University Services

Carnegie Mellon University provides many services to students to help them thrive on and off campus, and in and out of the classroom. The university’s service-oriented departments and offices focus on executing critical administrative functions to provide daily services to students, families, the campus community, and visitors. Listed below are some of the services offered by the university.

Academic Advising

UNIVERSITY STATEMENT ON ACADEMIC ADVISING

Carnegie Mellon University commits to support excellence in academic advising. Even with the university’s diverse offerings, a cohesive academic advising approach can directly impact the educational success of every undergraduate and graduate student. High quality advising rests upon (1) robust central resources, (2) discipline specific variations at the college- and program-levels, (3) skilled academic advisors of all types, and (4) engaged, committed students. By conceptualizing advising as an ecosystem, CMU creates an environment that fosters long-term outcomes that benefit students while studying at CMU as well as making a difference as lifelong alumni.

THE ADVISING ECOSYSTEM AT CMU

Goals

The advising ecosystem centers attention on the growth and development of CMU students while they are enrolled at the university. Adequate advising is as varied as our disciplines and students; yet, centralized standards, systems, and resources must connect seamlessly so that students make well-informed decisions. Advisors are supported in their work allowing for professional growth, intellectual satisfaction, and institutional recognition.

The ideal advising experience at CMU should reflect qualities of the academic environment: integrated, collaborative, innovative and data-driven. From guiding the transition into the university, movement through the curriculum, and exploration of careers or post-graduate studies, the advising ecosystem supports students in utilizing resources and setting and achieving their goals.

The CMU advising ecosystem seeks to facilitate:

• Goal setting and planning
• Leveraging support network
• Accessing resources
• Understanding policies
• Planning for career and post-graduation

advising practice, tools, and strategies

In order to realize our vision of excellent advising, CMU invests in an advising ecosystem that includes a host of resources and strategies designed to engage and facilitate students’ academic and personal development.

• Adequate advising staffing and resources within each department/program
• Advisor training and professional development
• Intentional focus on student success
• Collaboration to support student success
• Implement technology
• Contribute to career planning goals

student engagement in advising

Based on research at the national level and years of experience working with CMU students, the CMU advising ecosystem is designed to facilitate student behaviors that are proven to lead to success at the university. By engaging with the broad range of advising resources and student success strategies, students are expected to exhibit these behaviors indicating that they are on the path to successfully complete their degree requirements and attain personal development goals.

• Set goals and plan
• Engage the CMU support network

STUDENT outcomes

By engaging with the advising at CMU advising, students have opportunities and resources to exhibit the success behaviors outlined above. By conceptualizing advising as an ecosystem, CMU is creating an environment that fosters these long-term outcomes that benefit students both while they are students at CMU as well as lifelong alumni.

As a result of being advised at CMU, students are able to:

• maintain good academic standing in the university,
• feel a sense of belonging and inclusion within the university and their department,
• have individual and supportive relationships with their advisors and professors,
• maintain adequate progress toward completing their degree,
• find employment or further education directly related to their education plan or degree program after graduation; and
• use the skills and knowledge they have gained at Carnegie Mellon University to advance their personal and professional goals after leaving the university.

Computing Services

Stan Waddell, Associate Vice President & Chief Information Officer
Location: Cyert Hall 285
Phone: 412-268-4357
it-help@cmu.edu
www.cmu.edu/computing

Computing Services maintains and supports computing resources for the campus community, including the campus wired and wireless networks, public printing, computer labs, email and software catalog.

Visit the Computing Services (http://www.cmu.edu/computing/) website to explore the services available to you, including how to:

• secure your devices
• connect to the network
• use Zoom for class
• collaborate with your group
• access software
• manage your email
• use public printers and computer labs.

For help with these services, contact the Computing Services Help Center at 412-268-4357 (HELP) or it-help@cmu.edu.

