Western Washington University is a dynamic, innovative public university ranked among the best in the Pacific Northwest. Western is recognized for excellence in undergraduate education, an increasingly diverse learning environment and a strong sense of community. Students choose Western for the top-notch academic quality, size, location, success of graduates and affordable cost.

**FIRST-YEAR ADMISSION CRITERIA**

Admission to Western Washington University is based on a number of different factors. Meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee admission, as the number of qualified applicants exceeds the number of available enrollment spaces.

The most important criterion in the selection process is demonstrated academic achievement, including grade point average, quality and rigor of course work and grade trends. SAT or ACT scores will be considered, if provided. Activities, leadership, special talents, multicultural experience and individual circumstances are also considered.

Applicants are encouraged to pursue academic coursework and advanced study beyond the minimum course requirements. Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), Cambridge International, Running Start or other College-in-the-High-School, Honors courses, and even a full load of standard academic courses provide an excellent foundation for a successful college experience.

The minimum recommended high school courses include:

- 4 units of English, including 3 units of college prep composition and/or literature
- 3 units of mathematics beyond pre-algebra, including completion of algebra II*  
- 2 units of science, with one year of algebra-based chemistry or physics; one year must include a lab
- 3 units of social science, such as history, civics, psychology, economics, etc.
- 2 sequential units in a single world language, Native American language or American Sign Language. This requirement may be satisfied for students from non-English speaking countries who entered the U.S. educational system in eighth grade or later
- 1 semester or trimester of fine and performing arts

* During the senior year of high school, students must earn a credit in a math-based quantitative course. Completion of higher-level math prior to the senior year exempts students from the senior year quantitative course requirement (e.g., pre-calculus, math analysis or calculus).

**FIRST-YEAR APPLICATION DEADLINES**

- **Fall Quarter**
  - Early Action – November 1
  - Regular Decision – January 31
- **Winter Quarter**
  - September 15
- **Spring Quarter**
  - January 1

*To learn more about fall quarter deadline options, visit [admissions.wwu.edu/first-year](http://admissions.wwu.edu/first-year).

**WHO SHOULD USE THIS APPLICATION?**

The First-Year Application for Admission is for students who have not enrolled in any college coursework after high school graduation or GED completion, excluding the summer immediately following graduation. Students who have earned college credit while in high school, including Running Start students, should use this application.

**DO NOT USE THIS APPLICATION IF YOU ARE A:**

- Transfer or Postbaccalaureate applicant
- Former/returning Western student
- Graduate School applicant
- International applicant
- Summer quarter-only applicant

Go to [admissions.wwu.edu/apply](http://admissions.wwu.edu/apply) to determine which application is right for you, or call the Office of Admissions at (360) 650-3440.

**APPLICATION CHECKLIST**

- Completed application, signed and dated
- Non-refundable $60 application fee*
- Essay/additional information
- Transcript(s)
- Official ACT or SAT test scores (optional)
  - Note: Western will not require test scores for students applying for 2021 but will consider them if submitted.

For priority consideration, all application materials, including transcripts and the application fee, must be postmarked by the application deadline.

* The application fee must be in the form of a check or money order, payable to Western Washington University, and is non-refundable. To request a fee waiver, include a written request with your application that explains why paying the application fee imposes an extreme financial hardship on you or your family. A limited number of fee waivers are granted.

Apply online at [admissions.wwu.edu](http://admissions.wwu.edu)

Or, mail your completed application and fee to:
Western Washington University, Office of Admissions, Old Main 200, MS 9009, 516 High Street, Bellingham, WA 98225-9009
APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

We recommend you keep a file with copies of all correspondence you have with Western, including a copy of your completed application form and transcripts of high school and college coursework. Some sections of the application for admission require further explanation, which you can find online at admissions.wwu.edu/first-year/apply. If you have questions, please contact the Office of Admissions at (360) 650-3440 or admissions@wwu.edu.

Transcripts

High School: A high school transcript is required at the time of application. For the application review, you may submit either an official or unofficial transcript. We accept electronic transcripts in the following methods: 1) via the Parchment, Naviance, eScrip or Scoir transcript systems; 2) via the online application, students can upload an electronic version of their transcript. We will also accept paper transcripts mailed from your high school. Official high school transcripts will be required after admission.

