Concordia’s Pre-College program is managed by the Office of Continuing and Distance Education (OCDE). The OCDE handbook contains ALL policies related to Pre-College and online learning. This Pre-College handbook serves as a supplement to the OCDE handbook highlighting specific Pre-College policies.

ACCREDITATION
Concordia University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission, www.hlcommission.org, a regional accreditation agency recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

LOCATIONS AND ORGANIZATION
Concordia has one president and governing body presiding over all operations of residential campuses in Wisconsin and Michigan, satellite center campuses, and an online learning community reaching students worldwide.

GOALS FOR CONCORDIA PRE-COLLEGE
Concordia offers Pre-College courses to:
- Help fulfill the Concordia University mission.
- Provide greater accessibility to higher education.
- Facilitate enhanced partnerships with the high schools.
- Ease the student transition to higher education.
- Deliver honors options for high school students.

STRUCTURE OF COURSES
- All course syllabi and instructors are approved by Concordia University program directors.
- Students are high school students from Christian, private, public and home school environments.
- Courses are not self-paced but have weekly deadlines. Fall and spring courses follow the 15-week traditional undergrad student calendar. Summer online courses are condensed into a 10-week schedule.
- Online courses are typically capped at 17 students.

COURSE OFFERINGS
Concordia’s program provides high school students the opportunity to earn college credits in a variety of formats.
- **Online:** Students are led by an instructor through readings, videos, assignments, and discussions using learning management software. Students have weekly deadlines but may login anytime during the week. The Pre-College webpages (cuw.edu/precollege or cuaa.edu/precollege) list online courses available. Course offerings vary each term based on demand.
- **Blended:** High schools with highly qualified teachers who are approved by Concordia as adjunct instructors, may offer Concordia courses in a face-to-face setting at the high school taught by the high school teacher.
- **Face-to-face:** Students may take an introductory level undergraduate course in person at either the Mequon or Ann Arbor campus. This expands the course offerings available to high school students.
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Honors-level grade 9-12 students of typical high school age are eligible to apply. Students should have self-discipline, motivation and available time to complete college-level coursework.

Minimum Pre-College admission requirements:
1. Students must have a 3.0 grade point average in high school core academic subjects.
2. Typically juniors and seniors enroll but freshmen and sophomores with an 11th grade reading and writing skills may be admitted. A writing sample or test score may be required for younger students.
3. Returning students must earn at least a ‘C’ grade in college courses to continue in the program.
4. (Optional) Benchmark standardized test scores for success: ACT composite 23 or SAT CR + M test 1050.

Notes: 1. For state of MI funding, a qualifying college entrance test score must be submitted.
2. Seniors MAY enroll in a summer course the summer following their high school graduation.
3. High schools may use local higher requirements and may limit which courses students may take.
4. Pre-College acceptance does not guarantee subsequent undergraduate acceptance at Concordia.
5. Traditional undergraduate students are not eligible to take Pre-College courses.

ADMISSION DEADLINES

Exact dates will be listed on cuw.edu/precollege cuaa.edu/precollege

- Fall courses run late August to mid-December. Register by July 1.
- Spring courses run late January to mid-May. Register by December 1.
- Summer courses run mid-June to mid-August. Register by May 1.

Early College Credit Program (ECCP) applicants must meet earlier deadlines set by the local high school.

ADMISSION PROCESS

Direct admissions questions to precollege@cuw.edu.

Step 1: Complete an online application providing demographic information and course requests.
- Students from Michigan use: cuaa.edu/apply Select the NON-DEGREE and DUAL CREDIT option
- All other students use: cuw.edu/apply Select the NON-DEGREE and DUAL CREDIT option

New students or the counselor must submit a high school transcript to precollege@cuw.edu. Michigan funded students must also submit a qualifying standardized test score.

Applications are not final until enrollment is approved by Concordia and the local high school.

