The University of Colorado aims to empower all employees to secure financial stability in retirement. All eligible employees must participate in one of three mandatory plans. Some CU employees are eligible to participate in the university’s mandatory CU 401(a) Retirement Plan.

**What is the CU 401(a) Mandatory Retirement Plan?**

The University of Colorado’s 401(a) plan is a defined contribution plan where an employee’s benefit amount at retirement is limited to the balance in their retirement account from all contributions and investment earnings or losses over the lifetime of their account (minus fees).

Employees contribute 5% of their annual eligible compensation, and CU contributes the equivalent of 10% of of the employee's annual eligible compensation. All funds are invested according to the employee's directive.

**Who is eligible for a CU 401(a) plan?**

First, you need to know your job type. For retirement plan purposes, CU has two types of staff: Faculty and University Staff or Classified Staff. If you're unsure what your job classification is, you can find it on your offer letter or you can contact your supervisor or the Employee Services Benefits office.

**Faculty & University Staff**

Eligible University Staff and Faculty will participate in the CU 401(a) plan.

Most will default into this plan, but some with prior PERA-covered government service will be eligible to choose between the PERA Defined Benefit (DB) plan and the CU 401(a) plan.

For placement details, see the [Mandatory Retirement Plan Placement Guide for Faculty and University Staff](https://www.cu.edu).

**Classified Staff**

Classified Staff are not eligible for the CU 401(a) plan.

For placement details, see the [Classified Staff Placement Guide](https://www.cu.edu).
Plan resources

- Mandatory Retirement Plan Placement Guide for Faculty and University Staff [2]

Use your account

- Access your account [5]
- Schedule a 1-on-1 consultation [6]
- Investment options [7]
- Self-directed brokerage option guide [8]

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**Vesting**

All employee and employer contributions are immediately vested.

**Fees**

There’s an annual service fee of 0.057% based on account balance and deducted quarterly. Additional fees [9] are based on individual investment choices. See the TIAA CU 401(a) plan page [10] for more information.

**Groups audience:**
Employee Services

**Right Sidebar:**
ES: Benefits - Contact TIAA
ES: Benefits & Wellness - Contact

**Source URL:** https://www.cu.edu/employee-services/benefits-wellness/current-employee/retirement-plans/cus-401a-retirement-plan

**Links**