

2021 international undergraduate student application for admission and scholarships



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.

Western Washington University (WWU), in compliance with applicable laws and in furtherance of its commitment to fostering an environment that welcomes and embraces diversity, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex (including pregnancy and parenting status), disability, age, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status or genetic information in its programs or activities, including employment, admissions, and educational programs. Inquiries may be directed to the Executive Director, Title IX and ADA Coordinator, Office of Civil Rights and Title IX Compliance, Western Washington University, Old Main 345, MS 9021, 516 High Street, Bellingham, WA 98225; (360) 650-3307 (voice) or 711 (Washington Relay); crtc@wwu.edu.

WWU is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request. To request an accommodation in the application process, please contact the Disability Access Center, Wilson Library 170; (360) 650-3083 (voice) or (360) 255-7175 (VP); drs@wwu.edu. One week advance notice appreciated. To request this document in an alternate format, please contact the Office of Admissions, Old Main 200; (360) 650-3440; admissions@wwu.edu.

As part of Western's commitment to maintaining a healthy and safe living, learning and working environment, we want to make you aware of our Annual Security & Fire Safety Report. This report is developed in compliance with the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act (Clery Act) and provides reported crime statistics for the previous three calendar years. The report also includes institutional policies concerning campus security, such as those concerning alcohol and drug use, crime prevention, the reporting of crimes, sexual assault, and other matters. It is available for download at <https://vpess.wwu.edu/files/docs/ASRClerlyreport.pdf>. To request a paper copy of this report, please contact the Vice President of Enrollment and Student Services Office; (360) 650-3839; vpsa.office@wwu.edu.

APPLICATION PRIORITY DATES*

First-Year

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

Transfer & Post-baccalaureate

Fall	March 1
Winter	September 15
Spring	January 1
Summer***	March 1

*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.

Apply now at admissions.wwu.edu

and find additional information about:

- Majors and programs of study
- Transfer course equivalencies
- Tuition and other expenses
- Campus visit information and tour times

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The Office of Admissions will answer any questions you may have about Western, inform you of your admissions decision and determine the transferability of any previous coursework. We are here to make your transition as smooth as possible.

Admission Criteria

Admission to Western is selective. Cumulative academic achievement is the most important factor in the application review. Rigor of courses, grade trends, school and community involvement, special talents, strength of character, and personal circumstances are also considered. Applicants should have completed foundation course work in English, humanities, mathematics, natural/physical sciences and social sciences. Academic course work and experiences related to one's academic area of interest will further strengthen the application of transfer students.

The Admissions Committee believes that potential is measured by more than grades and test scores. All applicants are encouraged to help the Admissions Committee get to know more about them by responding to as many of the essay questions as are relevant. All documents submitted with the application become the property of the Office of Admissions and will not be released to the student. Notarized copies of international transcripts are acceptable for the admissions decision; however, if admitted, the student must present the original upon request.

English Language Proficiency

Applicants whose native language is not English must demonstrate English proficiency via one of the following options:

- Earning a transferable associate's degree from a Washington State community college with "B" or better grades in English 101 and English 102; or
- A recommended TOEFL score of 80 (internet-based) or 550 (paper-based); or
- A recommended IELTS score of 6.5; or
- Duolingo English Test score of 105.

Students who do not yet meet this requirement may be eligible for Conditional Admission; see below. Official scores should be sent directly from the Educational Testing Service to Western's Office of Admissions and should be postmarked by published application deadlines.

Conditional Undergraduate Admission

Western offers an Intensive English Program (IEP) and Conditional Admissions status to academically qualified students who do not meet the university's English language requirement or who need more university preparation and English language study. Applicants must fulfill all other requirements for undergraduate admission, including having competitive grades from previous high school or post-secondary institutions. Students do not need a TOEFL/IELTS/Duolingo score to apply for conditional admission. Before enrolling in their first credit class and moving into full admission status, Conditional Admission students must attend the IEP full-time for a minimum of one quarter, successfully complete the IEP Academic English courses (academic preparation, writing, academic communications, and applied language skills), and demonstrate a high level of academic English ability, equivalent to Western's English language requirement. Students may apply for Conditional Admission by first enrolling in the IEP, or they may apply directly to the Office of Admissions. Find more information online at iep.wvu.edu. Contact IEP at iep@wvu.edu or (360) 650-3755.

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.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Application form, signed and dated; all items complete
- \$60 Non-refundable application fee, check or draft payable through a U.S. bank (*Credit cards are only accepted with online application*)
- Official secondary and post-secondary school credentials, original or photocopies certified by school, with English translations
- Course by course transcript evaluation by a NACES member organization www.naces.org. (*May be required of students who have attended a foreign institution if we are unable to interpret your academic credentials*)
- Official TOEFL, IELTS or Duolingo scores -or- "B" or better grades in two English Composition courses (for students earning a transferable associate's degree from a Washington State community college) (*not required of Conditional Admission applicants*)
- Personal Essay (*not required of Conditional Admission applicants*)
- Declaration of Financial Responsibility on the application for admission.
(Note: U.S. federal regulations requires all international applicants to provide sufficient proof of funds to cover the yearly cost for tuition and estimated living expenses before a form I-20 can be issued. You are encouraged to upload your financial documents with your application.)

