholarships/cuboulder-scholarships-app. This application is generally available Oct 1—Feb 15 (please check website to confirm dates).

Understand grant eligibility and lifetimes. Being a transfer student and using federal aid has limitations. University funded aid will have a credit limit as well. Please be sure to check with the Office of Financial Aid for information.
Housing and Dining

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING

On-campus residence halls have limited space and must be confirmed very early. For more information on application deadlines, visit: living.colorado.edu/apply.

There are several apartment-style options available for transfer students that are operated by the campus, yet offer independent living solutions. Please visit https://living.colorado.edu/housing/living-options to view options for apartment-style on-campus living choices.

Graduate & Family Housing applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Students may apply for apartments any time of the year. (Please note: The Bear Creek Apartments have a January deadline for the following fall semester.)

OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

Off-Campus Housing & Neighborhood Relations maintains an online housing database called Ralphie’s List. New and current students can create online accounts to find housing in Boulder and the surrounding areas. Students can also set up their roommate profile to search for other CU students to be roommates.

ON-CAMPUS EATING

Living on or off campus, you can purchase meal plans that are accepted at several campus locations. Plans can be purchased by calling 303-492-6871 or visiting the Housing & Dining Services Office in the Center for Community (C4C S360). If you wish to use dining facilities but do not want to purchase a plan, Campus Cash can be loaded onto your CU Buff OneCard, which acts as a debit card at any of those locations. Campus Cash rolls over each semester, whereas meal plans do not. Campus Cash is non-refundable when you graduate.

Other options for food and drink include the many coffee shops or bakeries across campus, as well as several options in the University Memorial Center (UMC).

Get Involved

FINDING STUDENT ACTIVITIES

The Center for Student Involvement offers many opportunities throughout the year for students to meet new people, try new activities, and get involved in the CU community via monthly and weekly programs.
The Non-Traditional Student Organization (NTSO) provides a community for transfer and non-traditional students. They offer monthly meetings to discuss helpful resources, as well as academic support and social gatherings. 

CU Boulder’s Student Veterans Association (SVA) increases awareness and understanding of student veteran’s issues on campus, in the local community, and nationally and promotes the success of student veterans through service, leadership, and scholarship. Their staff assists veterans in making successful transitions from military to college life by creating a social and professional support network, educating veterans on the benefits they are entitled, and providing a welcoming atmosphere. SVA is located in the UMC, Room 134.

The summer before you start classes, consider attending one of Outdoor Program’s New Student Welcome Trips. This is a perfect opportunity to meet new people before classes begin.

Transportation Resources
PARKING ON CAMPUS

Purchase of an On-Campus Parking Permit—If you are a commuting transfer student and plan to drive your own vehicle to Boulder, you will need a campus parking permit. The 2017-2018 Commuter Student Fall Semester or Academic Year parking permit online sale opened on August 16. Permits were sold on a first-come, first-served basis; please call Parking & Transportation Services at 303-735-7275 or on their website (www.colorado.edu/pts) for permit availability.

Student permits are "virtual," which means there is no physical hang tag to pick-up. The vehicle’s license plate information is registered and associated with the permit and your car is valid to park in the specific lot or zone you purchased.
ADA Accessible Parking—ADA Accessible parking is available throughout campus in visitor lots, meters and pay stations and in permit-controlled parking lots. Blue/white pavement striping, blue and white signs, and the universal access symbol identify these spaces. A state-issued accessible license plate, permit, decal or placard must be displayed at all times in vehicles parked in ADA accessible spaces. In permit-controlled lots, a UCB campus permit must accompany the state-issued placard or license. Please see www.colorado.edu/pts/permits/ada-accessible-parking to purchase a permit.

Free On-Campus Parking—Several main campus parking lots do not require a permit (this means no-charge parking) weeknights from 5pm - 7:30am, and on weekends (starting 5pm Friday evening - 7:30am Monday morning). The largest such lots are 169, 308 and 436. Always read the signs at lot entrances, or call PTS at 303-735-PARK (7275) for more information.

If you need campus access only in the morning, evening, or weekends (for classes or work), an AM/PM permit may benefit you. AM/PM permits may provide closer parking to your campus destination than the free lots, and they are available in several time increments.

