



RAMCONNECT

Ram Connect: Mountain Beginning Your Adventure Guide

Check-In

Check-in for the program will take place just outside Braiden Hall at 2:30 pm on the afternoon of your scheduled program. Those ending an Orientation Day 2 program will simply return to Braiden Hall and check-in for Ram Connect: Mountain. We will depart for the CSU Mountain Campus at 3:30 pm



Getting Here

Braiden Hall is on the main CSU campus in Fort Collins, Colorado. Fort Collins, CO is located 60 miles north of Denver and 50 miles south of Cheyenne, WY just west of I-25.

You will be receiving parking information via email two weeks before your program start date. Parking will be in the same location as your orientation session parking.

[Click here](#) to see CSU's interactive campus map to see updates about construction and explore alternate routes into campus



Waiver/Medical History Forms

Download and complete your medical **history/waiver forms** (which you will receive via email a week before your Ram Connect session) and return it to Orientation and Transition Programs at check-in.

* These forms are required for you to participate in Ram Connect: Mountain .

Lodging/Meals

Lodging for both nights of the program, included in the program fee, will be provided to you at the CSU Mountain Campus.

We are providing dinner on the first night, breakfast, lunch, and dinner on the second day, and breakfast and lunch on the third day.





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Details

What To Bring

Please limit your luggage to one mid-size duffel bag or suitcase and your day backpack, as space is limited.

Necessary Items:

- Reusable water bottle (essential)
- Backpack suitable for a day hike
- Rain/wind pants & jacket
- T-shirt (s)
- Shorts/pants
- Medium weight shirt
- Jacket or sweater for night
- Camp shoes—sneakers, tennis shoes
- Sturdy hiking boots/shoes
- Extra pair of socks
- Sun hat w/brim or visor (baseball hat)
- Sunscreen
- Bug Spray
- Lip balm
- Headlamp or flashlight
- Personal toiletries
- Towel and wash cloth
- Sunglasses

Optional Items:

- Fleece/wool hat for night
- Fleece/wool gloves or mittens for night
- Cards
- Personal reading book
- Personal music device with headphones
(do not bring speakers)
- Sandals
- Light snacks



The Schedule

Day 1 (Braiden Hall and CSU Mountain Campus)

- 2:30 p.m. Check-In at Braiden Hall
- 3:30 p.m. Depart from CSU Main Campus
- 5:00 p.m. Arrival and Mountain Campus Orientation
- 5:30 p.m. Settle In at North Dorm
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. Evening Activities
- 10:00 p.m. Head to Rooms
- 11:00 p.m. Lights Out

Day 2 (CSU Mountain Campus)

- 6:30 a.m. Wake Up
- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast
- 8:00 a.m. Challenge Ropes Course
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. Choose Your Own Adventure Time
- 6:00 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. Evening Large/Small Group Activities
- 9:00 p.m. Campfire
- 10:30 p.m. Head to North Dorm
- 11:00 p.m. Lights Out

Day 3 (CSU Mountain Campus)

- 6:30 a.m. Wake Up
- 6:50 a.m. Organize Luggage in Westside Classroom
- 7:00 a.m. Breakfast & Pack Lunch
- 8:00 a.m. Hike to Cirque Meadow
(Lunch on Hike)
- 1:30 p.m. Depart CSU Mountain Campus
- 3:30 p.m. Arrive back to Campus





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Frequently Asked Questions

What exactly is Ram Connect: Mountain?

Ram Connect: Mountain is an optional outdoor orientation program designed to provide structured adventure and group activities that will ease your transition into the Colorado State University campus community.

The two-night, three-day program includes opportunities for interaction with staff, student leaders, and other new students to begin forging connections that will help you build a sense of community and adjust to the college environment. Outdoor adventure activities include a challenge ropes course experience and a day hike.

Do I have to complete an on-campus Orientation session in order to attend Ram Connect: Mountain?

YES! All participants in Ram Connect: Mountain are required to complete an on-campus orientation session in order to attend the program. Ram Connect: Mountain does not fulfill your orientation requirement.

