



**ADENDDUM #3 TO THE 2025-2026 INSTITUTIONAL CATALOG**

**Effective in June 2025**



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## **Addendum to the 2025-2026 Columbia Central University Institutional Catalogue**

The following amendment to the Institutional Catalog provides clear and concise information, which is recognized as Addendum #3 to the Columbia Central University (CCU) 2025-2026 Institutional Catalog. It represents formal notification of the amendment to the Institutional Board of Trustees and adds the Policy Against Harmful Bodily Integrity Practices in Initiation Processes (HAZING), amendment of the Institutional Grants, and the reorganization of the Academic Distinctions by academic level.

### **Page 12, Amendment of the Institutional Board of Directors members:**

The governance of Columbia Central University is carried out by an Institutional Board of Directors and a Corporate Board of Directors. The purpose of the Institutional Board is to serve the public interest, be responsible for the quality and integrity of the University, and ensure the University fulfills its mission and goals. Currently, these boards are composed of the following members:

#### **Corporate Board of Directors**

Atif Gilani-----Director

Brad Whitman-----Director

Ruchi Hazaray-----Director

#### **Institutional Board of Directors**

Alberto Estrella, Esq.-----Chairperson

Ruchi Hazaray-----Vice Chairperson

Sara Salva-----Secretary

Luca Di Leonardo -----Member

Ana Cáceres Rojas, Esq. -----Member

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Marcos Vidal-----Member

Michael Bannett-----Non-Voting Member

**CCU's Anti-Hazing Policy is formally added and disclosed:**

**ANTI-HAZING POLICY**

Columbia Central University (CCU) is committed to promoting a safe, respectful, and harassment-free educational environment. This policy aims to prevent, detect, and sanction any conduct related to hazing within our academic communities.

The term “hazing” means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act committed by a person (whether individually or in concert with other persons) against another person or persons regardless of the willingness of such other person or persons to participate, that:

1. is committed in the course of an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, a student organization; and
2. causes or creates a risk, above the reasonable risk encountered in the course of participation in the institution of higher education or the organization (such as the physical preparation necessary for participation in an athletic team), of physical or psychological injury including –
  - a. whipping, beating, striking, electronic shocking, placing of a harmful substance on someone’s body, or similar activity;
  - b. causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing sleep deprivation, exposure to the elements, confinement in a small space, extreme calisthenics, or other similar activity;
  - c. causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to consume food, liquid, alcohol, drugs, or other substances;
  - d. causing, coercing, or otherwise inducing another person to perform sexual acts;

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- e. any activity that places another person in reasonable fear of bodily harm through the use of threatening words or conduct;
  - f. any activity against another person that includes a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law; and
  - g. any activity that induces, causes, or requires another person to perform a duty or task that involves a criminal violation of local, State, Tribal, or Federal law.

CCU strictly prohibits all forms of hazing including, but not limited to:

- Direct participation in hazing acts.
- Inciting or forcing others to participate.
- Witnessing and failing to report such acts.
- Concealing or allowing such practices within student groups.

Any violation of this policy may result in severe disciplinary actions including, but not limited to:

- Suspension or expulsion of the offending student.
- Sanctions against the student organization involved, including deactivation.
- Referral to police and judicial authorities.

CCU encourages all members of the community to report any acts of hazing. Reports may be submitted confidentially through:

- Campus Director of Student Affairs at Puerto Rico Campuses
- Executive Director or their designee at CCU Campuses
- Academic Director at CCU Campuses

CCU provides confidentiality and prohibits retaliation against anyone who, in good faith, reports an act of hazing.

The above excerpts are from the institutional policy, which is summarized here for brevity.

## INSTITUTIONAL GRANTS

This policy applies to all students who enroll at any Columbia Central University (CCU) location and meet the eligibility criteria of the grant for which they are applying. Students may participate in any of these grants, regardless of whether they receive other (non-institutional) financial aid, as long as they comply with the requirements established in this policy.

Students applying for any financial aid administered by Columbia Central University are required to report any additional external financial aid they expect to receive to fund their studies (Veterans, Vocational Rehabilitation, AmeriCorps, etc.).

The application is available and must be submitted to the Financial Aid Office. Applications will be evaluated on a first-come, first-served basis, so Columbia Central University encourages you to apply early, as funds available for these grants are limited. Columbia Central University will disburse the amount of the grant awarded at the end of the academic semester for which the funds were allocated.

These grants are not available to students enrolled in continuing education courses. Students may only participate in one institutional grant.

### **Institutional Grant: High School Senior**

The High School Senior grant awards \$200.00 to students enrolled in programs leading to a diploma and \$300.00 to students enrolled in programs leading to an associate or bachelor's degree. The grant is applicable to the first term of study. An additional \$200.00 will be awarded to students who demonstrates evidence of having completed high school with a cumulative GPA of 3.2 or higher.

