COUNTDOWN TO RAM ORIENTATION CHECKLIST  
PREPARING FOR ACADEMIC ADVISING AND REGISTRATION  

Now:
- Register for Ram Orientation at: [http://www.orientation.colostate.edu](http://www.orientation.colostate.edu)
- TAKE ACTION regarding Math Placement. **Complete the online decision tree at [https://placement.math.colostate.edu/doineedthempe/index.html](https://placement.math.colostate.edu/doineedthempe/index.html) to determine whether you need to take the MPE.** Refer to the attached flowcharts to determine what action is needed.
- Begin studying for the Math Placement Exam (MPE) at: [http://www.math.colostate.edu/placement/MPE_instructions.shtml](http://www.math.colostate.edu/placement/MPE_instructions.shtml) OR
- Send AP/IB scores from JUNIOR YEAR or transcripts from COMPLETED college-level coursework to the CSU Registrar AT LEAST 30 days before your Ram Orientation.  
  - **NOTE:** If you have taken an AP or IB exam and are awaiting results, study to take the MPE.

3-4 weeks prior to Ram Orientation:
- Continue to study for the MPE (see above to determine whether you need to take the MPE).
  - [To register for CHEM 111 & 112, you must test out of MATH 117 and 118 (Algebra 1 and 2)]
- Plan to take Composition Placement Exam, if needed: [http://composition.colostate.edu/placement.html](http://composition.colostate.edu/placement.html)  
  - Not needed if ACT English score of ≥26, or SAT Critical Reading Score of ≥600

3 weeks prior to Ram Orientation:
- Take the Math Placement Exam (MPE)  
  - [http://www.math.colostate.edu/placement/incoming_freshmen.shtml](http://www.math.colostate.edu/placement/incoming_freshmen.shtml)

2 weeks prior to Ram Orientation:
- Complete Online Composition Placement Exam (if needed & if you have not already done so)
- Demonstrate math proficiency in one of the following ways:
  - You have an acceptable result on CSU’s online Math Placement Exam (most common); see attached flow charts for more information about results and your goals in Engineering.
  - You have formal AP or IB score reports from JUNIOR YEAR visible in RAMweb under “View My Transfer Credits,” or bring a hard copy to Ram Orientation showing a score of ≥3 on AP Calculus AB or BC; or ≥4 or higher in IB Standard Level Math Studies or IB Standard Level Mathematics or IB Higher Level Math
  - You have sent official transcripts of your completed college credits for algebra and above to CSU’s Registrar’s Office, and these credits are visible in RAMweb under “View My Transfer Credits,” or bring a hard copy of your unofficial transcript to Ram Orientation

1 week prior to Ram Orientation:
- Create your Engineering computing account at [https://www.engr.colostate.edu/newuser/](https://www.engr.colostate.edu/newuser/)
- Log onto [http://ramweb.colostate.edu](http://ramweb.colostate.edu) and complete Registration Ready (all but advising code)
- Check RAMweb under “View My Transfer Credit” to make sure your AP/IB/college transfer credits are reflected, if applicable. If they are not visible, study and take the MPE.

Questions? Contact your advisor (see below)  
or call the Engineering Success Center at (970) 491-6220

Biomedical Engineering: Brett Beal, brett.beal@colostate.edu
Chemical and Biological Engineering: Claire Lavelle, clavelle@engr.colostate.edu
Civil and Environmental Engineering: Laurie Alburn, laurie.alburn@colostate.edu
Electrical and Computer Engineering: Karen Ungerer, kungerer@engr.colostate.edu
Engineering Science: Laurie Craig, laurie.craig@colostate.edu
Mechanical Engineering: Star Garcia, star.garcia@colostate.edu
Greetings!

Welcome to the College of Engineering at Colorado State University! Please READ THIS DOCUMENT to ease your transition to college and avoid registration delays at Ram Orientation.

- **CHANGE OF MAJOR:** If you are not feeling positive about the major you have chosen, you can change it by calling Admissions at 970-491-6909 and requesting the change before you register for classes the first time. You will also be able to change majors at Ram Orientation prior to your first class registration. After you actually register for classes, you will need to see the advisor in your new department to complete a change of major, as opposed to making a single phone call or stopping by a single service table.

  **REMEMBER:** Never stay in a major that is not right for you! Your success is much more important than the ‘major trail’ you follow to that destination.

- **TRANSFER COURSES FROM OTHER COLLEGES/DUAL ENROLLMENT:** If you have completed any college-level course work during high school, send your official transcripts from these college-level institutions to Colorado State 30 days prior to your arrival at Ram Orientation:

  By Mail: Registrar’s Office  
  Degree and Transfer Evaluation  
  1063 Campus Delivery  
  Fort Collins, CO 80523  
  Electronically: etranscripts@colostate.edu

If your transfer credits are not visible in RAMweb under “View My Transfer Credits” BEFORE your Ram Orientation date, you MUST bring the following with you to Ram Orientation:

unofficial transcripts from the schools where these courses were taken (hard copy or online viewing) OR grade reports showing the course number, term taken and the grade earned.

