Welcome to Western
Western Washington University is a dynamic, innovative and challenging public university that is recognized for excellence in undergraduate education, an increasingly diverse and multicultural learning environment and a strong sense of community.

Why Western?

IDEAL SIZE
With 16,000 students, an average class size of 27 students, and over 200 academic programs, Western provides the sense of community, personal faculty relationships and individual attention of a small liberal arts college along with the research opportunities and vast resources you would expect from the third largest public university in Washington State.

OUTSTANDING REPUTATION
Western is focused on educating undergraduate students to excel in the world and workforce. Thanks to our talented faculty and hands-on approach to education, U.S. News and World Report magazine has ranked Western the top public master's-granting university in the Pacific Northwest for 20 years in a row. Western is also accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU), the highest form of accreditation a U.S. university can achieve.

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT
Western offers plenty of opportunities to get involved on campus, from student government, the Residence Hall Association, and more than 200 cultural, academic, recreational, religious, social, and political clubs and organizations.

There are also a variety of ways to stay active at Western with intramural and club sports, outdoor excursions led by Western's Outdoor Center, as well as the state-of-the-art Wade King Student Recreation Center. These are fun ways to combine exercise and competition as well as getting to know other students.

GREAT LOCATION
Ocean, mountains and everything in between – Bellingham has it all! The Puget Sound and San Juan Islands lie directly to the west; Mt. Baker and the North Cascades Mountain Range are an hour to the east. Right next to campus, beautiful forested hillsides are the gateway to miles of trails for walking and running. Western’s natural setting also provides outstanding research opportunities for undergraduates.

A city of 92,000, Bellingham offers small town benefits – friendliness, safety, and convenience – as well as many of the opportunities of a larger city. With over 200 restaurants, a 16-screen IMAX & RPX movie theatre, an abundance of parks and trails, a mall, and a thriving downtown, there is no shortage of things to do. And with Vancouver, British Columbia, just an hour to the north and Seattle, Washington, just an hour and a half to the south, Western students have easy access to big city life.

COMMITTED TO INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUCCESS
International Student and Scholar Services provide a variety of academic and support services for international students. These include orientation for new students, counseling and advising, information and referral to campus and community resources, and advisement on immigration concerns.

The Ethnic Student Center (ESC) is an additional resource for international students. The ESC supports numerous student clubs, and provides students with an active place for cultural programming and meetings. Additionally, the ESC is a welcoming place to study, eat, talk, and just hang out.

APPLICATION PRIORITY DATES*

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<th>First-Year</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fall – Early Action</td>
<td>November 1</td>
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<td>Fall – Regular Decision</td>
<td>January 31</td>
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<td>Winter</td>
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<td>Spring</td>
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<th>Transfer &amp; Post-baccalaureate</th>
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<td>Fall</td>
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<td>Summer</td>
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*We recognize the decision timeframe may differ for some applicants, especially those applying from outside the U.S. Although we welcome applications submitted after the application priority date, students whose application is received or completed after the priority application date may learn of their admissions decision later than those who applied on time. Late applications will be considered after all on-time applications have been processed.

**To learn more about first-year fall quarter deadline options, visit admissions.wwu.edu/first-year.

***Due to the intensive academic nature of summer quarter and limited course options, summer quarter entry is strongly discouraged for new international students.

DECISION TIMEFRAME
Applicants are generally notified of an admissions decision in writing within six weeks of the application deadline, though additional time may be needed to process out of country applications.

ENROLLMENT CONFIRMATION
To accept the offer of admission, students must submit a $300 Enrollment Confirmation Fee for orientation and advising services. After you have paid your $300 enrollment fee, WWU will provide the Certificate of Eligibility for the student visa.
The Certificate of Eligibility, a valid passport, and proof of financial resources are required. Once the Certificate of Eligibility has been received, the student visa application process begins. International students planning to study in the U.S. need a Certificate of Eligibility to apply for a Visa Information

Financial Responsibility

Applicants need to complete the Declaration of Financial Responsibility on the application for admission to certify they can meet Western’s estimated expenses for one year and there is reasonable expectation that funds will be available for the complete course of study.

