

## Columbus State Offers 20 Percent Discount to Select Summer School Enrollees

**COLUMBUS, Ga.** — Summer school offers motivated students a chance to shorten their time to graduation, Columbus State University officials have long contended.

This year, Columbus State is sweetening that deal for the first 104 students who enroll in required Freshman Learning Community courses that are being offered in pairs during the summer for the first time.

Students who enroll early enough in one of the four two-class Freshman Learning Community combinations will pay about \$1,500, which represents a 20 percent discount in tuition and fees. Plus, CSU is making arrangements to give those 104 students a no-cost whitewater rafting experience.

“This provides an excellent, affordable start for students planning to go to college full-time in the fall.” said Tom Hackett, CSU provost and vice president for academic affairs. “We’re throwing in whitewater rafting because we think it’s a great example of the fun you can have beyond the classroom here.”

The discount, dubbed Rapid Start, should be particularly appealing to already accepted students, as well as Columbus-area high school students cleared to take CSU courses on a dual enrollment basis.

Summer school registration is underway at Columbus State, with university officials emphasizing that students can complete summer coursework in seven weeks that takes 15 weeks during fall or spring semesters. Students attend classes four days a week, for an hour and 25 minutes for each summer class as opposed to 50 minutes per class three days a week or 75 minutes per twice-a-week classes during the fall or spring.

University officials decided to offer the discount for Freshman Learning Community courses because 2014 is the first year they’ve been offered during the summer, and they’re a strong example of the value summer school offers in terms of helping students:

- Shorten their time to graduation.
- Take required core classes.
- Earn six credit hours in half the time.
- Make early connections with faculty and other new students.

The four Freshman Learning Community options offer pairs of introductory courses in business, communication, English, mathematics and music. Incoming students are assigned to a pair of FLC courses, usually running over a 3.5-hour period four days a week, depending on their majors. Students are required to take FLC courses during their first year.

**“We are hoping this will entice students to learn more about summer school here at Columbus State University,” Hackett said. “We’ve seen continuing evidence of students enjoying better progress toward graduation by taking advantage of summer school.”**

**For more information on summer school at Columbus State, visit [ColumbusState.edu/summer](http://ColumbusState.edu/summer), email [summer@ColumbusState.edu](mailto:summer@ColumbusState.edu) or call [706-507-8833](tel:706-507-8833).**

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**Writer: Bill Sutley, [sutley\\_bill@columbusstate.edu](mailto:sutley_bill@columbusstate.edu), [706-507-8724](tel:706-507-8724)**