

Admission

Lighty Building, Room 370
888-468-6978 or 509-335-5586
futurestudents.wsu.edu/admission

General Information

Admission to Washington State University is granted without regard to age, sex, race, religion, color, creed, handicap, national or ethnic origin, or marital status. Admission to the University is granted to eligible applicants based on space availability, prior to registration but not after census day for each semester.

The following information relates to admission of new students only. It is not applicable to students previously enrolled in Washington State University during the regular school year.

It is the practice of Washington State University to admit all applicants if the total evidence indicates a reasonable probability of success. The total number of new students admitted for any one semester or in any specific department or program will be based on the number of students for whom facilities and resources can be made available.

Applications are available at www.apply.wsu.edu or from the Office of Admissions, PO Box 641067, Pullman, WA 99164-1067.

Any freshman applicant planning to compete in intercollegiate athletics must submit scores on the College Board SAT to meet National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) regulations.

The University reserves a limited number of spaces in the incoming class for students with exceptional talent or potential, as determined by the departmental/college representative making the recommendation.

Students who fail to meet the published admission requirements may contact the Office of Admissions for further information. Exceptions to the admission requirements may be made only by the Faculty Admissions Subcommittee.

Retention of Students

The grade point average for freshmen entering from high school in the fall semester 2008 was 3.48. Of the 3,411 freshmen who entered in the fall 2008, 3,210 were enrolled in the spring of 2009.

Freshman Admission Requirements

Freshman applicants will be considered for admission on the basis of their academic records and other supporting documents, which include transcripts, test scores (SAT or ACT), a personal statement, and other relevant materials as requested. The high school transcript must show completion of no less than the following course work in grades 9-12:

English:	Four credits (three of which must be composition and literature).
Mathematics:	Three credits of college preparatory mathematics (one year of geometry and two years of algebra, including an introductory component of trigonometry). Additional mathematics is strongly recommended.
Science:	Two credits (including at least one credit of laboratory science: biology, chemistry, physics, or Principles of Technology). Note: Students applying for college freshman admission, beginning in fall 2010, will need to complete two credits of laboratory science, including one credit of algebra-based biology, chemistry or physics.
Social Science:	Three credits.
World Languages:	Two credits of the same world language, Native American language, or American Sign language.
Fine Arts:	One credit of fine, visual, or performing arts, or one additional credit of academic elective.

It is strongly recommended for students planning to major in science or science-related fields to complete at least three years of science (including at least two years of laboratory science).

Applicants who have not graduated from high school at the time of application must maintain a satisfactory record, complete all required courses specified for admission to WSU, and provide evidence of graduation, higher

credential such as an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree, or completion of the GED prior to enrollment. WSU reserves the right to withdraw an offer of admission if there is a significant drop in the applicant's academic performance following the offer of admission.

Graduates of unaccredited high schools may contact the Director of Admissions for further information.

Applicants must apply with a full and complete application packet by January 31 for priority consideration for the fall semester, as space is limited. Applicants for spring semester should apply by November 15 for priority consideration.

A complete application includes the application form, the official high school transcript provided in a sealed envelope, the SAT or ACT score report from the testing agency, the personal statement, and the nonrefundable application fee. Students may apply online at www.apply.wsu.edu.

Factors considered in freshman admission include grade point average, standardized test scores, the strength of the high school course work (including senior year course work), grades the student has earned and any improvements they have made in their academic performance, and their personal statement. Although letters of recommendation are not required, they are taken into consideration if they are helpful in speaking to the student's academic potential and abilities. Refer to the website for additional information.

Students who have applied to the University may apply to WSU's Honors College if they have shown unusual scholastic ability and intellectual achievement in high school. Application materials may be obtained from the Honors College website at honors.wsu.edu. Transfer and international students may apply to the Honors College on an individual basis after eligibility has been determined. Questions should be directed to the University Honors College, PO Box 642012, Pullman, WA 99164-2012, or call 509-335-4505.

Transfer Admission Requirements

Transfer applicants who have successfully completed a Direct Transfer Associate (DTA) from a regionally accredited post-secondary institution at the time of application will be admitted as space allows.

Transfer applicants without a DTA but with at least 27 semester (40 quarter) hours of transferable college credit from a regionally accredited post-secondary institution normally will be admitted as space allows, provided they have at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point average. Transfer students with a 2.0-2.49 cumulative grade point average will be admitted as space allows. Applicants with fewer than 27 semester (40 quarter) hours of transferable credit will be considered for admission if they also meet the freshman admission requirements.