Step 2: Online Orientation Course (Required for new students) The zero credit, free, self-paced, 2 hour course will give students tips for online learning and practice with the Learning Management Software, Blackboard.
- The course must be completed before the term begins.
- The course may be completed in one sitting or in saved increments.

ECCP students (WI state funding): Students should check with their local high school to determine requirements and deadlines for funding approval through ECCP. Students may use the Concordia ECCP Form.

CREDIT LOAD LIMITS

- Students can take up to 6 credits each semester (unless an overload is approved by the director).
- The Concordia Promise scholarship funds a student for a maximum of 36 credits.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Students enrolled in an international high school or in a U.S. high school as international student MAY enroll in Pre-College courses. If the student later pursues future undergraduate enrollment, students must meet international admission requirements. Contact the Concordia International Center for more information.
TIPS FOR SUCCESS and GETTING HELP

Students should follow these tips to enhance their online learning experience.

1. **Login to your course and check your Concordia email 4-5 times per week**
   All communication from the instructor, advisor, and Concordia offices will be through Concordia email.
   a. The email address will typically be assigned as: first.last@cuw.edu or first.last@cuaa.edu
   b. An initial password will be sent to the student’s personal email.

2. **Submit all required assignments by the assignment deadline**
   Students are expected to submit all required assignments by the posted deadline. Skipped or late assignments will result in grade reductions and will diminish the effectiveness of the course.

3. **Viewing Grades**
   a. **Current Course Grade** In the Blackboard left menu pane, click MY GRADES.
   b. **Final Grade(s)** Final grades can be viewed on the portal 7-10 days after the course completion date.
      Login to the portal (my.cuw.edu or my.cuaa.edu) and click the Student tab.
      • Use the Student Grades channel (in the left column) to view course grades. –OR–
      • Use the Banner Self-Service channel (middle column). Click Student>Student Records>Final Grades.

4. **Archive (Backup) Your Work**
   Students are encouraged to save a backup copy of coursework and syllabus on a USB drive, iCloud, or Google Drive. Documents may be needed in later years for portfolios or capstone projects.

5. **Address your instructor as "Professor" or "Doctor"**
   Please use the instructor’s formal title unless instructed to use another title in the course introduction. Instructors with a Ph.D., Ed.D. or Phar.D. are Doctors.

6. **Concordia’s Learning Resource Center** offers these free resources to assist online students:
   a. **The OWL – Online Writing Lab:** Concordia’s Writing Center offers writing consultants who can help proofread, MLA or ALA citations, and improve the structure of student papers. It usually takes 3-5 days for a consultant to review your writing and respond.
   b. **Disability Support Services - Learning Accommodations:** Students with a learning or physical disability or impairment who require accessible accommodations in order to obtain equal access to a course should contact the Director of the Academic Resource Center (ARC) & Accessibility Services:
      Mequon campus: (262)243-4299 or www.cuw.edu/arc
      Ann Arbor campus: (734)995-7327 or www.cuaa.edu/arc
      If approved, the Director will provide the student with a letter explaining accommodations, which the student may share with the instructor. Accommodations only become active if the student chooses to share the letter with his/her instructor(s). Accommodations cannot be applied retroactively.

7. **Library**
   Access to Concordia’s online library is required in some course to access scholarly research resources.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Students with a @cuw.edu email, use:</th>
<th>Students with a @cuaa.edu email, use</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rincker Memorial Library (CUW)</td>
<td>Zimmerman Library (CUAA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone: 262.243.4330</td>
<td>Phone: 734.995.7454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portal: my.cuw.edu (click the Library tab)</td>
<td>Portal: my.cuaa.edu (click the Library tab)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For library login assistance contact the online advisor or Karen Nowak, Coordinator of Library Services, karen.nowak@cuw.edu or 262.243.4379.
TECHNOLOGY

THE CONCORDIA PORTAL

The portal is a single sign-on system giving students access to a webpage with links to campus resources. Links are provided for Billing, Transcripts, Blackboard, Library, and Email through the portal.

