

Columbia College-Patrick Air Force Base

Go For Greater.

At Columbia College, everything we do is geared toward helping military personnel and other working adults improve their lives through higher education.

Whether you want to finish a degree you started years ago or are attending college for the first time, we'll help you reach your goal of earning an affordable college degree.

- Associate and bachelor's degrees online and on-campus
- Eight-week courses that meet once or twice a week
- Five sessions each year starting in January, March, June, August and October
- Evening and online classes that can be taken simultaneously
- Start-and-stop degree flexibility to meet work and family obligations

On-Campus Degrees

Associate Degrees

- Associate in General Studies
- Associate in Science in Business Administration
- Associate in Science in Computer Information Systems
- Associate in Science in Criminal Justice Administration

Bachelor's Degrees

- Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration
- Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice Administration
- Bachelor of General Studies
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration
- Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems

Certificate Programs

- Human Resources
- Leadership
- Management
- Marketing



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Columbia College earns accolades

Columbia College is nationally recognized for both quality and affordability. Recent acknowledgements include:

- Military Advanced Education (MAE), a publication that focuses on educational services and opportunities for military students, listed Columbia College in its 2012 Guide to Military-Friendly Colleges & Universities. According to MAE, with a record number of submissions, this year's guide is more comprehensive than ever before. Selected schools have met rigorous criteria informed by education services officers across the services and have truly earned the designation of "military-friendly." Institutions such as Columbia College, says MAE, set the gold standard for serving the men, women, spouses and retirees who serve or have served our country.
- G.I. Jobs listed Columbia College as one of the nation's top military-friendly schools. The magazine provides education, transition assistance and job opportunities for military service members. The publication selected the college due to its steadfast commitment to educating military and student veterans. The magazine evaluated institutions based on criteria such as being a VA-approved institution for the GI Bill, offering Yellow Ribbon benefits, military and veteran enrollments, generous transfer credit policies, flexible learning programs and tuition benefits.
- The Princeton Review named Columbia College a 2012 "Best in the Midwest" college. The Princeton Review profiles 623 schools as "regional bests" across four locales: the Northeast, the Southeast, the Midwest and the West. Columbia College was selected primarily for its excellent academic programs. The service also took into account what students attending the schools reported about their campus experiences.
- U.S. News & World Report ranked Columbia College No. 58 in the category for best regional university with master's degree programs. Columbia College also ranked No. 2 in the Midwest regional universities for graduates with the least debt load, a newer category.
- GetEducated.com, a respected clearinghouse of accredited online programs, designated Columbia College as a "Best Buy" for several online degrees. The college's online bachelor's degree in business, criminal justice, human services, psychology, sociology and master's degrees in business and criminal justice all ranked in the top 10 best buys for their respective categories.



A message from the director

Dr. Jeffrey Musgrove

On Sept. 15, 2011, Dr. Gerald Brouder, president of Columbia College, unveiled a new brand and logo for the college. Although quite different from the previous logo featuring Rogers Gate, the new logo fuses Christian College and Columbia College alumni and invites future alumni into the association, thus combining the old with the new. The new brand and message, “Go for Greater,” does not mean we are changing directions as an institution. Columbia College has always been innovative and forward thinking; it simply means we are striving to be greater in all we do for you.

“Go for Greater” — what exactly does that mean? Personally, I take it as a challenge! It’s an opportunity for me to challenge staff, faculty and alumni to heighten their level of commitment. The gauntlet has been thrown down. Columbia College is “a real school and is serious about education,” but “Go For Greater” means different things to different people.

From the staff perspective, it means ensuring that the only challenge a student faces is maintaining their commitment toward earning their degree. Their challenges should not include poor or inadequate administrative procedures, lack of assistance from advisors and lack of administrative support. The staff always has strived to provide the highest level of service; however, we can all search for opportunities to “Go For Greater.” One unsatisfied student is one too many.

Faculty will be challenged to “Go For Greater” when preparing their syllabi and in meeting teaching objectives. The syllabus, your contract with the instructor, should be an outline of what is expected during the session. The classroom instruction should include the objectives outlined in the master syllabus; all teachable moments during the class should be capitalized upon. Faculty should challenge students, hold them accountable for attendance and participation and make the course academically challenging.

