WE ARE FAMILY!

Family Involvement in the CNU Experience
This module is designed to inform your parents and family about our orientation program!

From the family program at Setting Sail to the moment they watch you cross the stage at Commencement, your family will play an important part in your college experience.
We encourage families to attend our Setting Sail program with their student so they can learn more about supporting the transition to CNU.

The family program during Setting Sail takes place at the same time as the student orientation. Families will NOT be with their student for a majority of this program. We do this intentionally so your student receives the information most appropriate for them while you receive the information you are most interested in as a family member.

Family members may register for Setting Sail through the Admitted Student System. There is a fee for each family member to help cover costs of materials and meals during your time on campus.

Housing is not provided for family members but check out local hotels that are nearby. Unfortunately, siblings and young children are not encouraged to attend due to content material geared toward parents or guardians.
What to expect at Setting Sail?

Our family program is designed to share important information that will help you assist your student and understand CNU resources and expectations.

Sessions include:

- Academic Overview by the University Provost
- Living on Campus by Residence Life
- Campus Safety With University Police
- Supporting Your Student Transition From HS to College
- Understanding Campus Resources
- Financial Aid and Student Accounts
- Athletic overview
- Our Community of Honor
- Family reception
- Plenty of opportunities to meet CNU faculty, staff, and other parents

Be on the lookout for the family schedule to be posted online in May!
All registered family members will receive an orientation guidebook during the check-in process, which is filled with important information!

We recommend you bring:

- Jacket or sweater as rooms may be cool depending on your preference
- Umbrella or rain gear depending on weather
- Water bottle—water stations will be available throughout the day
- Comfortable walking shoes to get from building to building. We are a small campus but some walking will be required

The student’s updated immunization form. This is required by the Office of the Registrar for the student to be enrolled (this may also be submitted prior to classes starting in the fall)

The student’s official transcript, if it has not been mailed already, and any AP, dual enrollment credits, should you have that information (it can also be mailed to CNU prior to classes starting in August)
Welcome Week is part two of orientation and will directly follow Move-In (August 19 and 20). This week long program is a continuation of Setting Sail, and is focused on acclimating students to living on campus, becoming familiar with campus resources, meeting with their core advisor, revisiting their schedule and getting to know each other.

First-year students have the campus to themselves for an entire week to allow a smooth transition into their first year!

There are no parent sessions during this week, so after Move-In it’s time to say goodbye…. But then come back for Family Weekend!
Family Weekend is a great time for parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, grandparents and other loved ones to visit campus, see their student and experience another taste of CNU!

Over this weekend we invite you and your family to experience many things, from concerts and meals in the dining halls to a CNU football game!

This year, Family Weekend will be October 20-22, 2015. More information can be found online
There will be a session at Setting Sail by the office of student accounts but here is other helpful information

- Fall tuition and fees invoice are posted online in July with payment due date in August
- Spring tuition and fees invoice are posted online in December with payment due date in January
- Last day for 100% refund of tuition is the end of 1st week of classes
- Last day for 75% refund of tuition is the end of 2nd week of classes
- Last day for 50% refund of tuition is the end of 3rd and 4th week of classes
- No tuition refund after the 4th week of classes

All CNU students may set up parents as “Authorized Payer” to view and pay your bill online. This can be done after Setting Sail once students have received their log in information.

You will learn more about this at Setting Sail.

**Contact Information**
Phone (757) 594-7195
Office Hours: Monday – Friday (8-5)
Location: 1st Floor Christopher Newport Hall

Please visit our website: [http://cnu.edu/businessoffice/tuition/](http://cnu.edu/businessoffice/tuition/)
Financial Aid

The office of financial aid will also have a session during Setting Sail

Tips and Guidance for Entering Freshmen and Their Families

- Applying for financial aid is a yearly process—you must complete the Free Application for federal Student Aid (FAFSA) each year by the priority filing deadline to be considered for the maximum in financial aid available through CNU.
- This academic year (2017-18), the FAFSA opened on October 1, 2016 and the CNU priority filing deadline was March 1.
- **VERY IMPORTANT NOTE** – The FAFSA will open on October 1 each year. While the Priority Filing Deadline will be the following March 1, we recommend that you file your FAFSA each year by our *Preferred Filing Date* of December 15 in order to receive an early award package.
- Award notifications will be sent to students electronically via email. Notices to incoming freshman are sent to the student email address provided in the FAFSA. During Setting Sail, students will be issued a CNU student email account. All future financial aid correspondence will be sent to the CNU email account.
- Students must carefully read the terms and conditions link provided in their electronic award notification. Additional instructions are provided for accepting federal direct student loans as well as the information needed to apply for a Parent PLUS loan.

Contact Information:
Phone: (757) 594-7170
Email: finaid@cnu.edu
Office Hours: Monday – Friday (8-5)
1st Floor of Christopher Newport Hall.
Appointments are not necessary and walk-ins are welcome.
Parents interested in borrowing on behalf of their student through the Federal Direct Parent PLUS Loan program must submit an electronic application at http://studentloans.gov. Be sure to log-on with your parent FSA User ID rather than the student FSA User ID. Once approved, the parent must also submit the electronic Master Promissory Note (MPN) to complete the loan request.

Students who are accepting Federal Direct Student Loans must complete Entrance Counseling and a Master Promissory Note (MPN) at the Department of Education’s website, http://studentloans.gov. Loans will NOT be disbursed if these additional steps are not complete.

Please be sure to visit our website at http://www.cnu.edu/financialaid for additional information and guidance on the application process.

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As you prepare for your orientation experience in June here are some reminders:

- Be sure your student has registered you as a guest in the Admitted Student System
- Check the orientation website for the schedule, updates and other important information
- Start planning for your trip to campus in June. Don’t forget local hotel options (students will stay on campus)
- Start making your list of questions you want answered at orientation
- Put these important dates in your calendar:
  - **Move-In:** August 19-20 (students will be assigned a day)
  - **Family Weekend:** October 20-22

If you have questions, feel free to contact our orientation office at (757) 594-7767 or orientation@cnu.edu
Few words of advice from our Student Directors for Orientation

“I wish my parents had known …”

“GO to Setting Sail. My parents did not think it was necessary since I had 3 brothers that went to other colleges. But CNU is way different and there was so much I felt they missed out on!”

“Please don’t be ‘that parent’ and text me all the time during Setting Sail. I will see you when I see you.”

“I really wanted a CNU sweatshirt.” *(Feel free to buy your student one when you are here!)*

“If I don’t acknowledge you when I walk by at orientation it just means I am having fun, not that I don’t love you!”

“Make your student stay overnight in the halls rather then come back to hotel with you. It good experience for them!”
We look forward to welcoming you into our family of Captains!