# WELCOME TO WHATS NEXT

## EARLY IT PROGRAM

In an era where technology is at the forefront of innovation, the Early IT Program is your ticket to becoming a tech-savvy professional with the skills and knowledge to thrive in this dynamic field. At the heart of this program is a commitment to nurturing the IT leaders of tomorrow. Whether you have a passion for coding, a fascination with cybersecurity, a penchant for networking, or an interest in database management, this program is designed to cater to your unique interests and aspirations.

Now that you are nearing completion in the Early IT program, we would like to encourage you to consider continuing your education at the University of Cincinnati School of Information Technology. Our nationally ranked program will provide you with the knowledge and experience needed to excel in the ever-evolving field of Information Technology. By joining our School of Information Technology, you'll have access to cutting-edge resources, expert faculty, and a supportive community that will help you thrive as you pursue your passion for IT.

## BENEFITS OF COMPLETING THE EARLY IT PROGRAM

- **Seamless Transition** - Enjoy a smooth transition into UC, bypassing the traditional admission process. All students who complete their first year of classes in high school and with a C or above average will be automatically admitted to the University of Cincinnati Information Technology program.
- **Cost Savings** - Complete your first year of college while still in high school. Reduces the number of years to graduate and the total cost for college.
- **Pursue Diverse Career Paths**: Explore diverse IT career paths, such as software development, data technologies, game development, networking/systems administration and cybersecurity.
- **Co-op Program:** The Early IT program offers high school graduates the opportunity to enroll in the co-op program, giving them a jump start on building valuable experiences and making college more financially accessible.

## ROADMAP TO SUCCESS

Interested in seeing if you are on track to completing the Early IT program? Use the Early IT Roadmap to track your progress to the end. Visit https://cech.uc.edu/schools/it/early-it/roadmap to download the fillable form.

# FINANCIAL AID

Completing the FAFSA application has never been easier. Here is an overview of the timeline and actions you'll need to complete.

**Junior Year in High School -** Begin collecting information on scholarships, their deadlines and application processes.

- Visit https://bit.ly/UC_Scholarship-Search to view the list of scholarships offered by UC.

**December** - Complete annual FAFSA application by this date for priority consideration for limited funding sources.

- Visit *fafsa.ed.gov* for more Financial Aid information.

**Mid-February** - Initial Financial Aid Award Offers are sent out to students with complete applications.

- Students can visit https://bit.ly/check-my-aid to monitor their aid status.
- Award Offers are sent continually as FAFSA data is received.

**June** - Fall registration and bill available

**July 1** - FAFSA should be submitted by this date to ensure completion of the full process in time for Fall bill payment due date.

- Students may continue to apply after this date though aid may not be processed by the time Fall payment is due.

# WRITING PROMPT TIPS:

The University of Cincinnati's Admissions Staff relies on applicants' essays and personal statements to gain insight into their uniqueness, emphasizing the importance of selecting a topic that reflects their personality, skills, and passions for a strong application, offering guidance to create a compelling essay.

• Answer the prompt being asked: When writing your essay and personal statement, be sure you are answering the question the prompt is asking you

• Get help proofing your response: Make sure you re-read your essay and personal statement looking for small mistakes you may have made, and if you can, have a friend, family member or teacher to look as well.

• Tell them something they cannot find in your application: Take advantage of the opportunity to tell the Admissions Staff something new. This will help them get a more accurate picture of who you are as a student and why you would be a great fit at the University of Cincinnati.

• Think about the person reading the essay and personal statement: Your admissions counselor will be reading all the essays and personal statements that come to them from potential applicants. Consider what you would like to share with them and how they may respond to what you write.

NOTE: Essay must be no more than 650 words and your personal statement must be 500 words.

# CAMPUS HOUSING

*Our residential communities are as diverse as the people who live in them. We offer everything from traditional halls, to multi-bedroom suites, and apartment-style living for every personality and budget.*

- *Find your perfect place by visiting https://bit.ly/UC-Housing-Communities .*

# APPLYING TO CINCINNATI MEANS APPLYING FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

When you apply to the University of Cincinnati, your application will be evaluated for both admission and eligibility for scholarships. To be considered for scholarships, submit your admission application and all other required items to the University of Cincinnati by **December 1**. Qualified applicants will be notified accordingly.

Explore UC and other scholarships opportunities by visiting *https://bit.ly/UC_Scholarship-Search*

## SCHOLARSHIPS FOR FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

**The University of Cincinnati and CECH offer the following scholarship opportunities to first-year students:**

- Cincinnatus Scholarship Program
- Darwin T. Turner Scholars Program
- Christos P. Demakes Legacy Scholarship
- National Outreach Award
- Alumni Legacy & Network Scholarship
- CECH Diversity Scholarship

Awards are made for Fall Semester admission, based on available funds. Some are renewable over four academic semesters subject to full-time enrollment at Cincinnati, satisfactory academic progress, and maintaining at least a 3.20 GPA.

## GRANTS

**Explore a multitude of grant opportunities at both the federal and UC levels, awarded based on financial need, to help fund your educational journey.**

- Federal Pell Grant
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)
- Ohio College Opportunity Grant (OCOG)
- University Need Grant
- Cincinnati Pride Grant

"What I cherish most about UC is the opportunity to connect with a diverse and inspiring community. From fellow students to dedicated professors, I've encountered countless remarkable individuals who've not only supported me but ignited my drive to achieve even more."

# *EARLY IT* STUDENTS CHECKLIST

## 1. PLAN FOR A SUCCESSFUL ADMISSIONS
- Inform your guidance counselor of your interest in applying to UC School of Information Technology, and they will notify the Early IT Team.

## 2. REQUEST YOUR APPLICATION MATERIALS
- Request your official or unofficial high school transcripts.
- Determine your **TEST PLAN CHOICE\***
- Letters of recommendation from teachers or counselors are encouraged.

*\*UC is proud to offer test-optional admission to students applying for the fall. Visit https://bit.ly/UC_Test-Optional for more information.*

## 3. APPLY
- Submit UC Common Application: *https://admissions.uc.edu/apply.html*
- $50 application fee or fee waiver
- We must have __all required documents__ by the application deadline.
    - **Early Action Deadline** – **December 1\*\***
    - **Fall Semester** – **March 1**
    - **Spring Semester** – **November 1**
    - **Summer Semester** – **March 1**

*\*\*Apply by this date to be considered for scholarships and the honors program.*

## 4. CHECK YOUR APPLICATION STATUS
- Go to *https://admissions.catalyst.uc.edu/account/login* to verify that we have received your test scores, transcripts, letter of recommendations, and to get updates on your application status.

## 5. APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS
- Visit *fafsa.ed.gov* for Financial Aid
- Incoming students can explore UC and other scholarships opportunities by visiting *https://bit.ly/UC_Scholarship-Search*.

## 6. CONFIRM YOUR ADMISSION
- A $100 non-refundable confirmation fee or fee waiver is required to hold your spot at Cincinnati and must be received by the confirmation deadline.
    - **First-Year Deadlines:**
    - **» Fall Semester** - May 1
    - **» Spring Semester** - December 1
    - **» Summer Semester** - April 1

### READY TO BEGIN?
Speak to a CECH admissions professional if you have questions.

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