FRESHMAN ADMISSION CRITERIA

Admission to Western Washington University is selective. 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, grade trends, and SAT or ACT scores. Activities, leadership, special talent, 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 and Honors 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 science (such as 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).

WHO SHOULD USE THIS APPLICATION?

The Freshman 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-only applicant

Go to 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 $55 application fee*
- Essay/additional information
- Transcripts
- Official ACT or SAT test scores

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.

Mail your completed application and fee to:
Western Washington University, Office of Admissions, 516 High Street, Bellingham, WA, 98225-9009

OR

Apply online at admissions.wwu.edu
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/freshman/instructions. If you have questions, please contact the Office of Admissions at (360) 650-3440 or admit@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 Naviance/Docufide transcript system; 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 transfer credit. Washington Running Start students who have completed college credit are encouraged to request an electronic college transcript be sent from the community college at the time of application, in addition to a high school transcript.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

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. Freshmen 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.

Applying for financial aid does not affect your application for admission or consideration for scholarships. Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at fafsa.gov. Western’s school code is 003802. Fall quarter applicants should submit the FAFSA 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.

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 House Bill 1079.

Living on Campus

Freshmen who meet all housing deadlines, including the payment deadline, are guaranteed housing on campus. The date you apply to Western serves as your housing priority date, and room assignment priority is given to students who applied for admission the earliest. Detailed housing information will be sent at the time of admission; admitted students can apply online for housing at housing.wwu.edu.
By law, providing your Social Security Number is optional, but it speeds up the processing of your financial aid application. It may also be used for educational research purposes. Releasing student information will be in accordance with all appropriate state and federal laws. Western does not use social security numbers as student identification numbers.

1. Application Information

For which quarter are you applying? Check only one.  
☐ Winter (January) 2017  ☐ Spring (March) 2017  ☐ Fall (September) 2017

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

Have you previously applied for admission to Western?  
☐ 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

2. Personal Information

Social Security Number: [________] - [________] - [________] - [________] - [________]

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

Preferred First 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.

Current Mailing Address: [________] [________] [________] [________] [________] [________] [________] [________]

Email Address: [________] [________] [________] [________] [________]

Home Phone (_____): [________] Cell Phone (_____): [________]

Permanent Address: [________] [________] [________] [________] [________] [________] [________] [________]

Date of Birth: [Month/Day/Year] Birthplace: [City] [State] [Country (if other than US)]

Citizenship: Use this application if you are a U.S. citizen, U.S. permanent resident, political asylee or refugee, 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: [________] [________] [________] [________] [________] [________] [________] [________]

Residency:

☐ Yes  ☐ No 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  ☐ No Do you have a parent or guardian who currently resides in Washington and has lived here twelve (12) months or more?

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?
3. 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:

☐ 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

☐ Have either of your parents earned a bachelor’s degree?

☐ Do you have other family members who are Western graduates/students?

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

☐ Do you have any family members who work at Western?

Name(s)

☐ Have you been in foster care in Washington State for at least one year since your sixteenth birthday?

☐ Are you the dependent or spouse of a deceased or 100% disabled veteran, firefighter, or law enforcement officer?

4. Demographic Data

In accordance with Washington State law, Western Washington University does not use race, sex, 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. Omission of parent/guardian information may result in classification as a non-resident.

Western recognizes that people may identify their gender in non-binary ways. Currently, our student information system only provides two binary gender fields. We are aware of this limitation and are working to expand the possible ways for individuals to identify their gender in Western’s records. Enrolled students have the ability to change their gender marker through the Registrar’s Office. For purposes of housing, please contact University Residences at housing@wwu.edu if you have questions.

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

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native

☐ Tribal affiliation

Asian

☐ Asian Indian

☐ Cambodian

☐ Chinese

☐ Filipino

☐ Japanese

☐ Korean

☐ Lao

☐ 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)

Note: Enrolled tribal members may elect to provide verification of tribal affiliation for purposes of determining resident tuition rates and/or consideration for certain scholarships. For details please visit admissions.wwu.edu/residency.
5. Academic History

List your current/most recent high school. If you will receive a high school diploma from a Washington state community college instead of a high school, skip to the next question.

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

Do you plan to earn a high school diploma at a Washington state community college? □ No □ Yes □ Other College

Check one and indicate dates, actual or proposed:

- □ High School Graduation □ GED test □ Other

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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

Other than English, what language(s) do you speak fluently?