College: Official college transcripts and AP/IB/Cambridge International scores are required for college credit to be granted. These transcripts will enable Admissions to process your application more efficiently and expedite the awarding of college credit. Washington Running Start students who have completed college credit are encouraged to request an electronic college transcript be sent from the college at the time of application, in addition to a high school transcript.

Financial Aid and Scholarships

Financial Aid: Applying for financial aid does not affect your application for admission or consideration for scholarships. Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov. Western’s school code is 003802. If you are a non-citizen eligible for resident tuition under HB 1079, please submit the WASFA instead at readysetgrad.wa.gov/wasfa. Fall quarter applicants should submit the FAFSA/WASFA prior to January 31 for priority consideration. For more information, refer to www.finaid.wwu.edu or contact the Financial Aid Services Center at (360) 650-3470.

Scholarships: Most scholarships are awarded based on the information provided in the application for admission, and no separate application is required. The Office of Admissions awards scholarships based on merit or other interests as identified in the application for admission. First-year students applying for Fall Quarter admission should complete the application for admission by the application deadline of January 31 for priority scholarship consideration. A complete list of new student scholarships is available at admissions.wwu.edu/scholarships. A complete list of all undergraduate student scholarships is available at www.finaid.wwu.edu/scholarships.

Residency

To qualify as a Washington State resident and in-state tuition, you must be a U.S. citizen or have permanent resident (resident alien) status. You must also be a dependent student whose parent or guardian has been a legal resident for at least 12 months prior to enrollment, or an independent student who has established a permanent home in the state of Washington for at least 12 months prior to enrollment. Verification may be requested. The spouse or dependent of a person who is on active military duty can be allowed to pay resident tuition after providing appropriate documentation to the Registrar’s Office.

You are not a resident of Washington State if you (or your parent, in the case of a dependent) have attended, as a resident, college in another state within a year prior to enrollment; have received financial assistance from another state, including a reciprocity award, within a year prior to enrollment; or possess a current out-of-state driver’s license, vehicle registration or other document which gives evidence of being domiciled in another state.

If you are not a U.S. citizen or permanent resident of the U.S. and not on a current visa, but have continuously resided in Washington State for three (3) years prior to receiving a high school diploma from a Washington State high school, you may be eligible to pay resident tuition, in accordance with HB 1079.

For more information about residency refer to admissions.wwu.edu/residency.

Living on Campus

First-year students interested in living on campus should apply for housing by the housing deadlines. The date you apply to Western serves as your housing priority date, and detailed housing information can be found at housing.wwu.edu.
1. Application Information

This application is only for students who have not attempted college coursework after high school graduation or GED completion. Visit admissions.wwu.edu/apply for further details.

- For which quarter are you applying? Check only one.  
  - Winter (January) 2021
  - Spring (March) 2021
  - Fall (September) 2021

- Have you or will you earn college credit through the Washington State Running Start program?  
  - No
  - Yes

- Have you previously attended Western?  
  - No
  - Yes

- Have you attempted college coursework after high school graduation or GED completion, excluding the summer immediately following graduation?  
  - No
  - Yes (If yes, complete the Transfer application at admissions.wwu.edu/apply)

- Do you require a non-immigrant student visa to study in the U.S.?  
  - No
  - Yes (If yes, complete the International application at admissions.wwu.edu/apply)

2. Personal Information

Legal Name: Your legal name will be used for official University communications – including admissions communications, transcripts and degrees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>Middle</th>
<th>Jr., etc.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- Preferred First Name  
  (if different than legal first name)

- Former Name(s) or other name(s): If your first or last name has changed, indicate your former name(s). Also list any other names that may appear on transcripts.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Last</th>
<th>First</th>
<th>Middle</th>
<th>Jr., etc.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Current Mailing Address

- Number and Street (include apartment number)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>County (if you live in Washington)</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip</th>
<th>Nation</th>
<th>Date issued</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Email Address

Provide a valid email address that you check regularly, as Western will email important information regarding your admission and enrollment.

- Home Phone ( )
- Cell Phone ( )

- Permanent Address  
  (If different than mailing)

- Number and Street (include apartment number)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>County (if you live in Washington)</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Zip</th>
<th>Nation</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

- Date of Birth Month/Day/Year

- Birthplace City State Nation (if other than U.S.)

