



Q&A FROM SUMMER SERIES: FRESHMEN ADVISING AND REGISTRATION INFO

The following are answers to the questions asked during the webinar on May 17, 2021.

SOAR

Where can we sign up for SOAR? Is it too late?

It is not too late to sign up for SOAR but you should do so immediately. You can do so on the [SOAR website](#).

What is BeachBoard and when will the SOAR and Advising Online course be available on BeachBoard?

BeachBoard is a Learning Management System (LMS) for online and hybrid courses. Each instructor sets up their course according to their preferences, so you may find a variety of different features in use. Access BeachBoard through your Single Sign-On (SSO) dashboard and click on the BEACHBOARD chiclet. See: [Getting Started in BeachBoard](#).

Access the Pre-SOAR BeachBoard Course starting at 9:00am on Thursday, May 27. The Pre-SOAR BeachBoard Course introduces the campus community, our resources/services, university policies, expectations of our community members. Complete the Pre-SOAR BeachBoard Course at least one week prior to participating in your SOAR Virtual Orientation Workshop date. See: [What to Do Before your SOAR Virtual Orientation Workshop](#).

How do I change my SOAR date?

You will want to contact SOAR at soar@csulb.edu.

Freshmen Survey

Do I fill out the survey even if I plan on switching my major out of CNSM?

Yes. All colleges within the university use this.

If we do the freshmen survey, do we still have to go to College Board to submit AP Exams? Is there a deadline to submit exams?

Yes. We need the official exam scores from College Board as soon as possible.

If I have already filled out my freshman advising survey but feel like I missed a few things, can I contact CNSM advising to possibly retake it?

You can contact CNSM-Advising@csulb.edu.

Where can we find the freshmen advising survey?

A link to the survey can be found on the [Summer Guidance](#) website. It can also be accessed using the following direct link: [Freshmen Advising Survey](#).

Registering For Classes

Is there a key for the abbreviations and notations in the schedule for classes? There are terms like LEC, ACT, or reserved, that I would like to understand.

See: [How To Browse the Class Schedule](#). See also: [Reserved Seats \(Reserve Capacity\) FAQs](#).

If we have a later SOAR date, is there a chance that some classes could fill up before we register?

The college does extensive planning to have enough seats available for our incoming freshmen class. For more information on Reserve Capacity, see: [Reserved Seats \(Reserve Capacity\) FAQs](#).

What is important to keep in mind is that there will be room in the classes needed, however, you will have to remain flexible as you may not be able to obtain the desired or “perfect” schedule.

How do units work? How many classes is 12 units?

Each class is worth a different number of units. Most classes are 3 units but some are 4 or 5 if they involve a lab and some are one if they meet once a week. It will say in the schedule of classes how many units (credits) each course is worth.

Are we required to take all of the courses recommended by our advisor?

Advisors will usually recommend 12-15 units (4-5 courses) You are required to take the recommended major courses to ensure you are meeting degree progress rules.

Students do have some flexibility with general education courses.

How will the hybrid-learning mode work for this year?

We encourage you to explore the [Schedule of Classes](#) as the mode of instructor a changing with COVID guidelines.

We also encourage you to refer to [Reuniting the Beach](#) for more information on COVID guidelines on campus.

What is the maximum number of classes we can have in our schedule each semester?

Students can register for a maximum of 18 units. However, we strongly discourage students from enrolling in more than 16 units in their first semester.

How come many classes only have the professor as "Staff"?

Many departments are still confirming instructors for their courses. This will be updated through the summer.

What is a registration hold?

In June, you will see an advising hold in your Student Center. This prevents students from enrolling into courses before their scheduled registration date. This will be removed on your advising and registration day.

Majors/Minors

Can I change my major before SOAR? If so, how?

If you are an incoming student that was admitted in Science, Math, Engineering, Environmental Science & Policy, or Nursing, you are eligible to switch to a CNSM Pre-major. Please complete the [CNSM Freshmen Major Change Request Form](#).

If you were not admitted as one of the majors listed above, you are not eligible to switch to a CNSM Pre-major at this time. If you have an interest in exploring majors in science and mathematics, please [contact the University Center for Undergraduate Advising](#) to switch to Undeclared.

If you were admitted as a science or math major and would like to switch to another major outside of CNSM, please [contact the advising center for your new major](#). If you are interested in switching to Pre-Nursing, please switch to undeclared through the [University Center for Undergraduate Advising](#).

I am currently a CNSM major, but would like to eventually switch to Nursing. What do I need to do?

First, you would need to change to Undeclared. After you switch, you will work with an advisor to make sure you take the appropriate classes to apply for the Nursing program at a later date.

What is Pre- Biology BS? What does the BS stand for?

Pre-Biology is a designation for all CNSM Freshmen. This means you are in the beginning stages of your degree and have a focus on taking the beginning level course of your degree.

BS stands for Bachelor of Science (the degree category).

If I am planning to pursue a career in healthcare, how do I inform the advisors so I am recommended appropriate courses?

You will indicate this in the Freshmen Advising Survey.

When can you declare a minor? Is it possible to minor in a subject that isn't part of CNSM?

You can declare a minor once you are declared in your primary major. Yes, you can minor in a subject outside of CNSM. For information on the process and the requirements contact the college advising center where the minor resides.

When starting CSULB, are all majors pre-majors at CNSM? My major says Pre-Biology is that normal?

CSULB students must meet precise major-specific criteria in order to formally declare a major. This requires that students begin as pre-majors and then declare the major if and when they complete the major-specific criteria. All students must have a declared major by the time they reach 60 earned units.

Placement

You can find the answers to most of your placement questions in the Placement video and Q& A on the [Summer Series](#) page. You can also find answers on the [Summer Guidance](#) website.

When and how will we get access to the Chemistry ALEKS?

If you are a Biology, Chemistry, or Geology major and eligible to take MATH 113, you will receive an email prior to June with instructions on how to access the CHEM ALEKS. If you are required/recommended for early start, you will not receive a link for this until you place into MATH 113.

I will not receive my AP test scores until July but I am registering in June; will this affect my placement?

You can self-report your AP test score (or at least mark as pending) on the [Freshmen Advising Survey](#). We also strongly encourage you to complete ALEKS PPL for Math for accurate placement.

Early Start / EOP Summer Bridge / STEP Into STEM

You can find the answers to most of your Summer Bridge questions in the Placement video and Q& A on the [Summer Series](#) page. You can also find answers on the [Early Start](#) website, the [EOP Summer Bridge](#) website, and the [HSI-STEM](#) website.

Do all students have to do the Early Start program?

No, it is for students who require additional support based on multiple measures for math and English.

Students that are classified M3 and M4 need to do Early Start for additional support before taking a General Education Math Course.

I am not able to do the July and August SOAR/Registration dates but I am enrolled in Early Start. Can I still attend SOAR and Registration in June?

If you are attending early start, we strongly encourage you to sign up for a registration date in July or Aug. After completing Early Start, your math placement may change. If you are already registered for courses, you will need to make changes to your schedule later in the summer. If this is the case, you will need to contact CNSM-Advising@csulb.edu for assistance.

Miscellaneous

Where do we access our school email?

Students will be emailed by Enrollment Services with information on how to set up and access CSULB email.

I still haven't gotten my Welcome Letter and I emailed the admin. Should I try emailing them again?

Please contact CNSM-Advising@csulb.edu with your name and student ID number.

How exactly can we find out what we were admitted for (whether undeclared major or not)?

You can find your program information in your Student Center in MyCSULB. Click on the Academic Tabs to find your information.