Students with a @cuw.edu email use: my.cuw.edu
Students with a @cuaa.edu email use: my.cuaa.edu

• The username is the student ID (FOO+6 digits) number. The password will be emailed to the student.
• For password help, go to the portal and click the link for Trouble Logging In? or contact the OSSA.

ACCESSING A COURSE IN BLACKBOARD LEARN (Concordia’s learning management system)

All course content, grades, and postings are managed through online Blackboard software. Course content is only viewable to students after the course start date. Blackboard works best with Google Chrome or Mozilla Firefox.

Students access the Blackboard main page in two ways:

• Directly: http://concordia.blackboard.com
  Click the BLACKBOARD SINGLE SIGN-ON button.

• Portal: my.cuw.edu or my.cuaa.edu,
  Click the STUDENT tab and find the BLACKBOARD ACCESS channel.
  Click the sign in link shown in the channel.

Students will login using their username (FOO) and password that was emailed to them.

How to find and open a Pre-College course

1. All online courses (current and past) taken by a student will be viewable in Blackboard for 2 years.
   • Option 1: On the MY INSTITUITION tab, locate the MY COURSES section.
   • Option 2: On the Blackboard MY INSTITUITION page click COURSES in the top gray menu bar.

2. Click on the course name to open the course.

How to use the course menu (left menu pane in a course)

• SYLLABUS: To view or download the course syllabus. Read the syllabus before starting the course.
• HOME PAGE: The landing page for a course showing announcements and instructor contact info.
• CONTENT (use this item most often): Access to all the units and course content
• DISCUSSION: Used to post discussion threads and respond to posts of the instructor or other students.
• TOOLS: View additional tools like Collaborate, Calendar, Blogs, and Wikis available in Blackboard.
• TUTORING RESOURCES: Link to the free Smartthinking tutoring website.

BLACKBOARD SUPPORT

• Email Support: Submit Blackboard help requests by email to blackboardsupport@cuw.edu.
• Phone Support: Call Concordia’s Blackboard Support at 262.243.4327 (option 1) or 888.377.7447. Team members may be able to troubleshoot issues immediately over the phone. If no answer, please leave your name, phone number, student ID (FOO) number, and your issue. A return call will be provided.

• HELPSPOT helpspot.cuw.edu
  HelpSpot provides how-to videos, documents and help forums related to:
  Accessing CU Systems Blackboard Learn Online Learning
  Password Change Mobile Devices Student Email
  Students may submit help requests, or check the status of a previous help request, on the HelpSpot page.
**FINANCES**

**TUITION PAYMENT**
Self-paying students will be billed by the University for Pre-College classes AFTER the course begins. Concordia will apply for funding from a school district or the state of MI for state funded students.

- **Account Balance and Payment History:** On the portal under the Student tab, check the My Statement channel to view your account balance and your statement and payment history.
- **Payments:** Student can pay online using the Portal and the Pay Your Bill Online channel.
  - Debit/credit: (Visa, MasterCard, Discover), please allow 2-3 business days to post.
  - Phone: You may pay by phone at 262-243-4360. Payments are posted within 24 hours.
  - Check by Mail: Please include your student ID (FOO) number and the course name(s) on the check, and mail to: Cashier's Office at 12800 North Lake Shore Drive, Mequon, WI 53097.
- **Overpayment:** For reimbursement of a balance, email cashrelease@cuw.edu or call 262.243.4318.

**1098T-FEDERAL TAX FORM**
Concordia provides a 1098T form for each tuition-paying student showing tuition paid for courses taken in the previous calendar year. Families should consult a tax professional to determine if they have a tax benefit.

