

February 8, 2019 [Updated 10pm]

Frequently Asked Questions

What did Concordia University-Portland announce on February 8, 2019?

In line with [Vision 2024](#), Concordia University-Portland continues to update and redesign its academic portfolio to focus on education, health care, business, and law programs, embedding the liberal arts foundation throughout.

Why is it making these adjustments?

Concordia University-Portland serves a growing number of students, and is aligning its resources with the programs most prospective students are requesting.

What specific changes will students notice?

Current students will continue with their programs and coursework through to graduation, just as before. Courses, programs, and faculty currently in the College of Arts & Sciences will be embedded within the university's other four colleges. All students will continue to be taught by both full-time and adjunct faculty.

What degree programs are postponing new, future student enrollments?

Four undergraduate majors – history, chemistry, English and global studies – and two masters' level programs – TESOL and community psychology – will postpone enrollment of new, incoming students, beginning Fall 2019.

Are any programs being cancelled?

No. No programs are being cancelled. Four undergraduate majors – history, chemistry, English and global studies – and two masters' level programs – TESOL and community psychology – will postpone enrollment of new, incoming students, beginning Fall 2019.

When enrollment is “postponed,” it means the university retains the option to restart the program in the future.

Will current students in “postponed” programs be affected?

Current students will continue to be fully supported in their selected degree programs, uninterrupted, to graduation.

If I have questions, who should I talk to?

Current students are encouraged to meet with their academic advisors to ask any questions.

Does this affect the university's accreditation?

No. Concordia University-Portland continues to maintain all its accreditations. This move aligns the University for long-term sustainability and growth.

Why expand certain degree programs?

Demand for some programs is greater than others. Concordia continues to redesign and adjust accordingly, as it has throughout its 113-year history, in order to best serve students far into the future with relevant, high-impact curriculum that maximizes student engagement.

What are the benefits of these changes to current and incoming students?

Most of our new students are matriculating into the education, health & human services, business, and law programs. Increased focus on these programs means more resources available for designing relevant and tailored learning experiences that will benefit more incoming students. Simultaneously, these innovations and benefits will extend into the foundational programs soon to be embedded within the four remaining colleges.

Which degree programs are expanding?

Education, health & human services, business, and law all continue to expand. For example, the nursing program recently nearly doubled its enrollment and continues to grow. In another example, a recent \$5 million grant announced Feb. 6, 2019, from the Robert D. and Marcia H. Randall Charitable Trust will allow the School of Management to accelerate development of its innovative business education and technology programs.

How does this impact Concordia faculty?

For arts and sciences faculty, their courses will shift under a different college. Some faculty may explore teaching new curriculum or accept retirement packages.

How many students are in programs that are postponing enrollment?

All current students will be able to graduate in their declared majors. Approximately 40 undergraduate students are currently enrolled in the four undergraduate programs postponing enrollment. All students are encouraged to continue working with their individual advisors to continue their degree through to graduation.

How will this impact the Concordia School of Law in Boise?

The law school has recently been ranked near the top of preLaw magazine's Best Value, Best Law Schools: Employment, and Best for the Devout lists. The curriculum redesign in Portland will have no impact to the law school, and the 3+3 program will allow our pre-law students to earn both a bachelor's degree and law degree in six years instead of seven, will continue.

How will this impact the honors program?

Concordia's honors program for undergraduate students continues.

When will the changes take effect?

Changes will be reflected this coming Fall 2019. Fall 2019 course registration for current students begins this month on schedule. New incoming students begin registering for classes in March.

Who should I contact if I have questions about these changes?

Advisors will reach out personally to every student directly affected by these changes, but any student may contact their individual academic advisors with questions. Please be patient with faculty and staff while they seek answers to your questions.