For fall semester, qualified students who apply with a complete application packet by January 31 will be offered admission until the class is filled. For spring semester, qualified students who apply by November 15 will be offered admission on a space available basis until the class is filled.

A complete application includes the application form, an official transcript sent directly from each college or university attended showing work completed at the time of application, and the nonrefundable application fee. Applicants with fewer than 27 semester (40 quarter) hours of transferable credit earned and posted at the time of application must also provide freshman credentials including high school transcripts and test scores for consideration.

Transfer Credit Policy

College-level work completed at institutions that are regionally accredited is given appropriate credit upon transfer to Washington State University.

The maximum transfer credit allowed from accredited two-year community or junior colleges, or from CLEP, AP, IB, or military credit shall be 73 semester (110 quarter) hours toward a baccalaureate degree irrespective of when those credits were earned. The maximum allowable credit toward a four-year degree from a four-year institution or from a combination of all institutions shall be 90 semester (135 quarter) hours of credit, of which no more than 73 semester credits may be lower division hours of credit. For a five-year degree program the maximum credit allowed for transfer from a four-year institution or a combination of all institutions shall be 120 semester (180 quarter) hours of credit, of which no more than 73 semester credits may be lower division hours of credit.

Completion of lower-division General Education Requirements will be granted to students who have completed all of the lower-division General Education Requirements at another regionally accredited Washington baccalaureate institution, provided the sending institution so certifies.

Associate Degree Transfer

Students who have completed a Direct Transfer Associate (DTA) degree at a Washington community college, including a course pattern which approximates the General Education Requirements (GERs) for graduation from Washington State University, as determined by the Office of Admissions at Washington State University, will be considered to have fulfilled the lower-division General Education Requirements for graduation. The Associate of Arts-Oregon transfer degree from an Oregon community college guarantees completion of the lower-division General Education Requirements, but does not guarantee junior standing. Certain approved Associate's degrees from Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Idaho may also be considered to have fulfilled the lower division GERs for graduation, but do not guarantee junior status (60 semester credits). For details on specific degrees view WSU's web site. In all cases, students will also be required to meet the upper-division General Education Requirements as well as any departmental and college graduation requirements.

Students who have completed the Associate of Science Transfer Degree (A.S.T.) from a Washington community college will receive the same priority consideration for admission to the baccalaureate institution as they would for completing the direct transfer associate degree and will generally be given junior status. Additional general education and college graduation requirements, as required by Washington State University, must be met prior to the completion of a baccalaureate degree. Students are responsible for checking specific major requirements in the year prior to transferring.

Washington State University recognizes academic credits earned at other regionally accredited institutions which are essentially equivalent in academic level and content to work offered at WSU. Toward this end, the University subscribes to the "Policy on Inter-College Transfer and Articulation Among Washington Public Colleges and Universities" endorsed by the public colleges and universities of Washington and the State Board for Community and Technical Colleges and published by the Higher Education Coordinating Board. The policy deals with the rights and responsibilities of students and the review and appeal process in transfer credit disputes.

Students who have completed at least 70 quarter credit hours toward completion of an approved A.A. degree may complete the Direct Transfer Associate (A.A.) degrees from a Washington or Oregon two-year college after their initial enrollment at WSU.

Transfer students are encouraged to contact the Office of Admissions at 888-468-6978 with any questions regarding the transfer of credit or to access transfer articulation information at www.wsu.edu/advise/transfer-courses or www.wsu.edu/transfer/TRACS, or to call the Transfer Center at 509-335-6000.

Adult Student Admission

Washington State University recognizes that students who have been away from the classroom for extended periods of time may have special needs. Therefore, in accordance with the policies set forth by the Higher Education Coordinating Board, applications from students who are 25 years of age or over may be considered for admission on the basis of alternative criteria. Students are encouraged to contact the Office of Admissions for details.

Admission of Students with Extraordinary Talents

Washington State University wishes to make educational opportunities available to students whose extraordinary talents have the potential to enrich our intellectual, cultural, and social environments, but whose overall academic credentials may not qualify them for regular admission.

WSU departments, colleges, or programs may request special consideration for students who possess such extraordinary talents provided the talent is of a nature that would not normally be reflected or assessed during the regular admission process. The current admission process considers the curriculum, grades, and standardized scores of the applicant. Examples of evidence of extraordinary talents that might not be apparent in the applicant's file include: exceptional music or theatrical performance, athletic accomplishment, awards in science, math, or artistic competitions or similar measures of talent.