**TUITION RATES AND DISCOUNTS**
The Pre-College program charges a reduced tuition rate of $150 per credit. Students may qualify for a reduction:

- **Concordia Promise Scholarship** Students enrolled in Christian high schools or homeschools (who are not eligible for state funding) qualify for the Concordia Promise scholarship reducing the cost to $50 per credit. The Concordia Promise scholarship funds a student for a maximum of 36 credits.
- **State Funding:** Students in Wisconsin (Early College Credit Program) and Michigan (PSEO) may be eligible for state or district funding to fully cover the cost reducing the tuition cost to $0.
- **Concordia Promise Plus:** This grant-back program credits former Pre-College Promise students the Pre-College tuition paid (up to $50 per credit) to students who enroll at CUW or CUAA after high school.
- **Audit (no grade, no credit):** A dual credit on-campus student may request to audit a course. Audits require department approval. Audited courses appear on the transcript with an ‘AU’ grade for zero credit. The course fee is $75 per credit. The audit option is not available for online dual credit courses.

**TECHNOLOGY PURCHASE DISCOUNT**
Pre-College students qualify for technology hardware and software purchase discounts.
Links for Dell, Apple, WAICU, and the Academic Superstore are posted on the Portal under the STUDENT tab.

- **Example:** Students may be able to purchase Microsoft Office Pro 2016 for as low as $30.

**DROP/WITHDRAWAL and REFUND POLICY**
Students should consult with their OSSA online student success advisor to discuss options regarding a drop or withdraw. A drop/withdraw cannot be overturned.

- **Student initiated request:** Both the student and the student’s high school representative must verify a request for withdrawal through the student success advisor.
- **Administrative Withdrawal:** A student may be administratively withdrawn from a class for disciplinary reasons OR if absent for 2 weeks (no assignments or discussion posts made).

**Refund Policy:** Students who drop a class will receive a pro-rated refund according to this schedule:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Before Day1</th>
<th>Week 1</th>
<th>Week 2</th>
<th>Week 3</th>
<th>Week 4</th>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>Wk 6-10</th>
<th>Wk 11-16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100% refund</td>
<td>80% refund ‘W’ grade</td>
<td>75% refund ‘W’ grade</td>
<td>60% refund ‘W’ grade</td>
<td>40% refund ‘W’ grade</td>
<td>20% refund ‘W’ grade</td>
<td>0% refund ‘W’ grade</td>
<td>0% refund ‘F’ grade</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A ‘W’ grade (Withdraw) shows on the transcript but is NOT counted in the college GPA. An ‘F’ grade shows on the transcript and WILL be counted in the college GPA.
POLICIES

Students are to comply with the entire Code of Student Conduct, especially these policies related to Pre-College.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY
Concordia University expects all students to display honest, ethical behavior at all times and under all circumstances. Academic dishonesty is defined as follows:

- **Cheating**: includes, but not limited to: a) the use of unauthorized assistance in taking any type of test or completing any type of classroom assignment; b) assisting another student in cheating on a test or class assignment, including impersonation of another student.
- **Plagiarism**: includes, but not limited to: a) failure to give full and clear acknowledgement of the source of any idea that is not your own; b) handing in the same assignment for two different courses without the consent of the instructors.
- **Fabrication**: the forgery, alteration, or misuse of any University document, record, or instrument of identification.
- **Academic Misconduct**: intentionally interfering with teaching, research, and/or other academic functions.
- **Sanctions**: Faculty members who find evidence of academic dishonesty have the discretion to determine the penalty. Penalties can include a grade reduction or removal of the student from the course. Stronger penalties including suspension or expulsion from the university. Additional sanctions will be imposed when a student is found to have violated the academic integrity policy more than once.

ATTENDANCE FOR ONLINE CLASSES
Class attendance is counted each time a student posts an assignment or discussion item in Blackboard. Logging into a course, without posting, does not qualify as attendance.

- **Attendance expectations**: Online courses do not have specific times for students to be logged on but students are expected to be active in a course 4-5 times per week.
- **Vacations and Breaks**: Students are expected to submit work even if the high school breaks or family vacations do not match the course schedule. Students should communicate, in advance, any requests for scheduling accommodations directly to the university instructor.