Citizenship:

Use this application if you are a U.S. citizen, U.S. permanent resident, political asylee or refugee, DREAMer, or eligible for DACA or HB 1079/1487. If you require a non-immigrant student visa to study in the U.S., you must use the International Student Application instead.

- U.S. citizen
- U.S. permanent resident
- Political asylee or refugee
- Other

- Resident Alien number
- Date issued

- Country of citizenship
- U.S. visa type
- Date issued (if applicable)

Tribal Enrollment and Descendancy:

- Yes  
  - Are you enrolled in, or do you claim descendancy from, an American Indian or Alaska native tribe?

  - If yes, enter your tribe name  
  - Tribal Enrollment ID Number

  Note: Students are encouraged to connect with Western's Tribal Relations at www.wwu.edu/tribal-relations for resources and additional information.

- Yes  
  - Are you enrolled in, or do you claim descendancy from, a Canadian First Nation?

Residency:

- Yes  
  - Are you a resident of Washington State? See Residency instructions for details about qualifying for Washington State residency.

  - If yes, dates of most recent continuous residence in WA: from Month/Year to Month/Year

- Yes  
  - Do you have a parent or guardian who currently resides in Washington and has lived here twelve (12) months or more?
3. Additional Personal Information

☐ Yes ☐ No Have either of your parents earned a bachelor’s degree?

☐ Yes ☐ No Have you experienced unaccompanied homelessness (without a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian) at any time before turning the age of 21?

☐ Yes ☐ No Have you ever been in state, tribal or federal refugee foster care after age thirteen?

☐ Yes ☐ No Are you the dependent or spouse of a deceased or 100% disabled veteran, firefighter, law enforcement officer, state patrol officer, or highway worker?

Military background:

☐ Yes ☐ No Are you the dependent or spouse of an active duty military, State Department, or Foreign Service employee who is a permanent resident of Washington State?

☐ Yes ☐ No Are you on active duty or a U.S. military veteran?

☐ Yes ☐ No Do you plan to use military educational benefits?

Other than English, what language(s) do you speak or use fluently (include creoles and dialects)?

Name(s) spoken or used in your home ________________________________

Name(s) learned through coursework ________________________________

4. Family Information

Students age 24 or younger must provide information about at least one parent or legal guardian. This information is required to determine residency classification. Omission of parent/guardian information may result in classification as a non-resident.

Name
First ___________________________ Middle ______________________ Last ___________________________

Relationship to you ☐ Mother ☐ Father ☐ Guardian ☐ Other

Is parent/guardian living? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If no, skip to formal education)

Telephone ( )

Address ________________________________

Number and Street (include apartment number) ________________________________

City __________________________________ State __________________ Zip ____________

Email ________________________________

Highest level of formal education completed (optional):

☐ Some high school or less ☐ Some college ☐ Bachelor’s degree

☐ High school graduate ☐ Associate’s degree ☐ Graduate study

Attended WWU? ☐ Yes ☐ No Year __________

Name at WWU, if different ________________________________

Earned a degree from WWU? ☐ Yes ☐ No Year __________

Other colleges/universities attended ________________________________

☐ Yes ☐ No Do you have other family members who are Western graduates/students?

Name(s), relationship to you and year of graduation/expected graduation ________________________________

☐ Yes ☐ No Do you have any family members who work at Western?

Name(s) ________________________________
5. Academic History

Most applicants complete the high school graduation requirement by receiving a diploma through a high school. However, you can also fulfill this requirement with a homeschool transcript, a high school equivalency certificate or diploma score (such as a GED), or a diploma earned through a Washington community college.

Indicate how you plan to fulfill the high school graduation requirement:

☐ Graduation from a high school or homeschool with a diploma

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High School Name</th>
<th>City, State</th>
<th>Dates of attendance (Month/Year)</th>
<th>Graduation Date (Month/Day/Year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

☐ High school equivalency certificate (ex: GED) ____________________________

Test Date (Month/Day/Year) ____________________________

☐ High school diploma earned from a Washington community college

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College Name</th>
<th>Graduation Date (Month/Day/Year)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

What is your current high school GPA? ________________

Unweighted, 4.0 scale

List all other schools attended during grades 9 through 12:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High School</th>
<th>City, State</th>
<th>Dates of attendance (Month/Year)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>City, State</td>
<td>Dates of attendance (Month/Year)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Have you participated in a homeschool program during grades 9-12? ☐ No ☐ Yes

If yes, select all grade(s) that apply ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12

Have you ever attended school outside the U.S.? ☐ No ☐ Yes

If yes, at what level did you begin school in the U.S.? ☐ K-7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9-12 ☐ College or University ☐ No school in U.S.

