

Notice to SOAR Students – Relevant Academic and Financial Policies

February 26, 2025 (revised April 16, 2025)

All students matriculating into Cornerstone University between March 1, 2025 and May 30, 2025, and entering the Bachelor of Science, with a major in Strategic Business Management, also known commonly as the “SOAR Program,” agrees to the following in regard to academic policies and procedures.

1. All “SOAR” students will be assigned to the 2025-2026 academic catalog. While students may change their catalog year as appropriate in the future, the 2025-2026 academic catalog will be the initial assignment.
2. Until the 2025-2026 academic catalog is published, “SOAR” students will follow the 2024-2025 academic catalog in regard to policies and procedures, with the exceptions noted within this notice.
3. Financial Aid will not be available for “SOAR degree-seeking students until May 1, 2025.
4. Students may continue to progress within a course begun in one term into a subsequent term, except as noted in the Academic Progress Policy.
5. Students earn a grade in a course in which students complete 50% or greater of a course by the end of a student’s second term, beginning with the first day of registration for the course. Students completing less than 50% of a course will be administratively withdrawn and awarded a grade of “W.”
6. Academic Progress Policy. Academic Progress is based on two criteria: (1) cumulative grade point average and/or term grade point average; and, (2) successful and timely completion of courses per term and/or year.
 - a. Cumulative / term grade point average is based on both GPA and class status. This aspect is detailed in the 2024-2025 Academic Catalog (<https://catalog.cornerstone.edu/academics/policies-procedures/academic-standing/>).
 - b. Successful and timely completion of courses criteria is unique to the “SOAR” program. Students must complete an average of 3 courses per term to remain in good standing during an academic year, with the exception of a student’s first term. The first term is not calculated into the courses per term requirement
 - c. Students may be placed on probation after any term in which they do not complete 3 courses and/or meet standard GPA requirements, after a student’s first term.
 - d. Students may be suspended from the SOAR platform if they do not resolve issues that led to their probation in the previous, immediate term or if they do not meet the progress policy standards overall after multiple probationary terms.
 - e. Soar students who cannot regularly complete 3 courses per term and are suspended from the Soar program or placed on probation, but who are in good

standing otherwise, may transfer to CU Online or Main Campus programs if they meet all other requirements.

7. Drop Policy – SOAR

Students who register for and undertake coursework within their first class on the SOAR platform have 10 calendar days from the date of registration (which will occur at the time of your first Academic Event in your first course following orientation – see section 8 below for full definition) to withdraw from the program without academic consequences. The withdraw will also eliminate any tuition fees accrued to date for the class and program. Students must contact the Registrar’s Office to formally withdraw. The Drop Policy is only in effect for the first course on the SOAR platform during a student’s continuous matriculation. The University assumes that students on the SOAR platform are continuously enrolled and engaged in courses due to the self-paced nature of the SOAR platform programs. Gaps in active course participation, after the 10 day drop period, are expected and common, and do not constitute a formal withdraw from the course or program.

8. Attendance

Students must have an Academic Event at least once every 60 days to meet the University’s SOAR attendance policy. An “Academic Event” is a graded activity, such as a quiz or a reflection assignment, within a course. Failure to produce an academic event within a 60-day period may result in administrative withdraw from a course and/or suspension from the program.

9. Technology Requirement

Students must own or have ongoing access to required technology, specifically an iPhone XR through 15 with iOS of 16.4 or higher, or an Android version 7.0 or higher.

10. Financial Information – Tuition and Fees

SOAR Strategic Business Management program flat rate tuition, scholarships, financial aid and cost of attendance information - [Details Here](#)

11. Financial Information – Withdrawals and Refunds

Tuition refunds for students who withdraw during the course of the semester will be computed as follows:

	Week	Tuition Refund
First 10 days	1	100%
After 10 days	2	88%
	3	82%
	4	76%
	5	70%
	6	64%

	7	58%
	8	52%
	9	46%
	10	40%
	11	0%
	12	0%
	13	0%
	14	0%
	15	0%
	16	0%
	17	0%

Tuition refunds are based on the date the student informs Cornerstone they wish to withdraw (“withdrawal date”).

Cornerstone financial aid will be reduced proportionally to the percentage of tuition refunded. Federal aid will be reduced in accordance with federal regulations.