Disability Resources & Equal Opportunity

Catherine Getchell, Director of Disability Resources
Location: Margaret Morrison Plaza, A30, 5136 Margaret Morrison St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213
Phone: 412-268-6121
access@andrew.cmu.edu
www.cmu.edu/disability-resources

Disability Resources provides responsive and reasonable accommodations to students who self-identify as having a disability, including physical, sensory, cognitive and emotional disabilities. Through our office, the university can provide counsel, support services and accommodations to ensure that all students, regardless of ability, have equal access to the world-class education, campus programs and activities offered by CMU. We work to ensure that qualified individuals receive reasonable accommodations as guaranteed by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Students are also welcome to discuss concerns about support for disabilities with members of the admission staff, housing office and/or health/psychological services. Upon enrollment, students with disabilities should contact the Office of Disability Resources to discuss their needs and to develop a Student Individual Accommodation Plan. Accommodations are
made with the intent to maintain the academic integrity of each course and the academic program as a whole, while also meeting assessed needs.

**Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Policy**

Carnegie Mellon is committed to equal employment opportunity for all and to affirmative action. Diversity is a source of strength for Carnegie Mellon and affirmative action is one of the tools that we use to achieve and sustain diversity. All personnel actions are administered in accordance with the university’s commitment to non-discrimination and in compliance with applicable federal, state and local laws, statutes, orders and regulations. View the University Policy on Equal Employment Opportunity / Affirmative Action (https://cmu.edu/policies/administrative-and-governance/equal-opportunity-affirmative-action-ada.html).

**Fellowships & Scholarships Office**

Stephanie Wallach, Director  
**Location:** Cyert Hall A64, 5000 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
**Phone:** 412-268-5702  
**Fax:** 412-268-6159  
www.cmu.edu/fsos (http://www.cmu.edu/fsos/)

The Fellowships and Scholarships Office (FSO) works with current Carnegie Mellon undergraduate students – as well as alumni – in fulfilling their intellectual and professional goals by pursuing nationally competitive fellowships and scholarships. We promote awareness of external scholarship and fellowship opportunities, advising, writing support, overall management of the process, and interview preparation.

Fellowships and scholarships are competitive, merit-based monetary awards that support a wide range of purposeful activities. These include research, internships, projects and study abroad. Eligibility depends on the particular award.

For current graduate students, there are some specific awards the FSO will help facilitate: Knight Hennessey, Fulbright, Soros, Luce, Hertz and Schwarzman.

Within the parameters of each scholarship, we advise students on each award and help them navigate the range of choices. We work with students on various iterations of their applications and oversee the process, including letters of recommendation. Where appropriate, we will manage a campus selection process. If students are selected for an interview as part of the scholarship competition, we will help prepare them and organize campus committees for mock interviews.

Visit the FSO website (https://www.cmu.edu/fsos/) for information about fellowships and scholarships, and if interested, make an appointment with an FSO representative through Handshake.

**Honor Societies**

**Phi Beta Kappa Society**

Carnegie Mellon shelters a chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, sponsored by the three colleges (Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Mellon College of Science, and the School of Computer Science) that comprise the University’s “arts and sciences” equivalent. The chapter’s name is “Upsilon of Pennsylvania,” and was formally installed in April 1995.

Founded in 1776 at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Va., Phi Beta Kappa is the nation’s oldest honorary literary society, with chapters at 276 of the foremost institutions of higher education across the country. Almost all members are elected by the chapters from among candidates for degrees in liberal arts and sciences, usually from the top 10% of the graduating class.

Membership in Phi Beta Kappa is a distinction that is recognized by employers, graduate schools, and professional organizations. Graduates who are members of Phi Beta Kappa enjoy many privileges and benefits, including access to a variety of resources and information, as well as networking opportunities with other members of the society.

The society’s name is formed by the first letters of the phrase Philosophia Biou Kybernetes, Philosophy (wisdom) is the Guide of Life. In line with the conviction that the test of education lies not in what people know but in what they are, the objectives of humane learning encouraged by Phi Beta Kappa include not merely knowledge but also intellectual honesty and tolerance, a broad range of intellectual interests and understanding.

The Carnegie Mellon chapter is active in sponsoring visiting speakers, on-campus roundtables that focus on current issues, community service activities, scholarship opportunities, student research involvement, and the like.

**The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi**

The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi has been an important presence on campus since 1933. Phi Kappa Phi, a national honor society that began in 1897 at the University of Maine, takes its name from the initial letters of its adopted motto, Philosophia Kratelo Photon, "Let the love of wisdom rule humanity." Phi Kappa Phi recognizes and honors persons of good character who have excelled in scholarship, in all fields of study. Members are nominated by their department or their school or college and then invited to join the society.