Were you on exchange? ☐ Yes ____________________________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Language of instruction</th>
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</table>

Please provide the name of a high school official who can verify, if necessary, the academic information provided in your application.

( ) Name ____________________________

Title ____________________________ Phone ____________________________ Email ____________________________

6. Academic Information

A high school transcript is required for the application review. Please attach your transcript or arrange for your high school to send one to the Office of Admissions.

Senior Year Schedule

List your complete anticipated senior year (Grade 12) schedule, including the summer before you enroll at WWU. Failure to fill in this section and/or misrepresenting your schedule may jeopardize your admission status. You should enter classes you are currently enrolled in, plus the classes you will take in future term. If your schedule changes after you apply, please email an updated schedule to admissions@wwu.edu.

For each term, include: 1) Course Title; 2) Course Notation "CN": H for Honors, AP for Advanced Placement, RST for Running Start, COL for all other college enrollment (including College in the High School), IB for International Baccalaureate, and CIE for Cambridge International.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TERM:</th>
<th>☐ Sem. 1</th>
<th>☐ Qtr. 1</th>
<th>☐ Other</th>
<th>☐ Sem. 2</th>
<th>☐ Qtr. 2</th>
<th>☐ Other</th>
<th>☐ Qtr. 3</th>
<th>☐ Summer</th>
<th>☐ Other</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>COURSE TITLE</td>
<td>CN</td>
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<td>COURSE TITLE</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

English
Mathematics
Science
Social Science
World Language
Fine or Performing Arts

All Other Classes
8. Academic Interests

Indicate academic programs that interest you. Selecting academic interests on your application is not binding as major declaration occurs after you begin your studies at Western. This information will allow us to address your particular interests in future communications and is not tied to future plans of study. Refer to www.edu/majors for information about our academic programs.

Academic Interests  First choice ___________________________________________________  Second choice ___________________________________________________

Academic Programs Requiring Additional Application Materials - If you wish to participate in any of the following programs for the coming year, please indicate below.

☐  Art requires a portfolio. Refer to admissions.wwu.edu/art for more information.

☐  Design requires a portfolio. Refer to admissions.wwu.edu/design for more information.

☐  Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies requires additional application materials. Refer to admissions.wwu.edu/fairhaven for more information.

☐  Music requires an audition. Refer to admissions.wwu.edu/music for more information.  Primary Instrument/Voice _____________________________

☐  Honors Program admission is highly selective and is based on a variety of factors, including strength of curriculum, academic achievement, standardized test scores, teacher/counselor recommendation, and a writing sample. Refer to admissions.wwu.edu/honors for more information.

☐  Location Programs: Are you applying to a degree program delivered at one of the following Western sites: Bremerton, Distance/Online Learning (Human Services only), Everett, Port Angeles or Poulsbo? Visit oce.wwu.edu for more information.

  Program Name _____________________________  Site Location _____________________________
9. Extracurricular, Community, Work and Personal Activities

We believe that ability and potential are measured by more than grades and test scores. Help us learn how you spend your time by providing a list of your most meaningful activities and achievements in grades 9-12. This could include areas like: community involvement, volunteer experience, employment, athletics, extracurricular clubs, arts, family responsibilities, or special awards and recognition. Be sure to include the name of the organization or involvement, your position or role, and how long you have participated. You may also share a short description about the activities that are most significant to you. You can find tips and examples on how to organize your activity list on our website at admissions.wwu.edu/activities.

10. Essay Questions for Admission and New Student Scholarships

Help the Admissions Committee learn about you beyond what we can see in your transcript, test scores and activity list by expanding on one of the prompts below. Your response will be reviewed for both admission and scholarship purposes.

Please select one of the essay prompts below and provide your response.

- Describe any activities you have been involved in related to diversity or multiculturalism in your community.
- Share a meaningful experience and how this has helped shape you in your preparation for college. This could be related to your passions, commitments, leadership experience, family, or cultural background.
- Admissions essay – topic of your choice. If you have written another essay that captures what you want the Admissions Committee to know about you, feel free to share it here.