- First language(s) __________________________
- Language(s) spoken in your home __________________________
- Language(s) learned through coursework __________________________

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 senior year (Grade 12) schedule, including the summer before you enroll at WWU. Misrepresenting your schedule and/or failure to complete courses listed may jeopardize your admission status. Please let us know about significant schedule changes.

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 □ Qtr. 1 □ Other</th>
<th>□ Sem. 2 □ Qtr. 2 □ Other</th>
<th>□ Qtr. 3 □ Summer □ Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>COURSE TITLE</td>
<td>CN</td>
<td>COURSE TITLE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Language</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine or Performing Arts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other Classes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Class Rank & GPA

Your class rank ________ in a class of ________ □ Not available (school does not rank) □ Cumulative high school GPA _________

07/2016 - pg 3
7. College Credit and Academic Enrichment

Official college transcripts and AP/IB/CIE scores are required for college credit to be granted and may be requested during the application review process. These transcripts will enable Admissions to process your application more efficiently and expedite the awarding of transfer credit. Washington Running Start students who have completed college credit are encouraged to request an electronic college transcript be sent from the community college now, in addition to a high school transcript.

Indicate if you have taken or will take any of the following courses while in high school (N/A = courses not offered at your school):

- Advanced Placement
  - # of courses you plan to complete: __________
  - # of exams you plan to take: __________

- International Baccalaureate
  - # of courses you plan to complete: __________
  - # of Higher Level exams you plan to take: __________

- Other advanced courses or exams (please list)
  ____________________________

- Running Start or other college
  ____________________________

- Are you planning to earn an associate’s degree while in high school?
  ____________________________

- College ____________________________
  Date earned/expected: ____________
  Month/Year: ____________

- Total number of college credits (Running Start, College in the High School, AP, IB) earned or expected to earn while in high school: ____________________________

Indicate if you have participated in, or been selected for, any of the following programs:

- AVID
- College Success Foundation
- National Merit Finalist
- Rainier Scholars
- Business Week
- Compass to Campus
- National Merit Semi-Finalist
- TRIO
- Champions of Diversity
- DECA
- National Society of High School Scholars
- Upward Bound
- College Access Now
- Gear Up
- Phi Theta Kappa
- Other
- College Bound Scholars (WA State)
- National Honor Society

8. ACT or SAT Scores

Official scores must be sent from the testing agency or high school for your application to be complete.

All freshman applicants, including Running Start students, regardless of the number of college credits earned, are required to submit an official ACT or SAT test score. Requesting to have scores sent directly from the testing agency is encouraged and will expedite the processing of your application. To be received on time, you should take the test at least six weeks prior to the application deadline.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Highest Score</th>
<th>Date Taken</th>
<th>Future Date to Be Taken</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT (prior to March 2016)</td>
<td>(composite)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT (March 2016 or later)</td>
<td>(critical reading/math/writing)</td>
<td></td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(evidence based reading &amp; writing)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. Academic Interests

Indicate academic programs that interest you. While major declaration typically occurs after enrollment, this information will allow us to address your particular interests in future communications. 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.
10. 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.

11. 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.

☐ 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.

☐ Describe any activities you have been involved in related to diversity or multiculturalism and explain how you will actively contribute to a diverse campus community at Western.

☐ 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) 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.

12. 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 adversity, 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.

13. Additional Information

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

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

Have you visited Western’s campus?

- Campus tour
- Discovery Days/Transfer Days
- Western Fall Welcome
- Western Scholars Invitational
- Spring Into Western
- Visited friends/family
- Self-tour
- Business Week
- Summer Programs for Youth
- College Quest
- Sports Camp
- Other

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

07/2016 - pg 5
14. Criminal History

☐ Yes  ☐ No  Have you ever been convicted of a violent, weapons-related, drug-related or kidnapping offense; required to register as a sex offender by any legal authority within the U.S.; or are there any felony charges pending against you at this time?

If you answered yes, include an explanation with your application for admission. Answering yes does not disqualify you from consideration for admission, although additional information may be required to complete your application. If circumstances arise in the future that render your answers to the above question inaccurate, misleading, or incomplete, you must provide the Office of Admissions with updated information.

15. 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 __________________________