PARKING OFF CAMPUS

Car-to-Bus Parking—Drive to Boulder and park for free! If your car is registered at an address within RTD boundaries, you may park for free in RTD parking lots to catch a bus to campus. Visit www.rtd-denver.com/HowToPark.html to see if your license plate is a free-to-park vehicle. A great lot south of campus is the Church of the Nazarene on Broadway and Dartmouth Ave. You may catch several different buses at that stop.

Free Off-Campus Parking—The neighborhood streets around the Boulder campus are strictly enforced, many with a 2-hour maximum parking time. Some areas require a Residential Permit. Most nearby business lots will ticket and tow if a car is left unattended for long periods of time. So, please use caution parking off-campus to avoid ticketing.

GETTING AROUND BOULDER

It’s easy to get around Boulder by bus, bike or foot. The Boulder campus has plenty of paved paths that provide safe walking and bicycle riding. And, dozens of bus stops provide easy access to many routes that travel to/from Denver, within Boulder, around campus and to the airport—all free with your campus CollegePass card.
**Buff Bus**
The Buff Bus is a free bus that completes a loop through campus and Williams Village every 15-20 minutes during the academic year. The Buff Bus does not provide transportation beyond campus and Williams Village.

The Discovery Express is a campus shuttle connecting main campus to east campus. Track Buff Bus in real-time at: www.boulderbustracker.com.

**Bicycles**
You may safely ride a bicycle on campus and around Boulder year-round, as there are dozens of dedicated lanes and bike paths that make for easy access between locations. Bikes can also be transported on most RTD buses.

*Riding Your Own Bicycle* — Please be sure to register your bike with Parking & Transportation Services to help if your bike is lost or stolen or your bike is parked at a bike rack that has to be moved due to construction or an emergency. It is advised that you use a secure bike lock at racks and avoid leaving your bike parked and unused for long periods of time. To register your bike, go to: http://www.colorado.edu/ecenter/transportation/cu-boulder-bicycle-program

*Renting a Bicycle* — Boulder and Denver have bike sharing services in place that students can use for an hourly or daily charge. You can pick up a bike in one location and drop it off to any other B-Cycle location in the network. Bike locations are spread throughout the cities and can be viewed at the B-Cycle websites at: http://boulder.bcycle.com/ or http://denver.bcycle.com

**RTD (Regional Transit)**
As a CU Boulder student, you may be eligible for a free student CollegePass provided by RTD for your use. This pass is good for all regularly scheduled RTD-operated buses and light-rail lines. RTD also provides SkyRide, a bus-based transport to and from Denver International Airport to various locations throughout the Denver Metro area, including Boulder. For more information: www.colorado.edu/ecenter/transportation.

**Carsharing**
EGo CarShare and Zipcar are fee-based services that you can sign up for in order to rent available cars throughout Boulder and Denver for an hourly or daily rate. Various types of vehicles are available, and gas and insurance is included in the rental costs after your driving record has been verified. Visit www.colorado.edu/pts/getting-around/sharing-ride/carshare for information.
CU Night Ride

CU NightRide is a student-operated program dedicated to meeting the safety needs of CU students, faculty, and staff by providing FREE night-time transportation to any location on the main or east Boulder campuses and from or to any point off campus within the city boundaries.

Riders are asked to provide their CU ID to use the program. Those who do not have their ID available may be given a ride at the discretion of the driver.

Call 303-492-7233 to schedule a ride with CU Night Ride (through 12:15am Mon-Fri, and 1:15am Sat and Sun).

Be In the Know

CU BOULDER LINGO

**Buff Bus**—Bus line connecting students living in Williams Village, Athens North, and Bear Creek Apartments to campus.

**Bursar**—The CU campus office where you pay tuition.

**Campus Cash**—A declining balance that can be purchased and stored on your BuffOne card; can be used for on-campus printing and copying, laundry, and food purchases at dining centers, Grab-n-Go cafés, some retail outlets, as well as the UMC grill.

**Chip**—CU’s furry, cartoon mascot

**DIA**—Denver International Airport

**Ecopass** - Card that allows students unlimited rides on RTD buses, rail and train lines; included in tuition fees.

**Flatirons**—Name of the large jagged rock formations to the west of campus.

**The Hill**—University Hill neighborhood located to the west of campus and a thriving commercial area where you can eat, take in a show, and much more.