Most essays are about 500 words, but this is only a recommendation, not a firm limit. Feel free to take what space is necessary for you to tell your story. You can find tips for writing a strong application essay on our website at admissions.wwu.edu/essay.

The Admissions Scholarship Committee awards scholarships based on the information provided within your application for admission and does not require an additional scholarship application. Students are encouraged to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), or Washington Application for State Financial Aid (WASFA), prior to the January 31 priority deadline, as some scholarship criteria include financial need. Information about new student scholarships is available at admissions.wwu.edu/scholarships.

11. Tell Us More (optional)

Describe any special circumstances that created challenges or opportunities for you while in high school and what you learned from those experiences. This might include personal or academic challenges, being the first person in your family to pursue college, inconsistent grade trends, a grade point average or test scores that you feel do not reflect your potential, or anything else you feel the Admissions Committee should know about you and your ability to succeed in college.

12. Additional Information

Indicate if you are interested in the following clubs and activities at Western. This will help us address your interests in future communications.

- Academic clubs
- Art
- Athletics (Division II, club sports, intramurals)
- Community service, volunteering, mentoring
- Dance
- Debate
- Environment & sustainability
- Ethnic and multicultural
- Global issues
- Leadership
- LGBTQIA or Queer
- Media (TV, film, radio, photography, newspaper)
- Music
- Outdoor
- Study abroad
- Theatre
- Other

Have you visited Western’s campus? □ Yes □ No

How did you first learn about Western?

- WWU website
- Letter or email from Western
- Western visited my school
- College fair
- Family member
- Friend
- Teacher, coach, mentor
- Counselor, advisor
- Online college search
- Visit to campus
- Visit to Bellingham
- Other

13. Certification of Accuracy

Your signature certifies that all information included in and with the application for admission is accurate and complete. By signing below, you acknowledge that failure to disclose complete and accurate information, knowingly providing falsified information, or misrepresentation may result in denial of admission or subsequent dismissal from Western Washington University and that information included in your application may be verified with an official source.

Signature of Applicant (required) ___________________________ Date ___________________________
Demographic Data

In accordance with Washington State law, Western Washington University does not use race, sex, gender identity, color, ethnicity, or national origin in admission decisions.

Western Washington University is required by law to report aggregate demographic data to the U.S. Department of Education and other federal and state agencies. In addition, this information may assist in the awarding of privately funded scholarships.

Western is required to collect gender data for external reporting purposes. We recognize and respect that your self-identification may not be reflected in these options. You will have the ability to indicate your gender identity beyond the binary fields below after confirming your enrollment.

- Female
- Male

**Personal Pronouns:**
If you would like to indicate your personal pronouns, you may do so here. Western provides students and employees with the opportunity to provide this information as one element of our commitment to fostering a respectful and inclusive university community. When students share pronouns, those pronouns will be shown next to student names on class and photo rosters used by faculty. Providing this information is voluntary; you are not required to do so. You will also be able to update this information after you enroll. Learn more on the FAQ page at https://lgbtq.wwu.edu/pronouns_gender_faq.

- She, her, hers
- He, him, his
- They, them, theirs
- Ze, hir, hirs
- Ze, zir, zirs
- use name only

**Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?** Check one or more. Please specify if you indicate "Other" Optional

- Yes, Cuban
- Yes, Mexican, Mexican American/Chicano
- Yes, Puerto Rican
- Yes, other Hispanic or Latino __________
- No

**What race/ethnicity do you consider yourself?** Check one or more. Please specify if you indicate "Other" Optional

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
  - Asian Indian
  - Cambodian
  - Chinese
  - Filipino
  - Japanese
  - Korean
  - Laotian
  - Thai
  - Vietnamese
  - Other __________

- Black or African American
  - Black or African American
  - African __________
  - Caribbean __________
  - Other __________

- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
  - Guamanian
  - Native Hawaiian
  - Samoan
  - Other __________

- White or Caucasian
  - White or Caucasian (Includes persons of European [e.g., French, Italian], Middle Eastern [e.g., Iranian, Saudi Arabian], or North African [e.g., Egyptian, Libyan] heritage)