Proof of sufficient funds is required for the visa application process to gain entrance to the U.S. For your convenience, you may upload proof of funds with your application for admission. Funds must be available from sources other than potential employment. Acceptable evidence may take the form of notarized bank statements in the student's or family’s name; a scholastic award letter from a foundation, agency, government, industry, etc.; or a notarized letter from an individual sponsor indicating support for the specified amount and accompanied by a verifying bank statement.

While we offer merit-based scholarships, including the International Achievement Award, additional financial assistance is not available for undergraduate international students.

Visa Information

International students planning to study in the U.S. need a Certificate of Eligibility to apply for a student visa. This certificate, issued by Western Washington University’s International Students and Scholars Office, can be either the Form I-20 or the Form DS-2020. In general students will be given the Form I-20 (which is used in applying for the F-1 Visa); the Form DS-2020 (which is used in applying for the J-1 Visa) is rarely issued to regularly enrolled students. To qualify for a Certificate of Eligibility, a student must be formally admitted to the University for full-time study. This document is not issued to part-time students.

Once the Certificate of Eligibility has been received, the student visa application process begins. Application is made at the closest American Consulate or Consular Section of the American Embassy. The Certificate of Eligibility, a valid passport, and proof of financial resources are required.
1. Application Information

For which quarter are you applying?  
☐ Winter (January) 2021  ☐ Spring (March) 2021  ☐ Summer (June) 2021  ☐ Fall (September) 2021

Are you applying as a:

☐ First-year
Are you currently completing an International High School Completion program?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No
Are you a Washington Running Start student?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

☐ Transfer
Are you transferring directly from a Washington State community college?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No

☐ Post-baccalaureate (please specify academic goal):
☐ Teacher certification only
☐ Add a major or minor to my current bachelor's degree (for WWU alumni)
☐ Second bachelor's degree
☐ Other (prerequisites for graduate school, etc.)

Are you seeking Conditional Admission to Western?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No  Students who do not yet meet WWU's English proficiency requirement may apply for conditional admission. Refer to application instructions for details.

2. Personal Information

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

Preferred First Name ________________________________  (If different than legal name)

Informal communications may be addressed to your preferred name. Enrolled Western students may update their preferred name through the Registrar's Office. For information about how preferred names are used, visit the Registrar's Office website.

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.

Email Address ________________________________

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

Current Mailing Address ________________________________

Number and Street (include apartment number)

City ________________________________  State/Province ________________________________  Postal Code ________________________________  Nation ________________________________

Address valid until ________________________________  Address valid indefinitely

Foreign Permanent Address ________________________________

(Number and Street (include apartment number)

City ________________________________  State/Province ________________________________  Postal Code ________________________________  Nation ________________________________

Address valid indefinitely

U.S. Home Phone (______ ) ________________________________  U.S. Cell Phone (______ )

☐ Yes, I accept text messages

Standard text messaging charges apply.

☐ Female  ☐ Male  Date of Birth ________________________________  Birthplace ________________________________

Month/Day/Year

Country of citizenship ________________________________  Country of permanent residence ________________________________

Current visa, or visa you will be requesting (ex: F-1, J, etc.) ________________________________

Visa Type ________________________________  Date granted (Month/Year)

3. Family Information

Please provide family information, which may be used for address and document verification.

Name ________________________________  First/Given Name ________________________________  Middle ________________________________  Family Name/Last Name/Surname ________________________________

Relationship to you  ☐ Mother  ☐ Father  ☐ Guardian  ☐ Other

Is s/he living?  ☐ Yes  ☐ No (if no, skip to end of section)

Telephone (______ ) ________________________________

Address ________________________________

(Number and Street (include apartment number)

City ________________________________  State/Province ________________________________  Zip/Postal Code ________________________________  Nation ________________________________

Email ________________________________

☐ Yes  ☐ No  Have either of your parents earned a bachelor's degree (4-year college degree)?
4. Standardized Tests

All international applicants whose native language is not English must demonstrate English proficiency by taking the standardized Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), International English Language Testing System (IELTS), Duolingo English Test, or — if earning a transferable associate degree from a Washington community or technical college — earn "B" or better grades in English 101 and 102.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Highest Score</th>
<th>Date Taken</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOEFL</td>
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<td>IELTS</td>
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<td>Duolingo</td>
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5. Secondary/High School Background

