

Admissions

Students who desire a Christ-centered education that is characterized by high academic standards and Christian commitment are encouraged to submit an application to Cornerstone University. Since student enrollment continues to grow at a record pace, all students are encouraged to apply for admission at the earliest possible date. An early application gives optimal opportunity for financial aid awards, course selection, and campus housing. Application materials and information may be obtained by contacting the Admissions Office:

Cornerstone University Admissions Office

1001 E. Beltline Ave. NE | Grand Rapids, MI 49525

phone (616) 222-1426 | toll-free (800) 787-9778 | fax (616) 222-1418

e-mail admissions@cornerstone.edu | www.cornerstone.edu

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

The criteria for admission to Cornerstone University include evidence of a personal relationship with Jesus Christ characterized by a consistent Christian lifestyle and acceptable academic achievement. For full admission a student must have a minimum ACT score of 19 (or corresponding SAT score of 1350) and successfully completed high school with a 2.5 high school GPA in a college preparatory program. Transfer students should have a 2.0 minimum college GPA as well as the high school minimums. The university reserves the right to change these minimums at any time.

The following information and documentation are required to complete the application process:

- Completed application with \$25 application fee.
- Official high school transcript sent directly from the school, or official G.E.D. results.
- ACT or SAT scores. The ACT assessment is preferred, however the SAT assessment will be accepted in place of the ACT. Information regarding registration, test dates, and location may be obtained from your high school guidance counselor, or may be requested from the following:

American College Testing Program
2201 N. Dodge Street | P.O. Box 451 | Iowa City, IA 52243

or

College Board (SAT) | P.O. Box 6200 | Princeton, NJ 08541

Since the test scores form part of the data to be submitted at the time of application, applicants are encouraged to take the test early. The ACT college code number, 2002, should be placed on your examination for the official reporting of the scores. The SAT college code number is 1253.

- Christian leader recommendation completed by senior pastor, youth pastor or leader from the church the applicant is currently attending, or Christian teacher.
- Official college transcripts from all colleges previously attended.

ADMISSIONS PROCESS

The applicant will be notified of his or her status when the Admissions Office has received all application credentials. Priority consideration for admission is given to students who submit their application before the following dates:

Fall semester: August 1 | Spring semester: December 15

Applicants are encouraged to apply before these dates as admission will be granted on the availability of space in the entering class. Some applicants may be placed on a waiting list for future review of their application. A waiting list is used when the university has limited numbers of spaces available for new students or when a student has not met our current academic expectations.

As part of the admissions process, the associate director of admissions will carefully review each applicant's high school transcript. High school students should take courses in a college preparatory program which should include the following:

English	8 semesters
Math*	6 semesters
Science	4 semesters
Social Science/History	6 semesters
Foreign Language	4 semesters
Academic Electives**	8 semesters

*Math equivalent of two years of algebra and one year of geometry with mathematical reasoning. Math in the senior year is strongly recommended.

**Academic electives should include courses in computers, government, psychology, and speech.

Preliminary acceptance will be granted to high school students before graduation. The student should request that the high school send a final transcript to Cornerstone University upon graduation.

A \$150 advance tuition deposit is required for all admitted students to reserve their place in the entering class. This deposit is non-refundable after May 1 for the fall semester and December 15 for the spring semester. This deposit is credited to the tuition bill. Students who will be living on campus in one of our residence halls are also required to submit a \$150 housing deposit which is kept on account until termination of campus housing. A full refund of the housing deposit is available until July 1 for the fall semester and December 1 for the spring semester. The deposit becomes non-refundable after these dates. New students are also required to submit completed health forms and to make arrangements for payment of the school bill before arrival on campus.

CONSORTIUM PROGRAMS

Several consortium programs exist with area colleges. The requirements for admission to these programs are the same as our traditional degree-seeking program except that the application fee is waived. Questions should be directed to your college official or an admissions professional at Cornerstone.

EARLY ENROLLMENT PROGRAM

The Early Enrollment Program of Cornerstone University allows qualified high school students to take freshman level college courses during high school.

In order to participate in the program, a student must meet the following criteria:

- Recommendation from high school counselor.
- 3.0 GPA minimum from high school.
- Completion of the application process.
- Students are limited to a maximum of two classes per year (one each semester) in this program at a reduced tuition rate. Please contact the Admissions Office for additional information.

