

CIM 10-11 Returning Student Financial Aid Timeline

February 1, 2010	Deadline to submit the \$100 Tuition Deposit and "10-11 Intent to Re-Enroll / Aid Renewal Form" to the CIM Financial Aid Office. If you later decide not to re-enroll, you have until May 1, 2010 to notify the Registrar in writing to have your deposit refunded.
March 1, 2010	Deadline to submit the 10-11 FAFSA at www.fafsa.gov - U.S. citizens and permanent residents only. See FAFSA info at bottom of this page for more FAFSA tips. After submitting your FAFSA, be sure to review the Student Aid Report (SAR) that is sent to you. Until you review the SAR, do not assume your FAFSA is complete. You may estimate 2009 tax return data, if necessary, but you must correct estimates as soon as tax return is completed.
April 1, 2010	Students should receive renewal aid information by this date, assuming all required documents were received by March 1.
April 15, 2010	If any estimated tax data was entered on the FAFSA, make sure to correct those estimates with actual data from the completed tax return, as required by law, as soon as possible. Be sure to also update that the tax return is "completed" and no longer in a "will file" status.
May 1, 2010	If you intend to return to CIM, accept and/or decline your renewal aid offer via your NetPartner account. Submit any additional required financial aid documents as listed in NetPartner. This is also the deadline to notify the Registrar in writing if you are not returning, to get any 10-11 deposit you previously paid refunded.
June 30, 2010	Finish any incomplete aid documents as requested by the Financial Aid Office. If you are the recipient of any outside or private scholarships, be sure to inform the Financial Aid Office (in writing) so they may be included in your aid file, as required. Aid will not be credited (disbursed) to the student tuition account until all required documents are completed.

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) Tips

The FAFSA is required of all undergraduate and graduate students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents who seek ANY financial aid, even if only merit scholarship. CIM takes into account both merit and financial need when awarding all Institutional Scholarships. You may submit your FAFSA online at www.fafsa.gov. CIM's school code for the FAFSA is 003031.

While we very strongly urge you to submit the FAFSA online, you may order a paper form from the Department of Education by calling the Federal Student Aid Information Center (FSAIC) toll-free at 1-800-4-FED-AID (1-800-433-3243). Keep in mind, the online FAFSA processes in just a few days; paper applications will take several weeks. The 10-11 FAFSA may not be submitted until after January 1, 2010. Any completed prior to January 1 will not be applicable, as they are for the wrong school year.

Print out the FAFSA on the Web Worksheet ahead of time. You can use this handy form to collect all data prior to the due date to make sure you have all the information needed. See www.fafsa.gov and the "before beginning the FAFSA" section. This worksheet is to assist you and is not to be sent to CIM or the FAFSA processor. You will need to enter the information from this form into the FAFSA online or via the actually 10-11 Paper FAFSA. The 10-11 Worksheet should be posted to www.fafsa.gov in mid December.

Note, there are several scam websites with similar names that will charge you a fee to complete your FAFSA - DO NOT PAY TO HAVE YOUR FAFSA FILED! Only use the official federal site www.fafsa.gov. Not only do these scam sites charge you for what is a free process, they often submit incorrect data and it will take longer than if you use the correct federal site.

You do not need to have your 2009 tax return(s) completed to submit your FAFSA! Yes, it is easier to do your FAFSA if your taxes have been prepared first, but it is not required. You may estimate 2009 tax return data so you can get your FAFSA in by the deadline. If you do this, remember you are required by law to submit a FAFSA correction as soon as actual tax data is known. Do not wait until March or April to do your FAFSA just because your tax return is not completed. Some types of aid have limited funding and if you are late with any particular school's deadline, you may miss out.