

Concordia-Chicago announces Direct Admission program for LCMS high school graduates

River Forest, IL (March 4, 2026) – Concordia University Chicago recently announced its participation in the new Direct Admission program, sponsored by the Concordia University System (CUS). The Direct Admission program streamlines the application process for graduating seniors from any Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) high school, homeschool, or partner school. The program takes effect immediately for seniors in the class of 2026, with more robust offerings beginning in the 2026-27 academic year.

“Going from an LCMS high school to Concordia-Chicago should be as easy as moving from one room in the family home to another. It’s all one family, one home, just different rooms. That’s the goal of the Direct Admission program,” said University President Dr. Russell Dawn. “The Direct Admission program is one of many ways that Concordia-Chicago stands tall for the Church.”

In addition to Concordia-Chicago, other participating institutions include Concordia University, Nebraska; Concordia University, Saint Paul; and Concordia University Wisconsin.

“To all our LCMS high school students, I would like to say that CUS universities are your universities,” said Rev. Dr. Jamison Hardy, president of CUS. “Direct Admit is a great way for you to continue your studies at a university committed to the Lutheran confession of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. If you are considering college, consider attending a Concordia University System school. Direct Admit makes your move to college easier than ever.”

Additional information regarding academic programs, scholarships, campus visits, and admission timelines is available at cuchicago.edu. Questions and information related to the Direct Admit program may be directed to Kyle Thoms,

assistant vice president of undergraduate enrollment, at kyle.thoms@cuchicago.edu.

More information to come.

About Concordia University Chicago

Founded in 1864, Concordia University Chicago is a comprehensive liberal arts-based Christian university in the Lutheran tradition. Through its College of Business, College of Education, College of Health, Science & Technology, and College of Theology, Arts & Humanities, Concordia-Chicago offers an array of degrees and programs for both undergraduate and graduate students.

Under the leadership of President Dr. Russell P. Dawn, the University forms students for vocations in church, family, and the world. Its campus is located 10 miles west of downtown Chicago in River Forest, Illinois. Learn more at cuchicago.edu.