**The Hop**—Bus line that travels to campus, twenty ninth street, downtown boulder, and University Hill.

**Identikey**—Includes a username and password that allows you access to the mycuinfo portal.

**Munch Money**—Acts as a declining balance stored on your Buff OneCard; can be used at any of the Housing & Dining Services' retail outlets or to swipe in a friend at a dining center.

**Ralphie**—CU’s live buffalo mascot that runs the football field at the beginning and halftime of every game.

**SEEC**—The Sustainability, Energy and Environment Complex on east campus.

**Skyride**—Bus line from campus to DIA.

**The Stampede**—Bus line that connects CU Boulder’s main, east, and research park campuses.

**Student ID**—University generated ID number; required for some exams and other administrative tasks.
The CU Boulder campus has many great study spaces. Following is a list of some of the more “unknown” spaces available on the campus; however, there are dozens of other informal spaces available to students.

**ATLAS Building Study Rooms, 2nd floor** — This innovative study environment offers study rooms with inviting couches.

**Biolounge, Museum of Natural History** — Students can take advantage of a coffee bar, lounge and innovative museum exhibits.

**C4C 3rd-floor Lounge** — Boasting the largest dining center on campus, the C4C has it all—from ample food options to the in-house student programs.

**C4C Dining Center, Italian Cibo Section** — This location offers late-night hours Sunday through Thursday. Enter by *CU on the Run* (bring your Buff OneCard). BYO snacks or purchase downstairs in The WeatherTech Café.

**Gemmill Library** — Recent remodels have increased the library's collaborative space; still offers quite individual study areas as well as group work.

**Howard B. Waltz Music Library** — Offering scores, recordings, books and periodicals, as well as sound recordings from composers, performers, and conductors amongst the study spaces.

**Jennie Smoly Caruthers Biotechnology Building, East Campus** — The Biotech Building has many formal and informal study spaces, and Etai's Cafe within will ensure that you stay fueled.

**Jerry Crail Johnson Earth Sciences & Map Library** — Located in Benson Earth Sciences, this library has many study spots, and several computers for use.

**Norlin Library** — The go-to location for undergraduates to study; also offers graduate student study carrels, which are available to rent each semester.

**The Student Engagement & Collaboration Area (SECA) Lounge, UMC 2nd floor** — This space has couches and small tables for individuals, and conference rooms with monitor hook-ups perfect for group projects.

**UMC, 3rd floor** — This newly renovated area has many great spaces.

**UMC “Secret” Study Spot, 5th floor** — One of the lesser-known study nooks on campus with great views, a central location and an abundance of snackeries.

**Village Center Dining and Community Commons, Williams Village** — Similar spaces as the C4C.

**William M. White Business Library** — Not only does the library have its own coffee shop, but it also allows patrons to reserve individual study rooms.
William A. Wise Law Library— An alternative to the more central libraries on campus; also has a student commons area for group studying and a cafe. (Note: closed to non-law students during Law School exams.)

**COFFEE & SNACK SPOTS**

Whether you want a quick snack or a cup of steaming hot (or cold!) coffee or tea, there are several on-campus coffee shops to find what you’re craving.

Please note that the hours posted below may change without notice, especially during fall, winter and spring breaks, and during the summer.

**The ATLAS Institute, Pekoe Sip House**  
Fall/Spring: Mon-Fri 7am-6pm

**Biotech Building, Etai’s Bakery Café**  
Mon-Fri 7:30am-3pm

**Center for Community (C4C), WeatherTech Café**  
open until 2am daily

**Center for Community (C4C), The Bakery**  
Mon-Fri 7am-3pm

**Engineering Center, Celestial Seasonings Café**  
Mon-Fri 7:30am-7:30pm

**Koelbel Building, Method Coffee Roasters**  
Hours TBD

**Norlin Library, The Laughing Goat Coffeehouse**  
Mon-Fri 7am-5pm

**Porter Sciences, Etai’s Bakery Café**  
Mon-Fri 7:30am-2:30pm

**SEEC Complex, SEEC Café**  
Mon-Fri 8am-3pm

**UMC, Starbucks**  
Fall/Spring: Mon-Fri 7am-8pm, Sat-Sun 11am-5pm  
Summer: Mon-Fri 7am-3pm, Sat 9am-1pm, Sun closed

**Wolf Law Building, Hearsay Café**  
Mon-Thurs 8am-4pm  
Fri 8am-2:30pm