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<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State or Country</th>
<th>Dates attended: From (Month/Year) to (Month/Year)</th>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>Certificate received or exams completed (Month/Day/Year)</td>
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<td>Primary Language of Instruction</td>
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At what level did you study in the U.S.? □ No school in U.S. □ K-8 □ 9-12 □ College/University Graduated _______ Year

List all other schools attended during grades 9 through 12:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>School Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State or Country</th>
<th>Dates attended: From (Month/Year) to (Month/Year)</th>
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6. Educational Background: First-Year Applicants

Final Year Courses: If you are still enrolled in secondary/high school, list all courses you are taking or plan to take in your final year of secondary/high school (Grade 12). An official secondary/high school transcript is required for your application to be complete.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE NAME</th>
<th>TERM START DATE (month/year)</th>
<th>TERM END DATE (month/year)</th>
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Indicate if you have taken or will take any of the following (Select "N/A" if courses are not offered at your school):

□ Yes □ No □ N/A International Baccalaureate # of courses you plan to complete _______ # of exams you plan to take _______

□ Yes □ No □ N/A A-level exams # of exams you plan to complete _______

□ Yes □ No □ N/A O-level exams # of exams you have completed _______

□ Yes □ No □ N/A Advanced Placement # of courses you plan to complete _______ # of exams you plan to take _______
7. Educational Background: Transfer and Post-baccalaureate Applicants

- Beginning with your current/most recently attended, list all post-secondary colleges and universities you have ever attended.
- **DO NOT OMIT or exclude any institution**, even if you do not expect to transfer credit.
- An official transcript from each college and/or university is required for your application to be complete. Please note that transcripts printed more than one year ago cannot be accepted. Documents not in English will require certified English translations to accompany the original transcripts. If we are unable to evaluate your transcripts you may be asked to provide an official foreign credit evaluation from an approved NACES member credential evaluation service (list available at [www.naces.org](http://www.naces.org)). To be considered official, transcripts and evaluations must be sent directly from the school or organization to Western. Students who have attended Washington State community or technical colleges are encouraged to have their transcripts sent electronically.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Post-secondary College/University</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Dates of Attendance (Mo/Yr) From</th>
<th>To</th>
<th># of Credits Earned</th>
<th>Term Type: qtr or sem</th>
<th>Degree? Y or N</th>
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☐ Yes ☐ No Have you completed fewer than 40 transferable quarter credits (27 semester) at the time of application? If yes: you must submit a final high school transcript and meet all first-year admissions requirements.

**College Degrees**

Indicate which degree you have earned/will earn prior to enrollment at Western:

☐ No degree
☐ Washington State community or technical college associate's degree
  ☐ Direct Transfer Agreement (DTA) associate's degree [often called Associate in Arts and Sciences or Associate in Arts]
  ☐ Associate in Science (AS-T) transfer degree
  ☐ Other associate's degree [e.g. Associate in Technical Arts (ATA), Associate in Applied Science (AAS)]

☐ Associate's degree from outside Washington State

☐ Bachelor's degree

☐ Other degree

**Current and Future Courses**

☐ Yes ☐ No Will you be taking classes any time between now and when you plan to enroll at Western? If yes, list college/university:

List all courses you are currently taking or plan to take between now and when you enroll at Western.
8. Academic Interests

Indicate academic programs you have an interest in pursing at Western. Selecting academic interests on your application is not binding and major declaration occurs after enrollment. Many Western majors have selective admissions requirements including completion of prerequisite course work, elevated GPA, an audition or portfolio review. Refer to admissions.wwu.edu/catalog for detailed information about major declaration procedures, course requirements and contact information for advisers.

**Academic Interests**

First choice ________________________________ Second choice ________________________________

**Main Campus Academic Programs Requiring Additional Materials.** If you plan to participate in any of the following main campus programs, please indicate below and refer to departmental websites.