CONCORDIA PROMISE PARTNER SCHOOLS
Christian high schools who have students participating in Pre-College are considered Promise Partner Schools. Concordia will periodically offer Partner Schools access to professional development, leadership events, and access to Concordia’s free non-credit online courses.

COURSE EXTENSIONS
If a student is unable to submit work due to an extended illness or hospitalization, an extension of up to one week may be granted by the instructor with approval from the Director.

- A written medical excuse may be required.
- No extension will be granted past December 31 for fall term, June 30 for spring term, or August 31 for summer.
- Extensions MUST be requested from the instructor prior to the scheduled end of the course.
- A course may not be dropped during an extension.

DISABILITY POLICY
In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and the Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA) and Section 504 of the Vocational Rehabilitation Act of 1973, individuals with disabilities are protected from discrimination and assured accessibility services and accommodations that provide equal access to the activities and programs of the University.

Students with a disability who require accessible accommodations in order to obtain equal access to a course should contact the Director of the Academic Resource Center (ARC) & Accessibility Services:

- Mequon campus: (262)243-4299 or www.cuw.edu/arc
- Ann Arbor campus: (734)995-7327 or www.cuaa.edu/arc
FERPA and PRIVACY  (The Federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act)

Pre-College students are considered university students and have privacy rights through FERPA.

- **Student:** Grades and conduct are confidential and will **not** be shared with parents by the university unless the student waives their right to privacy.
- **School Reps:** University personnel will only communicate with the student and the high school representative about grades and conduct,
  - For homeschool students, the parent who signed the Course Enrollment Form is the school rep.
  - A student has the option to share grade and conduct information with a parent.
- **Demographics:** Student demographic information (name, email, attendance dates, photo) is considered public directory information and may be disclosed by Concordia at its discretion.
- **Minor Students:** If the student is under 18, the parents retain FERPA rights at the high school and may review any records sent by Concordia to the high school.
- **Conduct:** Concordia’s Student Life Office will notify the high school representative if the student has been found responsible for a violation of the Code of Student Conduct (including school policy violations and any criminal activity off site). The notification will include the student’s name, the code violated, any penalties, and the date of the violation. Concordia University reserves the right to impose penalties in addition to any action or inaction the high school or local legal system might take. The high school will recognize the student’s privacy and will keep the conduct incident private.
- **High School:** The high school will notify the Concordia University Dean of Students if the student is found in violation of a policy of the high school and/or involved in criminal activity. For more information about FERPA, see: [https://www.cuw.edu/about/offices/registrar/ferpa.html](https://www.cuw.edu/about/offices/registrar/ferpa.html)

HIGH SCHOOL POLICIES

High schools may establish local policies regarding Pre-College. A high school may:

- have higher admission requirements (grade level, GPA, or test score) for their students.
- determine if the Pre-College grade will be included on the high school transcript or weighted.
- decide to allow an additional study period or waive credit required for graduation.
- approve the Pre-College class for both high school and college credit.
- only approve the class for college credit (if the high school already offers an equivalent course).

Local high school incentives, such as final exam exemptions, do not apply to Pre-College students.

TRANSCRIPTS

A student may generate a grade transcript to give to their high school or to another university.

Transcripts must be requested by the student through the Portal or the Registrar’s Office.

A student should wait until final course grades are posted before requesting an official transcript.

1. **Unofficial Transcripts (free)**  Faxed, emailed, or downloaded without a signature or seal of the registrar.
   a) Self-serve: Students can view and print through the portal (my.cuw.edu or my.cuaa.edu).
      In the STUDENT menu, locate the ACADEMIC ADVISING channel and click the link for UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT.
   b) Registrar: One transcript will be faxed by the registrar. Request using the Transcript Request Form (pdf).

