Become yourself. Change our world.

At JCSU, we’re looking for students like you who will be able to succeed with us, not just those who did well in high school. Our admissions counselors look beyond the numbers and consider each applicant as an individual. Some students just need the right tools to succeed.

You’ll get them at JCSU.

The Biddle Institute at Johnson C. Smith University is the host of two programs that were developed to offer students opportunities for alternate admission to the University. These programs are:

The Biddle Freshman Program
The Sit Lux Research/Scholars
**Sit Lux Scholars**

The Sit Lux Research/Scholars Program is a research based admissions and academic support initiative that focuses on building on the existing meta-cognitive strengths of students and using those strengths for academic success.

**Programming**

Applicants are referred to the Sit Lux Program after the Admissions Office has reviewed their information. Students then participate in multiple sessions of interviews which assess their non- and meta-cognitive skills/strengths. Accepted students must participate in a pre-semester session, and are then registered for classes with Biddle Institute professors.

The program consists of several intrusive and mandatory components which are designed to support students’ transition into the University and provide academic assistance:
- Skills/strength building workshops
- Mentors to assist with the transition to college
- Tutoring sessions of at least 10 hours per week
- Academic advising sessions at least once every two weeks

*Sit Lux Scholars officially declare their majors after earning a 2.5 gpa or higher at the end of the first semester or a 2.0 or higher gpa at the end of the second semester.*

**Admission**

The Biddle Institute supports two specific groups: Biddle Freshman Program students and Sit Lux Scholars.

Students admitted to the University as participants in the Biddle Freshman Program students are evaluated using a combination of the traditional admission requirements and additional criteria.

Students admitted to the University as participants in the Sit Lux Scholars/Research program are evaluated using only innovative, strengths-based criteria to assess college potential because the traditional admission requirements miss some important competencies.

With the combination of dedicated faculty and staff, as well as intrusive programming, Biddle Institute students maximize opportunities for successful matriculation through the University.

Students who enter the University through these programs demonstrate that they are capable of achievement with the support provided by the Biddle Institute faculty, staff, and programming.

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**Biddle Freshman Program**

The Biddle Freshman Program provides the structure, opportunity, and encouragement students need to reach their full academic potential.

**Programming**

Biddle Freshman Program participants are registered for the same courses all freshmen take. Participants are limited in the number of registered credits (13-14 credits) during their first semester. Students are supported by faculty teams, academic advising, Biddle Institute sponsored meetings, co-curricular activities, and community service events. Students are required to meet with an Academic Advisor for assistance with:
- Exploring majors
- Developing an academic plan
- Improving time management and study skills
- Obtaining referrals to University resources

*Biddle Freshman Program participants officially declare their majors after earning a 2.5 gpa or higher at the end of the first semester or a 2.0 or higher gpa at the end of the second semester.

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**Contact Us**

Visit us on the web: [http://www.jcsu.edu/academics/university-college/biddle-institute](http://www.jcsu.edu/academics/university-college/biddle-institute)

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**Sit Lux Scholars**

Ms. Sa’Keithia Hammond entered JCSU as a student in the Biddle Institute.