- **MATH PREPARATION:** The basic building blocks for all students in Engineering are calculus, chemistry, and physics. When you were admitted to Colorado State, the opportunity to take our math placement exam (MPE) online was offered: [https://placement.math.colostate.edu](https://placement.math.colostate.edu)

The vast difference in math preparation and math capability for incoming students makes our placement exam ESSENTIAL to placing you in the appropriate math course. Please take the MPE BEFORE your Ram Orientation visit.

**Do you need to take the MPE?** To find out, complete the online decision tree at [https://placement.math.colostate.edu/doineedthempe/index.html](https://placement.math.colostate.edu/doineedthempe/index.html)

If you have taken an AP or IB exam for calculus and are awaiting a result, or you do not see the AP/IB transfer credits in RAMweb under “View My Transfer Credits,” TAKE THE MPE AS WELL!! Please refer to the attached flow chart for a pictorial representation of the information presented below.

The ONLY three exceptions are:

1. AP score (Calculus AB or BC) of ≥3 IN HAND or visible in RAMweb under “View My Transfer Credit” OR
2. IB score (Math Studies SL or Mathematics SL or Mathematics HL) of ≥ 4 IN HAND or visible in RAMweb under “View My Transfer Credit” OR
3. **Transfer credit from another college equivalent to MATH117 and MATH118 at Colorado State IN HAND or visible in RAMweb under “View My Transfer Credit”**

WHY?? Classes needed by most incoming freshmen will fill first, and the most desirable times will evaporate. If you do not demonstrate your math proficiency by your Ram Orientation date, your ability to register for math, chemistry, and physics WILL BE COMPROMISED and your progress toward degree completion WILL BE DELAYED.

Please USE the review materials for our math placement exam provided at: [http://www.math.colostate.edu/placement/MPE_instructions.shtml](http://www.math.colostate.edu/placement/MPE_instructions.shtml).

On the MPE, you will be tested on typical final exam questions for college-level algebra, logs and trig courses.

- **DO NOT** skip questions: if you do poorly on the algebra questions, the trig questions will not appear.
- **DO NOT** assume that because you have recently completed a calculus class that your algebra, log and trig skills are strong or that “I remember how to do all of that stuff.”
- **If your MPE result is placement into MATH 130, you MUST RE-TAKE the MPE.** The only path from MATH 130 to entry into MATH 160 is to re-take the MPE.
- **REMEMBER** that your performance on the MPE PRIOR to Ram Orientation will determine if you meet prerequisites to register for MATH, CHEMISTRY, and PHYSICS.

**COMPOSITION PLACEMENT:** If you DO NOT have one of the following, you MUST take the Composition Placement exam online at [http://composition.colostate.edu/placement.html](http://composition.colostate.edu/placement.html)

- ACT English score of ≥26 or SAT Critical Reading score of ≥600
- Transfer credit equivalent to CO 130 or CO 150 at CSU from another college
- AP scores in hand (5 on English Literature OR 5 on English Language OR ≥4 on English Literature & Language)
- IB scores in hand (English HL ≥4)

If you take the Comp Placement Exam 2 weeks before your Ram Orientation date, we will have results for you. **DO NOT WAIT** on a pending AP or IB score if your ACT or SAT scores are below the thresholds. You benefit from the best result of all tests taken (placement, AP, IB), and your placement exam score may be your best effort.

If you aren’t able to register for CO 150 on your Orientation date, don’t worry! As an Engineering student, it is not critical for you to take CO 150 in your first semester.

**REGISTRATION READY:** Registration for classes at Colorado State is a web-based process. You are required to complete the Registration Ready process EVERY SEMESTER in RAMweb **BEFORE YOU CAN REGISTER.**

Login into the RAMweb site with your Ename and Epassword at: [https://ramweb.colostate.edu/](https://ramweb.colostate.edu/). Under Registration Ready at the top left, click on each RED X and complete each element until every RED X is replaced by a GREEN except for your advising code, which you will receive at Ram Orientation. You may want to give some Registration Ready topics (such as health insurance, enrollment deposit, COF*, etc.) some thought and discussion. Please allow yourself enough time to complete Registration Ready before your Ram Orientation date!
*Registration Ready* also allows you to receive the College Opportunity Fund (COF). The fund provides a tuition stipend for Colorado-resident, undergraduate students. The tuition stipend is deducted from the total tuition due. **Students who do not apply for COF** pay the full tuition amount.

- **ENGINEERING COMPUTING ACCOUNT:** Lastly, to access Engineering computing resources, you will need to create an account at [https://www.engr.colostate.edu/newuser/](https://www.engr.colostate.edu/newuser/)

I look forward to meeting you at Ram Orientation. Please take my advice to heart and execute the instructions in this email that apply to you.

Welcome to CSU! I’ll see you soon.

Sarah Falcon  
Academic Support Coordinator  
Engineering Open Option Advisor  
College of Engineering  
Engineering Success Center  
110 Scott Bioengineering  
(970) 491-0716  
sarah.falcon@colostate.edu