To be eligible, seniors must be in the top ten (10%) percent of their class and juniors in the upper third of their class. Each spring, members are notified of their selection. In the time of invitation. Graduate students, alumni, faculty and staff are eligible for nomination. The chapter inducts new members once a year, each spring, and provides information to its members on all sorts of opportunities, including study abroad, internships, and graduate fellowships, recognition and awards.

**Student Academic Success Center**

**Location:** Posner Hall, 1st and 2nd floors  
**Phone:** 412-268-6823  
https://www.cmu.edu/student-success/  

The Student Academic Success Center (SASC) provides both course-aligned academic support and skill- and competency-development opportunities for all students, at no cost. This includes tutoring, study groups, academic coaching, communication workshops, language support and more. Programs are delivered in individual and group formats to accommodate diverse learning styles and skill levels.

**Teacher Certification**

Carnegie Mellon offers a teacher certification program in the school of music but does not offer a degree in education or teacher certification program in other academic areas. Students can take relevant classes through several departments on campus to develop skills and knowledge that will help them to prepare for a career in K-12 education. There are several pathways to a teaching career and interested students can contact Judith Hallinen, Assistant Vice Provost for Educational Outreach, at jh4p@andrew.cmu.edu to discuss opportunities and programs that can be pursued.

**Undergraduate Research Office**

Stephanie Wallach, Assistant Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education  
**Location:** Cyert Hall A64, 5000 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
**Phone:** 412-268-5702  
**Fax:** 412-268-6159  
www.cmu.edu/uro (http://www.cmu.edu/uro/)

Conducting research as an undergraduate is an especially valuable way to get to know faculty members; explore an area of interest in depth; turn classroom theory into practical hands-on experience; get a feel for graduate school; learn skills for the workplace; and have some fun at the same time. The Undergraduate Research Office (URO) supports students conducting independent research and creative projects in every field at the university — whether they join an existing lab or project or whether they set out on their own.

All undergraduates at Carnegie Mellon are eligible to participate in Undergraduate Research Office programs. The term “research” is defined broadly as “research, scholarly, or artistic activities that lead to the production of new knowledge; to increased problem solving capabilities, including design and analysis; to original critical or historical theory and interpretation; or to the production of art or artistic performance.” Students from all fields and at all levels are encouraged to participate in the research process at least once, and hopefully many times, in their undergraduate careers. This is true whether they are planning to attend graduate school or to seek a position in the private or public sectors.

**Advising and Information Services**

The staff of the Undergraduate Research Office are available to discuss project ideas; suggest possible faculty mentors (required): read and comment on proposal drafts; and generally facilitate the research process. In addition, the URO typically runs two proposal writing workshops each semester to assist students in preparing their proposals. Support from the URO is a competitive process and requires the students to submit strong proposals.
Small Undergraduate Research Grants (SURG)

Undergraduates in good academic standing are eligible to apply for a Small Undergraduate Research Grant (SURG). Awards are made twice each year based on submitted project proposals. A panel of faculty and administrators from each of the colleges serves on the selection committee and will generally consider requests up to $500 for individual student projects or $1000 for a group project. Grants may be used to purchase supplies and materials, rent time on laboratory equipment, pay subjects in an experiment, or even travel to another city to collect data. Budgets are required as part of the SURG proposals. Deadlines are October for the Spring grant period and in March for the Summer and Fall grant periods.

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF)

These fellowships are designed to allow students a 8-10 week summer of supported research at Carnegie Mellon in close collaboration with a faculty advisor. Students receive a fellowship of $3,500 as a stipend to cover any of their expenses. The deadline for submission of proposals coincides with the regular SURG deadline in March.

Undergraduate Research Symposium: Meeting of the Minds

The undergraduate research symposium, known as “Meeting of the Minds,” is an annual event that brings our campus together to celebrate the diverse, creative, and ground-breaking research that takes place among undergraduates. Students share their research findings through poster, oral, and artistic presentations. Many participate in award competitions sponsored by various corporations, departments, individuals, and organizations. All students funded through the URO are required to attend, but it is also open to other students, including senior thesis presenters. Approximately 650 students participate each year. Meeting of the Minds takes place during early May at the University Center.

