CINCINNATI STATE IS CHANGING TO A SEMESTER CALENDAR IN FALL 2012

Get the facts!

Why the switch?
All Ohio colleges and universities not already on semesters will be changing to a semester calendar in Fall 2012, to meet requirements of the University System of Ohio. Across the U.S., 90% of schools use a semester calendar. The switch will make transfer between schools easier and more efficient.

When does the semester calendar start?
The first Fall semester will start the last week of August in 2012. The current term system will be in effect until the end of Summer Term 2012.

I'm not sure if I can finish my degree or certificate before semesters start—how can I find out?
Make an appointment to talk to your advisor. Together, you'll make a plan for completing your program.

If I have to finish my degree or certificate on semesters, is it going to take me longer to finish? Will I have to start over?
Make an appointment to talk to your advisor. If you make a plan with your advisor and follow the plan, you should be able to complete your program as efficiently as possible.

For students who start on terms and finish on semesters, your credits will be converted. Each term credit equals 2/3 (.667) of a semester credit.

On our term calendar, a degree requires from 90 to 110 credits. On semesters, degrees will require 60 to 73 credits.

Will my financial aid be the same on semesters?
The criteria for financial aid eligibility and the amount of the award won't change because of semesters. Aid will be disbursed three times a year (Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters).

However, you should meet with a financial aid advisor to get details about how your financial aid will be distributed during the final year on terms—you might need to fill out a new aid application if you are going to school during the last summer on terms before semesters start.

Will tuition be higher on semesters?

The tuition (cost per credit hour) for semesters has not been determined, but Cincinnati State has promised students that the total cost of earning a degree will not be higher just because of the change in the calendar.

I'm on a waiting list for a Health & Public Safety program— how does the change to semesters affect me?

Make an appointment to talk to your advisor. If you are following the plan you discussed with your advisor, you should be able to stay on the expected timeline for taking your clinical classes.

Will co-op be available on semesters?

All programs that include cooperative education will continue to have co-op after the change to semesters. Make an appointment with your cooperative education coordinator and your academic advisor to find out details that apply to you.

When can I see the courses and curriculums for semesters?

The courses and curriculums for semesters should be available starting in Early Fall 2011.

Is a semester a lot longer than a term? Will my classes be longer?

Currently, each Cincinnati State term includes 45 instructional days spread over 10 weeks. After the change in the calendar, each semester will include 73 instructional days spread over 15 weeks.

Cincinnati State will have three semesters in a year (Fall, Spring, and Summer) rather than five terms in a year.

On semesters, many classes will continue to meet either 3 times a week for 50 minutes, or two times a week for about 90 minutes. You'll be in those classes for 15 weeks instead of 10, so the total amount of time spent in each class will be longer.

Where can I get a copy of the semester calendar?

Cincinnati State's calendar for the first year on semesters is available at www.cincinnatistate.edu/semesters

How can I get more information?

Visit the Semester Transition Project website at www.cincinnatistate.edu/semesters

For general questions, you can send email to semesters@cincinnatistate.edu and you'll get a prompt, personal answer.

If you have specific questions about your degree or certificate program, make an appointment to meet with your academic advisor.