What time do I arrive/depart?

You should arrive for check-in at 2:30 p.m. on Day 1 at Braiden Hall. The group will return to Braiden Hall between 3:30 and 4:00p.m. on Day 3. Please make your travel arrangements accordingly. **Do not schedule flights out of DIA before 7:30 p.m.**

What is the weather like at CSU Mountain Campus?

Summer weather at CSU Mountain Campus is much like the rest of Colorado; it can be nice one minute and then storming the next. The average summer temperature in the valley reaches a high of 72 degrees, with typical lows in June/July being in the mid to high 30's. The days are generally warm with pleasantly chilly evenings. Afternoon thunderstorms are a regular occurrence.

Who are the leaders?

Trained student and professional staff from CSU's Orientation and Transition Programs and CSU's Mountain Campus will guide you through Ram Connect: Mountain.

All outdoor adventure activities will be led by qualified staff skilled in wilderness leadership, facilitation of positive group dynamics, and First Aid/CPR.

What does the registration fee cover?

The \$500 program cost is all-inclusive and covers:

- 2 nights lodging and 6 meals beginning with dinner on Day 1 and ending with lunch on Day 3
- Transportation to and from CSU Mountain Campus via charter bus
- Program materials
- Outdoor adventure activities

Is there cell service/Wi-Fi?

There is no cell service at the Mountain Campus. Although there is limited Wi-Fi, it is only available to staff and students currently taking classes at the Mountain Campus. For emergencies, you may use the Mountain Campus office phone.

Where does Ram Connect: Mountain take place?

Ram Connect: Mountain takes place in the remote setting of Colorado State University's CSU Mountain Campus. The campus is located 53 miles west of Fort Collins at 9,000 feet elevation on the northern border of Rocky Mountain National Park. Spectacular mountain scenery surrounds the campus with 12,000 foot peaks soaring from the valley floor.

You will stay in dormitory-style accommodations and take meals in a dining hall. From May to October, CSU Mountain Campus serves as a conference center and base for a summer natural resource field-study program.





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Frequently Asked Questions

What can my family do while I'm at Ram Connect?

Ram Connect: Mountain is for incoming students only. Parents and family members can enjoy a short vacation in the Northern Colorado region or the Denver area. In addition to the wide variety of amazing opportunities right here in Fort Collins, Rocky Mountain National Park is just 90 minutes from Fort Collins, and the Denver Metropolitan area is just 60 minutes away. The possibilities for fun and adventure are limitless!

What kind of physical shape do I need to be in?

Ram Connect: Mountain program is designed to be physically challenging, but within the abilities of a reasonably fit person. No prior outdoor experience is necessary. More important than prior experience is an open mind and a willingness to challenge yourself.

The day hike will be about six miles round trip and will entail some elevation gain. The Pingree valley is at 9,000 feet elevation so the altitude, particularly for some out-of-state students, is certainly a consideration. It is recommended that you come to the program in reasonably good shape and drink a lot of water to avoid altitude sickness.

Please make sure to bring a water bottle to stay hydrated throughout the experience.

Is there a place for me to store my unneeded belongings during the program?

Orientation and Transition Programs will not provide storage for students' extra belongings that are not needed for the weekend at the CSU Mountain Campus. Please consolidate your belongings for the weekend as much as possible.



What about alcohol, drugs, tobacco?

Ram Connect: Mountain is an alcohol, drugs, and tobacco free program. No substances of any kind (alcohol, illicit drugs, cigarettes or chew) will be allowed or tolerated at any time during the program. This rule will be strictly enforced.

If you are on prescription drugs, the prescription should be brought in a clearly marked bottle showing the student's and doctor's names. Please notify staff if you are on any prescription medications. This policy is in place for the consideration and safety of all participants.

What if my family needs to contact me while I'm gone on Ram Connect: Mountain ?

In case of emergency, families may contact students through the CSU Mountain Campus office phone 7:00 a.m.— 9:00 p.m. MST at 970-881-2150.