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To be eligible, students must meet the requirements described below:

1. Have completed high school in the year he/she was admitted to Columbia Central University,
2. Complete the Institutional Grant Application before the end of their first academic term,
3. Be a resident of Puerto Rico,
4. Maintain satisfactory academic progress,
5. Complete all courses enrolled in the first term of studies.

### **Institutional Grant: Healthcare Heroes**

The Healthcare Heroes grant awards \$200.00 to students enrolled in programs leading to a diploma and \$300.00 to students enrolled in programs leading to an associate, bachelor's or master's degree. The grant is applicable to the first term of study. An additional \$200.00 will be awarded to students who are ineligible for the maximum Federal Pell Grant amount due to reaching the maximum lifetime limit.

To be eligible, students must meet the requirements described below:

1. Enroll in one of the health-related programs,
2. Complete the Institutional Grant Application before the end of their first academic term,
3. Be a resident of Puerto Rico,
4. Maintain satisfactory academic progress,
5. Complete all enrolled courses of the first term of studies.

### **Institutional Grant: “Creciendo Contigo”**

The “Creciendo Contigo” grant awards \$200.00 to students enrolled in programs leading to a diploma and \$300.00 to students enrolled in programs leading to an associate, bachelor's or master's degree. The grant is applicable to the first term of study. An additional \$200.00 will be awarded to students who are ineligible for the maximum Federal Pell Grant amount due to reaching the maximum lifetime limit.

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To be eligible, students must meet the requirements described below:

1. Enroll in a new program after previously completing a program at one of Columbia Central University's locations or re-enroll in a program previously initiated that was not completed in any of CCU locations,
2. Complete the Institutional Grant Application before the end of their first academic term,
3. Be a resident of Puerto Rico,
4. Maintain satisfactory academic progress,
5. Complete all courses enrolled in the first term of studies.

**Institutional Grant: "Por ti, Contigo"**

The "Por ti, Contigo" grant awards \$200.00 to new students enrolled in programs leading to a diploma, and \$300.00 to new students enrolled in programs leading to an associate, bachelor's or master's degree. The grant is applicable to the first term of study. An additional \$200.00 will be awarded to students who are ineligible for the maximum Federal Pell Grant amount due to reaching the maximum lifetime limit.

To be eligible, students must meet the requirements described below:

1. Be a new student,
2. Complete the Institutional Grant Application, prior to the end of their first academic term,
3. Be a resident of Puerto Rico,
4. Maintain satisfactory academic progress,
5. Complete all courses enrolled in the first term of studies.

**Institutional Grant: Pathway to Success Grant and Tuition Discount (Teach Out)**

This grant awards \$750 and a discount of 15% for each term to students who attend an academic program at a location with an active Teach-Out plan (selected CCU locations).

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The grant applies to the first term of study. To be eligible, students must meet the requirements described below:

1. Complete the Institutional Grant application before completing the program,
2. Complete a program in an eligible location,
3. Maintain satisfactory academic progress,

### **Institutional Scholarship: Get Back on Track**

The "Get Back on Track" scholarship is designed for students who have already started repaying student loans obtained at Columbia Central University and wish to return to our institution to complete or continue an academic program. The amounts awarded are:

- PR Residents
  - Undergraduate Programs - \$150.00 per Term
  - Graduate Programs - \$500.00 per Term
- Additionally, students may qualify for forgiveness of past-due institutional balances that remain unpaid for periods ending at least 12 months before re-enrollment, up to a maximum of \$5,000.

To be eligible, students must meet the requirements described below:

1. Have been previously enrolled at CCU;
2. Have student loan debt acquired through prior enrollment at Columbia Central University, as validated on the NSLDS website;
3. Be in repayment status on any federal student loan taken out between October 1, 2023, and September 30, 2024, as evidenced on the NSLDS website;
4. Be eligible for re-entry to CCU based on Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) guidelines;
5. Complete a required counseling session with the Prevention Default Office;
6. Complete and submit the Institutional Grant Application before beginning the program.



## ACADEMIC DISTINCTIONS

The university grants the distinctions detailed below in recognition of academic achievement and performance, based on the graduation average.

### **Graduate level programs:**

1. ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE - for those who achieve an academic graduation average of 4.00.

### **Undergraduate level programs and certificate programs:**

1. SUMMA CUM LAUDE – for those who achieve an academic graduation average of 4.00 to 3.90.
2. MAGNA CUM LAUDE – for those who achieve an academic graduation average between 3.89 and 3.75.
3. CUM LAUDE – for those who achieve an academic graduation average between 3.74 and 3.60.