2. **Official Transcripts ($8 each):** An official transcript (with a seal and signature) will be mailed directly to an institution (not to the student). Students request using the Transcript Request Form (pdf).

   CUW email students: Registrar Concordia Univ. WI  12800 North Lakeshore Drive  Mequon, WI 53097-2402
   Fax: 262.243.2610  Phone: 262.243.4345  Email: registrar@cuw.edu

   CUAA email students: Registrar Concordia University Ann Arbor  4090 Geddes Road  Ann Arbor, MI 48105
   Fax: 734.995.7448  Phone: 734.995.7413  Email: cuaaregistrar@cuaa.edu

TRANSFER CREDITS

Concordia is an accredited university and most Pre-College credits should transfer, but the receiving university will ultimately determine if and how transfer credits will be counted in a specific student’s major.

Tips:  1) **Keep copies of the course syllabi which may be requested by the receiving university.**
       2) **Check with the receiving university in advance to verify acceptance of credit.**
Concordia University WI & Ann Arbor  Pre-College Contact List

Concordia University (CUW)  12800 North Lakeshore Drive Mequon, WI 53097-2402  262.243.5700
Concordia University (CUAA)  4090 Geddes Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48105  734.995.7300

CUW On-campus and online Admissions (Sarah Kitterman) – sarah.kitterman@cuw.edu  262.243.4542
- Approves applications for online, ECCP students and face-to-face CUW students.
- Assists online and CUW students, parents and high school reps with the application process.
- Enrolls students in CUW on-campus Pre-College Courses (Face-to-face)

CUAA On-campus Admissions (Beth Strom) – elizabeth.strom@cuaa.edu  734.995.7219
- Approves applications for face-to-face CUAA students.
- Assists CUAA students, parents and high school reps with the application process.
- Enrolls students in CUAA on-campus Pre-College Courses (Face-to-face)

Online Student Services Assistant (OSSA) - Contact information listed in the course
- Enrolls new students in the online student orientation course.
- Enrolls students in online courses and processes drop requests.
- Monitors student progress for current courses. Communicates with student and high school rep.
- Assists students with Pre-College questions (not related to course content).

Director of Pre-College Programs (Tim Gieschen) – timothy.gieschen@cuw.edu  262.243.2077
- Coordinates Concordia Promise Partnerships with high schools.
- Communicates information regarding state funding (ECCP and PSEO).
- Promotes the Pre-College program with high schools and homeschool families.
- Serves as instructional designer for online Pre-College courses.
- Supervises and supports online instructors.
- Establishes and enforces Pre-college policies and procedures.
- Secures course and instructor approvals from program directors and department chairs.

High School Counselor/Representative - (a high school staff member)
- Helps students determine availability and eligibility for Pre-College courses.
- Provides transcripts and test scores during the application process.
- Serves as a liaison between Concordia and Pre-College parents.
- Implements local high school policies regarding Pre-College.

Blackboard Support -  blackboardsupport@cuw.edu  262.243.4327 (option 1)  888.377.7447
- Provides technical help with login, course access, broken links, upload, or test taking issues.

Coordinator of Library Services (Karen Nowak) – karen.nowak@cuw.edu
- Assists online students with access to online library resources and journals.

Online Instructor (instructor contact information is listed in the course)
- Assesses student assignments, papers, and discussions providing feedback for student growth.
- Communicates directly with students and the Concordia Pre-College advisor and director.

Registrar
- CUW email students: Fax: 262.243.2610  Phone: 262.243.4345  Email: registrar@cuw.edu
- CUAA email students: Fax: 734.995.7448  Phone: 734.995.7413  Email: cuaaregistrar@cuaa.edu
- Records student grades on university transcripts.
- Generates official student transcripts for distribution to academic institutions for credit transfer.

Tuition Payment (CUAA and CUW) – Cashier’s Office 262.243.2609
- Sends invoices to students for tuition payment.
- Processes phone and online payments through the portal link and by phone.
- Posts state payments and student payments to the student account.