From the student’s perspective, you should “Go For Greater” and challenge us to deliver nothing but the best in providing you a quality degree. Tell us to “Go For Greater” and insist on putting only the most qualified faculty in the classroom; insist on course offerings and syllabi be posted with enough time for you to make decisions regarding which course, or which night would be best for you; insist on quality academic advising; the highest level of customer service and by providing you with quality answers; and a graduation ceremony that will be memorable.

From the alumni perspective, you are being challenged to give back. Giving back does not only mean financial contributions (although appreciated), but spreading the word about the college, displaying pride in your school by displaying your Columbia College alumni stickers and by referring others to the program. The administration at Columbia College will “Go For Greater” by ensuring your degree means something not only to you but to the community, as well. Columbia College is different from many other institutions because at Columbia College your degree will not be given, it will be earned! Now, let’s all go for greater.

Can't make it to graduation? Attend the ceremony online with Columbia College's virtual commencement

You've worked hard to earn your degree, but sometimes life stops you from attending your commencement ceremony. Columbia College has your solution— virtual commencement. As long as you have an Internet connection, you can still share your accomplishment with family and friends and revel in the excitement of your successes by “attending” yourself.

Graduates can create a profile and view a message from the president of Columbia College, Dr. Gerald Brouder, an inspirational keynote speech from Karen Taylor '89 and even the alumni address given by Martha Eberhard '00, president of the Columbia College Alumni Association. Your name will be read and flashed across the screen along with all other Columbia College graduates.

For more information about virtual commencement, visit www.ccis.edu/VirtualCommencement/.

Declaration of Major forms now available online

The Declaration of Major form is now available online and is accessible through eServices. You should complete this form to make any changes to your current degree program including adding/dropping major or minors, changing catalogs or adding additional degrees.

You are highly encouraged to consult your academic advisor before making any degree/major/minor changes. Before declaring a specific major/minor, you should be sure the courses required to complete the desired degree program are offered at your specific location (or through the Online Campus).

Additional tuition funding options available for service members

Members of the armed forces have a number of tuition funding options available to them in addition to military tuition assistance (MTA). Some of those options include:

- **Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)** — Complete the FAFSA, and you may be eligible to receive federal student aid, such as the Pell Grant, to help defray any extra costs (including books) incurred by a change in the level of MTA as well as other costs associated with going to school. www.fafsa.ed.gov
- **VA Top-up Program*** — Top-up is a resource that allows a service member to draw upon his/her veteran education benefits to pay the difference in tuition costs not covered by MTA. There are important factors to consider with the use of Top-up, and it may not be for everyone. www.gibill.va.gov/resources/student_handouts/
- **Other grant and/or scholarship funding sources** — Students are encouraged to seek grant and/or scholarship funding sources before resorting to loans. For additional information on your grant eligibility at the state and federal level, please email financialaid@ccis.edu. For scholarship opportunities, please go to scholarship finder at www.ccis.edu/offices/financialaid/scholarshipfinder/ or contact your local campus.

*Important: the use of Top-up does not require certification by your campus VA certifying official. For authoritative information specific to your situation, visit the GI Bill website at www.gibill.va.gov/.

Don't forget to fill out your 2012-13 FAFSA

It's time for all students wishing to apply for federal and state student grants and loans to update their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for next academic year. The FAFSA is available for completion online at www.fafsa.gov.

The priority date to submit the FAFSA is March 1. The FAFSA can be submitted at any time, but it must be submitted by April 1 to be considered for the Access Missouri Grant (Missouri residents only). Early submission of the FAFSA allows students to be reviewed for maximum consideration of all federal and state aid.

Compass — where adult students across the nation get direction

Check out the Nationwide Campus blog, Compass, at <http://compass.ccis.edu/>, for all the latest news from your campus. You can sort the postings by campus, filter content for topics you find most relevant and share your views and opinions by commenting on articles. Here's a few of the articles available on Compass now:

- Columbia College of Missouri-Hancock Field receives Air Force approval to stay at Hancock Field in Syracuse, N.Y.
 - Columbia College Evening Campus inducts students into Alpha Sigma Lambda honor society
 - Columbia College-Springfield's academic advisor helps build houses for Habitat for Humanity
- For the full stories and more, visit <http://compass.ccis.edu/>.



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