

Cobber Flex Year Terms of Agreement

Student approved for participation in the Cobber Flex Year is eligible to receive up to two consecutive semesters of study at Concordia College; no tuition will be charged for these Flex Year semesters.

- Maximum per semester: 17 credit hours; student cannot overload during the Flex Year
- Student can enroll in part-time study
- Student can elect to complete one or two Cobber Flex semesters
- Cobber Flex semesters must be completed consecutively, and student must enroll in the Cobber Flex Year in the semester immediately following their 6th or 8th semester at Concordia (see eligibility below).
- The Cobber Flex Year is only available for transfer students in their 7th and 8th terms and for new undergraduates in their 9th and 10th terms.

Exemptions

- Students using the Flex Year program may finish an already declared Rize program for which they have started to take classes, but they cannot declare a Rize program to remain degree-seeking, and therefore eligible, for the Flex Year.
- Student is eligible to enroll in summer school classes, but will be charged regular summer school tuition and fees
- May Seminar, Summer School abroad, Breakaways and other course-related travel is possible, but student will cover any expenses, tuition and fees for these experiences
- Student is not eligible to participate in semester away (domestic or international) programs offered by Global Learning Office during their Flex Year
- Cobber Flex Year is not available for graduate programs/courses, post baccalaureate or accelerated programs
- Students enrolled in a cohort program must complete major requirements with their cohort; they are not eligible to delay completion of the major requirements until the Flex Year, but they can complete other degree requirements in the Flex Year. In the case of nursing, students must complete their degree in the same semester as completion of the nursing major and may take other degree requirements in conjunction with nursing coursework.

Eligibility

- Student must have been enrolled as a degree-seeking student in the Fall 2020, Spring 2021 or Fall 2021 and have completed either 6 or 8 consecutive semesters
 - Student who started as first-year students at Concordia will be eligible for the Cobber Flex Year after their eighth semester of continuous enrollment regardless of their academic class standing at entry. Students can use the Cobber Flex Year in their 9th or 9th and 10th terms only.
 - Students who started as degree-seeking transfer students at Concordia will be eligible for the Cobber Flex Year after their sixth semester of continuous enrollment regardless of their academic class standing at entry. Students can use the Cobber Flex Year in their 7th or 7th and 8th terms only.
- Throughout the 6 or 8 semesters of continuous enrollment, student must be registered as a full-time student taking a minimum of 12 credits in each semester.
- International students participating in the Cobber Flex Year affirm that they have met with staff from Global Learning to discuss their eligibility and immigration requirements and that they meet the required circumstances of their student visas.

Requirements

- Student must indicate on their application for the flex year their reasoning for requesting to participate in the Cobber Flex Year.
- Student must be degree seeking during their Flex Year or Semester.
- Student must have at least one graduation requirement outstanding during the final semester of their Flex Year (e.g., a core course or required PEAK, elective or required course for major, credits needed to meet 126, etc.) or a declared area of study with outstanding requirements (e.g., additional major, minor or certificate).
- Student may apply for a Flex Semester or a Flex Year but will only be approved for the term(s) needed to complete degree requirements specified in the application. Additional terms cannot be requested at a later date.
- Student must delay graduation until degree/program requirements and the Cobber Flex Year participation are completed.

Opportunities for the Cobber Flex Year

- Complete outstanding degree requirements
- Complete additional majors, minors and undergraduate certificates; participation in the Cobber Flex Year does not guarantee that
 - required courses will be available to students during their Flex Year
 - students will be admitted into their program of choice
 - it will be possible for students to complete an additional major, minor or certificate of their choice during their Cobber Flex year
- Personal enrichment such as completion of additional electives with the intention of increasing GPA and/or expanding areas of study, repeating or auditing course work (see Concordia College Catalog for eligibility), or participation in co-curricular experiences.
- Student is eligible to participate in the following:
 - Internships, undergraduate research, and other experiential learning opportunities; participation in the Cobber Flex Year does not guarantee that student will be selected for these opportunities. Student will be expected to follow application processes.
 - Music ensembles; student should audition for music ensemble placement at the same time as other returning students.
 - Athletics; institutional, MIAC and NCAA academic eligibility requirements apply during the Cobber Flex Year. Please confer with Concordia's Athletic Compliance Officer in advance of your decision to enroll in the Cobber Flex year.
- Student is eligible for on-campus employment.

Academic Standing, GPA and Registration

- Policies regarding academic progress apply to student; policies can be found in the Concordia College Catalog.
- Concordia will continue to calculate academic standing for degree seeking students.
- Grades earned during the Cobber Flex Year will be calculated into a student's cumulative GPA and recorded on the student's transcript.
- Academic classification will continue to be determined by the number of earned semester credits. Course registration is based on academic classification (e.g., seniors, those that have 88 or more earned semester credits, will register first).

Financial Aid and Financial Standing

- Student is not eligible for Concordia gift aid during their Flex Year to cover non-tuition expenses.
- A Student who has not completed all of their degree requirements by the start of their flex year may be eligible for federal or state financial aid. Please consult with the Financial Aid Office if you have questions about financial aid eligibility.
- Student must be in good financial standing, have no other “holds” on their records, and be eligible for registration with Concordia College to enroll in the Flex Year program.

Fees, Room and Board

- Student will be responsible for paying relevant student fees. Fees are listed in the Concordia College Catalog or in CobberNet or Banner and are subject to change each year.
- If student chooses to live on campus and/or have a board plan during a Cobber Flex term, student is required to pay applicable room and board rates.

Enrollment beyond the Cobber Flex Year

- If student enrolls in courses following the Flex Term or Flex Year for which they were approved, student will be responsible for payment of tuition and related fees. Student will also be responsible for applicable room and board costs.

Considerations

Student is aware that:

- Student will be degree seeking during the Cobber Flex Year. This means that participation in the Cobber Flex Year will delay Concordia graduation.
- Commencement participation is determined by the term of graduation.
- Delaying graduation will delay opportunities for licensure for some students (e.g., nursing).
- Student must be in good financial standing and eligible for registration with Concordia College.
- It may be financially beneficial for student to graduate in eight semesters or fewer. Participation in the Cobber Flex Year may have a negative impact on lifetime earnings.
- Concordia College recommends student considering the Flex Year consult with their academic advisor before electing to participate in the Cobber Flex Year. Athletes should confer with their head coach and Concordia’s Athletic Compliance Officer.

Printed Student Name

Signature of Student

Date