



Fall 2026 Freshman Key Points Checklist

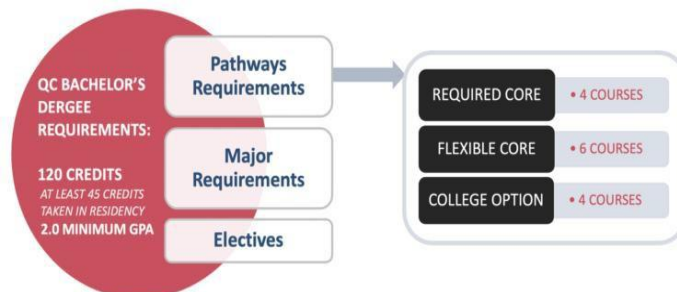
This checklist will help you get ready for your **Freshman Advising and Registration Session**.

Read it carefully and complete each step. For more details, please refer to the [Freshman Advising Webpage](#).

All students at Queens College must complete CUNY Pathways (general education) requirements and a major area of study. Your general education courses give you the opportunity to study a broad range and variety of subjects, while your major courses explore a particular discipline in depth.

The Pathways framework has three parts: **Required Core**, **Flexible Core**, and **College Option**. All students must complete two **Writing Intensive courses**, which may overlap with courses taken for Pathways or Major requirements. At Queens College, the Pathways curriculum is an education in the liberal arts and sciences.

These courses form the foundation of your college studies, ensuring that whatever your field of expertise, you'll always be able to draw on a well-rounded educational background.



- Plan Your Classes:** Review the [Fall 2026 Pathways Course Offerings Listing](#) and choose classes that meet QC Core Requirements. Pick more than one option for each category in case your first choices fill up.
- Explore Majors:** Every student must declare and complete a [major](#) to graduate. Start exploring your options early.
- Decide on Your Credit Load:**
 - **A minimum of 12 credits is required to be a full-time student. Take 15 credits per semester to stay on track to earn 30 credits per year and graduate in 4 years.**
 - Utilize the winter and summer semester to catch up on credits. If receiving the Excelsior Scholarship, you must earn 30 credits per academic year to maintain the scholarship.
 - **Time Management:** School and work are not the only things that take up time in your schedule. You must include time for commuting, family responsibilities, social life, personal care, and – of course- sleep!
- Submit Official Records:** Send all **official score reports** (AP, IB, etc.) and **official transcripts** to [Undergraduate Admissions](#) for evaluation.
- Math Placement:** If you are interested in Math, Science, Business, or Computer Science, contact the [Math Department](#) for placement information.
- Set Up Your Accounts:** Activate your CUNYfirst, AMS, & QMAIL (student email) accounts.
- Tuition and Financial Aid Deadlines:**
 - The Fall 2026 semester starts on **Friday, August 28, 2026**.
 - You're responsible for any classes you're enrolled in after the semester begins. Adding/dropping/swapping classes may affect your bill.
 - Financial Aid is based on your course load **by 11:59pm on the Last Day to Add a Class (Thursday, September 3, 2026)**. Fewer than 12 credits can reduce or cancel your aid.
- Connect with a Peer:** The [AAC Peer Ambassadors](#) provide individual mentoring support to new undergraduate students to aid in your journey to thrive academically and socially during your first year at QC.