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

ESTIMATED EXPENSES FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Tuition (10-18 credits)	\$23,463
Fees	\$2,083
Housing & Meals* (based on double room & Unlimited Meal Plan)	\$12,519
Books & Supplies*	\$996
Transportation*	\$1,338
Personal/Miscellaneous*	\$2,445
Emergency Health Insurance (required)	\$1,158
TOTAL**	\$44,002

*Not fixed costs; varies depending on student. Housing expenses can be reduced with room type, residential area, and meal type.

**Travel and summer expenses are not included.

OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

Western Washington University
516 High Street, Old Main 200, MS 9009
Bellingham, WA 98225-9009

admissions@wvu.edu
admissions.wvu.edu
(360) 650-3440 | fax (360) 650-7369



2021 international undergraduate application for admission and scholarships

submit with \$60 fee to:

Western Washington University Office of Admissions, Old Main 200, MS 9009 516 High Street, Bellingham, WA 98225

1. Application Information

You should use this application if you need a F-1 student visa to study in the U.S. If you are a U.S. citizen, U.S. permanent resident, political asylee or refugee, DREAMer, eligible for DACA or HB 1079/1487, or you hold dual citizenship with the U.S. and another country, you should use the appropriate domestic first-year, transfer, or post-baccalaureate student application.

For which quarter are you applying? Check only one. [] 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 bachelors'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.

Family Name/Last Name/Surname First/Given Name Middle Jr., etc. 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.

Family Name/Last Name/Surname First/Given Name Middle Jr., etc. Family Name/Last Name/Surname First/Given Name Middle Jr., etc.

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 indefinitely Address valid until Month/Day/Year

Foreign Permanent Address (Address in your home country) Number and Street (include apartment number) City State/Province Postal Code Nation Country code City code International Telephone

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 City State/Province Country

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

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

Note: Test scores are not required of Conditional Admission applicants - skip to section 5.

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.

TOEFL highest score _____ date taken (month/year) _____

IELTS highest score _____ date taken (month/year) _____

Duolingo highest score _____ date taken (month/year) _____

5. Secondary/High School Background

Secondary/High School _____
School Name City State or Country

Dates attended: From _____ to _____ Certificate received or exams completed _____
Month/Year Month/Year Month/Day/Year

Primary Language of Instruction _____

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:

Secondary/High School Name	City	State or Country	From (Month/Year)	To (Month/Year)
Secondary/High School Name	City	State or Country	From (Month/Year)	To (Month/Year)

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.

COURSE NAME	TERM START DATE (month/year)	TERM END DATE (month/year)

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). 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.

Post-secondary College/University	City	State	Dates of Attendance (Mo/Yr)		# of Credits Earned	Term Type: qtr or sem	Degree? Y or N
			From	To			

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 _____
College/University Date earned/expected (month/year)
- 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 _____
College/University Date earned/expected (month/year)
- Bachelor's degree _____
College/University Date earned/expected (month/year)
- Other degree _____
Degree College/University Date earned/expected (month/year)

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.

Courses in Progress		Future Courses		Future Courses	
Term:		Term:		Term:	
Course Name	Credits	Course Name	Credits	Course Name	Credits

8. Academic Interests

Indicate academic programs you have an interest in pursuing 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.wvu.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.wvu.edu/art for more information.
- Cybersecurity** requires additional application materials. See admissions.wvu.edu/cybersecurity for more information.
- Design** requires a portfolio. See admissions.wvu.edu/design for more information.
- Early Childhood Education** requires an application. See admissions.wvu.edu/early-ed for more information.
- Elementary Education** requires an application. See admissions.wvu.edu/elementary-ed for more information.
- Fairhaven College of Interdisciplinary Studies** requires additional application materials. See admissions.wvu.edu/fairhaven for more information.
- Human Services** requires an application. See admissions.wvu.edu/human-services for more information.
- Industrial Design** requires a portfolio. See admissions.wvu.edu/id for more information.
- Music** requires an audition. See admissions.wvu.edu/music for more information. **Primary Instrument/Voice** _____
- Secondary Education** requires an application. See admissions.wvu.edu/secondary-ed for more information.
- Special Education** requires an application. See admissions.wvu.edu/special-ed for more information.

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

9. Declaration of Financial Responsibility

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 _____

10. Essay Questions

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

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.

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Academic clubs | <input type="checkbox"/> Dance | <input type="checkbox"/> Global issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Music |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Debate | <input type="checkbox"/> Leadership | <input type="checkbox"/> Outdoor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletics (Division II, club sports, intramurals) | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment & sustainability | <input type="checkbox"/> LGBTQIA or Queer | <input type="checkbox"/> Study abroad |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community service, volunteering, mentoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Ethnic or multicultural | <input type="checkbox"/> Media (TV, film, radio, photography, newspaper) | <input type="checkbox"/> Theatre |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

Have you visited Western's campus? Yes No

How did you first learn about Western?

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> WWU website | <input type="checkbox"/> College fair | <input type="checkbox"/> Teacher/coach/mentor | <input type="checkbox"/> Visit to campus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Letter or email from Western | <input type="checkbox"/> Family member | <input type="checkbox"/> Counselor/advisor | <input type="checkbox"/> Visit to Bellingham |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Western visited my school | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend | <input type="checkbox"/> Online college search | <input type="checkbox"/> 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 _____