- **Art** requires a portfolio. See admissions.wwu.edu/art for more information.
- **Cybersecurity** requires additional application materials. See admissions.wwu.edu/cybersecurity for more information.
- **Design** requires a portfolio. See admissions.wwu.edu/design for more information.
- **Early Childhood Education** requires an application. See admissions.wwu.edu/early-ed for more information.
- **Elementary Education** requires an application. See admissions.wwu.edu/elementary-ed for more information.
- **Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies** requires additional application materials. See admissions.wwu.edu/fairhaven for more information.
- **Human Services** requires an application. See admissions.wwu.edu/human-services for more information.
- **Industrial Design** requires a portfolio. See admissions.wwu.edu/id for more information.
- **Music** requires an audition. See admissions.wwu.edu/music for more information. **Primary Instrument/Voice** ________________________________
- **Secondary Education** requires an application. See admissions.wwu.edu/secondary-ed for more information.
- **Special Education** requires an application. See admissions.wwu.edu/special-ed for more information.

What term do you plan to start in this program? ____________ Term ____________ Year


Please list the specific sources of funds and the amount in U.S. currency you will be using for the total cost of education at Western. If receiving funds from multiple sources please also include that information.

I understand that I will not receive financial aid from Western Washington University and thus am responsible for providing my own funding for educational expenses. A bank verification will be required after enrollment confirmation. Your I-20 can not be processed without bank verification. To prevent a delay in your visa processing, we encourage you to attach now or send your bank verification as soon as possible.

The specific sources of my funds and the amount in U.S. currency to be received from each are listed below:

A. Student's personal funds from salary or family funds. Submit a letter in English from a bank official to validate financial support in U.S. currency. $ ________________________________

B. Funds from other sources:
   1. **From a sponsor** (person outside your family). List the sponsor's full name and address below, and submit a letter from that sponsor verifying support and verification of funds (in U.S. currency) signed by a bank official. $ ________________________________
   2. **From government or agency.** List the agency name and address below, and attach an official copy of your award letter. $ ________________________________

   TOTAL PER YEAR $ ________________________________

Name of source ________________________________________________________________
Address ________________________________________________________________

Name of source ________________________________________________________________
Address ________________________________________________________________
We believe that ability, potential and success are not measured exclusively by grades. Western values the diverse experiences and perspectives that make you unique. Your essay response will help the Admissions Committee learn what is important to you and what qualities you would bring to Western’s community. A response to Question #1 is required, and you may respond to more than one question if applicable. We recommend 300-500 words per question (this is not a firm limit but a recommended range).

**Required:**
1. Tell us about your educational and/or professional goals. What are you interested in studying and why? Describe any steps you’ve taken to prepare for your intended major, related life experiences, enrichment activities, future plans, etc. In addition, feel free to address what makes Western Washington University a good match for your interests.

**Optional:**
2. Western benefits from a student body whose interests and drive extend beyond the classroom. What interests or significant activities enrich your life?
3. Describe any special circumstances or hurdles that have challenged you personally or academically, and steps you have taken to move beyond those challenges.

**Post-baccalaureate Applicants: Statement of Purpose.** All post-baccalaureate applicants are required to submit a Statement of Purpose that addresses the following items.
1. Why are you pursuing further studies? What are your long-term academic and professional goals? Describe your related experience and preparation – either academic or experiential. Be as specific as possible.
2. After reviewing the requirements for admission to your intended academic program, including course prerequisites, how prepared are you to begin your program? If you need additional prerequisite courses or otherwise do not meet admissions requirements, what specifically are you lacking? List the courses you plan to take as well as how many academic quarters you plan to enroll.
3. Why is it necessary for you to enroll at Western? Do other four-year universities or community colleges offer what you need at this time? Can you meet your goals as a non-matriculated student, attending classes on a space available basis?
4. If you are seeking admission to an undergraduate program with selective admission criteria, are you assured departmental admission? Because capacity is an important consideration, please detail any information or advising you have received from the department.

**11. Additional Information**

Are you a member of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK)?  □ Yes  □ No

Please indicate if you are interested in learning about the following clubs and activities at Western.
- [ ] Academic clubs
- [ ] Art
- [ ] Athletics (Division II, club sports, intramurals)
- [ ] Community service, volunteering, mentoring
- [ ] Dance
- [ ] Debate
- [ ] Environment & sustainability
- [ ] Ethnic or 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 ____________________________

**12. 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 ____________________________

Note: Essays are not required of Conditional Admission applicants - skip to section 11.