

TruitionSM FAQ for new students

Q: What is TruitionSM?

A: Colleges are notorious for adding extra fees in addition to tuition, making it difficult to gauge the true costs of college. Columbia College has eliminated all fees for adult students with an exciting new plan we call TruitionSM. Students just pay an affordable tuition rate. There are no fees and no book costs.

Q: How do I know if TruitionSM applies to me?

A: TruitionSM is for all students enrolled in online classes, evening classes and in-seat classes at any of our nationwide venues.

Q: What fees does TruitionSM cover?

A: We eliminated ALL fees. No application fee, no technology fee, no proctoring fee, no graduation fee... we challenge you to find another college who can say that. No fees. No Book Cost. No Surprises.

Q: What about third-party charges?

A: In a handful of scenarios, students may pay third parties for various services. For instance, third-party providers such as Parchment (transcript printing) and CLEP/DSST (outside testing services for academic credit) will continue to charge for their services. There will be no charge for students who have a Columbia College exam proctored by ProctorU.

Q: Your last answer sounds like it includes fees; please explain.

A: These are not costs Columbia College controls, and we are not directly involved in these transactions and we receive no financial benefit from them. If you pay a highway toll on the way to class, that's also a fee of sorts, but it's not a fee we charge for College.

Q: I will be a new Columbia College student as of fall 2018 and/or it has been more than a year since I've attended classes. What is my tuition rate starting fall 2018?

A: Undergraduate rates per credit hour

New student	\$375
New active duty military student	\$250

Graduate rates per credit hour

New student	\$490
New active duty military student	\$325

Q: Why provide textbooks?

A: We know it can be difficult to budget for expensive textbooks. With TruitionSM, you will have the correct book on the first day of class.

Q: What's so great about eTexts?

A: There are a number of benefits to using eTexts including:

- They provide a higher level of interaction with your instructor, who can provide study tips, highlight important materials within the text, and add personal notes to key sections.
- Your eTexts offer a read-aloud feature, so you can listen to your books when you commute or even when you work out.
- The dynamic search function makes finding specific information in your books simple and quick.
- You can easily highlight and add notes to texts.
- You can download and access books anytime — even on mobile devices.
- Books can be downloaded from VitalSource Technologies for Windows, Macintosh, iOS, Android, Kindle Fire and Chromebook. Visit [VitalSource Bookshelf Download Page](#), or download the app from Apple Apps or Google Play.

Q: **When will I have access to my eTexts?**

A: eTexts will usually be available several days before classes start, but no later than the first day of class.

Q: **Can I get a paper copy of my textbook?**

A: If you would like a loose-leaf paper copy of your textbook, you can purchase it from the VitalSource Bookshelf app for eligible textbooks after the enrollment Add/Drop period for the session has closed.

Q: **Your last answer sounds like it includes a fee; please explain.**

A: Printing a book is entirely up to you and most students do not do this.

Q: **Will all of my books be eTexts?**

A: Most but not all. In some cases, a book may not be available in electronic format. In these instances, a physical book will be provided.

Q: **What about other expenses like lab kits for biology class?**

A: Materials like this are included and we will ship them to you.

Q: **Are calculators included in the tuition rate?**

A: Columbia College does not pay for calculators.

Q: **What if I don't want Columbia College to provide my books?**

A: If for any reason you don't want your books provided, you have the right to opt out. You will need to opt out before you register for classes for the semester. Please speak with your advisor before opting out.

Q: **Ok, what's the catch?**

A: There is no catch. Columbia College has been a not-for-profit provider of higher education since 1851. It's our mission to improve lives by making college affordable for all. This is why we exist.

Q: **Seriously?**

A: Seriously.