HOME-EDUCATED STUDENTS

Cornerstone University encourages home-educated students to consider furthering their education after completion of their high school curriculum. Students are asked to submit a high school transcript indicating the course work, curriculum and grades received in their program. Greater emphasis is placed upon the results of the ACT or SAT standardized test for consideration of admission. Home-educated students who are under the traditional college age for entering students will be required to have an interview for admission. Further questions should be directed to an admissions professional at Cornerstone.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International students are required to complete the entire application process with a few additional requirements. Proof of financial support is required by completing the financial support form available from the Admissions Office. It is the responsibility of the student to arrange all necessary financial support for all expenses at Cornerstone University. International students from countries where English is not the primary language are also required to successfully complete the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) examination before admission can be granted. International students are encouraged to communicate by e-mail (admissions@cornerstone.edu).

NON-DEGREE ADMISSION

Persons interested in enrolling at Cornerstone University on a part-time, non-degree basis need not complete the formal application process for admission. A non-degree application is available from the Admissions Office. A final high school transcript or college transcripts (if applicable), and a Christian leader's recommendation are required as part of the application process. Six credits per semester and a maximum of 24 total credit hours may be taken as a non-degree student. Non-degree students are not eligible for federal, state or institutional financial assistance. A student wishing to be admitted as a degree-seeking student must complete the application process as previously outlined.

READMISSION

Former students who have not been in attendance for one or more semesters (excluding summer session), should apply for readmission. Official transcripts of all studies attempted in the interval should be submitted for review. Application for readmission after three years will require repetition of the total admissions process.

A student on academic suspension may be readmitted after one semester (or other specified length of time) by petitioning the Academic Appeals Committee. A student on disciplinary suspension should contact the dean of students. A current Christian leader's reference may be required as well as an interview.

Students who have not been enrolled at Cornerstone University during the past three semesters and/or who are enrolling in a major or minor not included in their original catalog should follow the university catalog which is current at the time of readmission.

TRANSFER ADMISSION

Transfer students from other institutions must be in good standing academically and socially from the schools of last attendance. In addition to the other admissions requirements, transfer students must request that all colleges send official transcripts directly to Cornerstone University. Financial obligations to previous colleges must be cared for before full admission will be granted.

ADMISSIONS DECISIONS

When an applicant has completed the application process, one of the following decisions will be made for their entrance into Cornerstone University:

Full Admission

An applicant is given full admission to Cornerstone University when the criteria for admission have been met. Applicants are notified on a rolling basis throughout the year.

Tentative Admission

In some cases, students can be given tentative admission pending receipt of official documentation to complete their application file. The decision will be moved to full admission when the official documentation arrives in the Admissions Office as long as it is consistent with the previous documentation. The university reserves the right to reverse a decision if the documentation is inconsistent.

Conditional Admission

A limited number of students whose high school and college academic scores do not meet our minimum requirements may be given conditional admission upon recommendation of the Admissions Committee. These students will not be able to exceed 14 credit hours during the first semester, will work closely with a academic advisor, and will be required to enroll in the Cornerstone Learning Strategies course. The Admissions Committee can also determine involvement in extracurricular activities. Those students admitted conditionally will need to achieve the grade point averages listed in the section “Scholastic Probation, Suspension, and Academic Dismissal” or be placed on academic probation.

Waiting List

Depending upon the expected size of the incoming class and the availability of space on campus, some applicants may be placed on a waiting list for future review. In some cases an applicant may be placed on the waiting list because of past academic performance in which additional documentation may be required. As students are placed on a waiting list for admission, appropriate notification will be sent to them which will specify the future review date.

Denied Admission

The Admissions Committee determines denial of admission to Cornerstone University. In some cases, students will be asked to pursue course work at a community college before entering Cornerstone University as a full-time student. It is the university’s desire to admit students who will be successful at Cornerstone University.

UNIVERSITY LIFESTYLE STATEMENT

Christian Commitment

By choosing to attend Cornerstone University, each student is expected to maintain his or her commitment to the university’s lifestyle statement.

1. To be a good steward of time by engaging in careful study, service to the community, active participation in a local church and attendance at university chapel services.
2. To practice biblical discernment in all entertainment choices.
3. To avoid every form of immorality, including immoral sexual behavior, homosexuality, lying, stealing and cheating.
4. To abstain from possession and use of illegal drugs.
5. To abstain from activities that may cause personal spiritual harm or may show insensitivity regarding how one’s behavior affects other members of the community. Some of these prohibited activities include: gambling and possession or use of alcohol or tobacco.

Some of these rules of conduct are matters of Christian liberty for which each student alone will be responsible when no longer a student at the university. It is expected that students will temporarily set aside that freedom in these areas for the benefit of the entire community.

Students’ voluntary enrollment at the university attests to the fact that they agree to live within the framework of the university’s standards of conduct as stated in the student handbook and academic catalog. Students are obligated to honorable adherence to the standards of conduct while enrolled at Cornerstone, including Thanksgiving and spring breaks.

Behavior, either on campus or away, which indicates that a student has disregard for the spirit of the university standards may be sufficient reason to ask a student to withdraw from the university.



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