Presentation Awards

Students whose work has been accepted for presentation at an academic conference are eligible to apply for a Presentation Award. These awards, up to $250, help defray costs of conference registration, transportation, and accommodation.

University Libraries

Keith Webster, Dean of University Libraries and Director of Emerging and Integrative Media Initiatives

Location: Hunt Library, 4909 Frew St., Pittsburgh, PA 15213
Phone: 412-268-2444
www.library.cmu.edu (http://www.library.cmu.edu)

The University Libraries is an essential academic partner, whose services, expertise, and collections are at the heart of the work of CMU. The Libraries strengthen the work of the CMU academic community to ensure its transformative impact on our campus and beyond. Offering digital resources, research support, enhanced learning spaces – and so much more – Hunt, Sorrells, Mellon and CMU-Q libraries enrich the CMU student experience and benefit all members of the our community.

Build and Expand Digital Resources

The libraries create digital resources by scanning archival & rare collections; licensing specialized resources to support campus research; and purchasing perpetual access to online journals, electronic books and specialized web resources.

Showcase Research Excellence

The library provides digital infrastructure exposing faculty publications & research to be visible to the world. The Libraries contribute to author publication charges that enable current faculty research to appear in open access journals and monographs.

Enhance Learning Spaces

Learning in the library requires both individual and group focused learning environments as well as technology to maximize the learning experience. Technology enhancements range from flat screen displays to tools for using visualization software.

Online Access

From the Libraries’ home page (www.library.cmu.edu (http://www.library.cmu.edu)), students and eligible campus community members can access:

• CAMEO library catalog – Use CAMEO to find out where materials are located in libraries on campus. See whether items are checked out, on reserve, or available to be borrowed.
• My Library Account – Renew books, put books on hold, see a list of what you have checked out, see fines
• Course Reserves – Find required materials that your professors have reserved for classes to use
• Research Help – Learn about key resources in your subject area, including the CMU librarian who is a subject specialist for your school or college
• Ask a Librarian – Interactive reference service staffed by CMU librarians (chat, IM, email, phone, or in-person)
• AND MUCH MORE - Library collections, articles and databases, E-Journals A-Z, library catalogs

"Library Catalogs" link to online catalogs for the University of Pittsburgh Library System, The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, and other local libraries. We are partners with Pitt and The Carnegie; you can get library cards and borrow directly from these nearby libraries.

University Police

Thomas Ogden, Chief
Location: 300 South Craig Street, Room 199, Pittsburgh, PA 15213
campuspdp@andrew.cmu.edu
www.cmu.edu/police (http://www.cmu.edu/police/)

The Carnegie Mellon University Police Department provides police services 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. Police officers are responsible for patrolling all university owned or leased property. In addition to patrol, officers will respond and investigate crimes and other emergencies that are in progress or have already occurred.

The success of the Patrol Unit is largely dependent on the eyes and ears of the community it serves. Immediate notification facilitates a rapid response. All emergencies on campus, including fire and medical, should be reported immediately to University Police. If you see suspicious activity or a crime in progress, call the University Police immediately by calling 412-268-2323.

Students are responsible for their personal property as well as the property of groups to which they belong. Insurance against loss, theft, or damage to such property occurring in the residence hall or elsewhere on campus must be arranged for by students or their parents through an insurance agent.

University Police makes available on its website a wide range of information about the university’s security practices. View more information about the shuttle and escort service, community outreach, current investigations, crime prevention and safety education, and other programs and services by visiting www.cmu.edu/police (https://www.cmu.edu/police/).

Carnegie Mellon University publishes an annual campus security and fire safety report describing the university’s security, alcohol and drug, sexual assault and fire safety policies, and containing statistics about the number and type of crimes committed on the campus, and the number and cause of fires in campus residence facilities during the preceding three years. You can obtain a copy by contacting the Carnegie Mellon Police Department at 412-268-2323. The annual security and fire safety report also is available online at www.cmu.edu/police/annualreports (https://www.cmu.edu/police/annualreports/).