There are two tracks for admission under this policy. The first admits students who are minimally qualified with an AIN of 28 or above, but whose index scores do not meet the criteria set by the university for admission that year. Such students may be admitted upon the written recommendation of the chair/director of the relevant academic department, school, or program or the head coach of the relevant athletic team and the approval of the Vice President for Enrollment Management or designees. In the case of student athletes, the concurrence of the Faculty Athletic Representative is also required. Letters of recommendation must detail how the student's skills will contribute to the University.

A three-person panel consisting of the Chair of the Faculty Senate, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Faculty Senate and the Vice President for Enrollment Management or designees will further review students identified as has extraordinary talent but whose AIN scores are below a 28. A written recommendation of the relevant chair/director or head coach will be required to support the student's admission. In the case of student athletes, the students who are assessed to have potential to contribute to the university through their special skills and advance themselves through the university experience will be considered for admission. Students who fail to meet the university's minimum core requirements or in the case of student athletes who fail to meet NCAA requirements will not be admitted to the university under this policy.

The University will carefully monitor the number and progress of students admitted under rules 1-c and 1-e. Every fall, the Vice President for Enrollment Management will provide a written report to the Provost, Chair of the Faculty Senate and the President on the number of students admitted, their academic qualifications, extraordinary talents, or the basis for their admission. The report will also assess the academic progress of students previously admitted under these rules to insure that the program is functioning to the advantage of the students and the university community as a whole.

Admission to WSU Spokane, WSU Tri-Cities, and WSU Vancouver

The WSU Spokane, Tri-Cities, and Vancouver campuses offer a variety of undergraduate and graduate degree programs. All three campuses have graduate education; WSU Tri-Cities and WSU Vancouver also offer baccalaureate degrees.

Academic programs offered by each campus are listed separately in this catalog. Applications may be obtained from each campus or at its Web site. A complete transfer application includes the application form, official transcripts provided in a sealed envelope from each college or university attended showing work completed at the time of application, and the nonrefundable application fee. Applications will not be considered or processed after the tenth day of classes for any semester. Final and complete transcripts to date must be submitted prior to the student's initial enrollment.

The policies regarding the transfer of credit are described within the Transfer Admission Requirements as explained above.

Former Students Returning (FSR) Not Enrolled the Previous Academic Semester

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If you previously enrolled at any Washington State University campus and you were absent for more than one semester (excluding summer), you are considered a former student and you need to reapply for admission.

Preference will be given to applications received by January 31 for fall semester and November 15 for spring semester. Applications submitted after census day of classes will not be considered.

FSR applicants will be granted admission if they are in good academic standing. FSR applicants whose previous academic record at Washington State University is unsatisfactory will be required to follow established academic reinstatement procedures prior to admission.

FSR applicants who have attended other institutions since their last enrollment at Washington State University are required to submit an official transcript directly from each institution attended. Applicants are required to have at least a 2.0 GPA in transfer work.

Apply at www.apply.wsu.edu or contact the Office of Admissions for a FSR application.

International Student Admission Requirements

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Washington State University encourages the application of qualified students from other nations to complement its student community. Applicants must submit evidence of English proficiency (example: TOEFL or other recognized proficiency exam; see www.ip.wsu.edu/enroll/faq for list), evidence of adequate financial resources to meet the costs of the proposed study, an International Undergraduate Application for Admission along with application fee, and secondary and post-secondary transcripts of all course work taken. Please contact the Office of Admissions at 509-335-5586 or at futurestudents.wsu.edu/admission for further information.

Non-Degree Admission

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Individuals may enroll at Washington State University as non-degree students for personal enrichment, professional development, or other reasons. Enrollment in courses for non-degree students is limited to space available, and non-degree students register for courses after degree-seeking students. Students who are interested in applying as a non-degree-seeking student may apply at www.apply.wsu.edu.

International Student Non-Degree Admission Requirements

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International non-degree students come to Washington State University for a variety of reasons, as do domestic non-degree students. However, often these students are having a study abroad experience at WSU, much like WSU students have when they go overseas to study for a short while at foreign institutions. The goals for the experience usually include improving language capabilities, taking transferable credit-bearing course work, making new friends, learning about American culture, and seeing a little of the USA. Conversely, these students enrich WSU by exposing students and faculty alike to a broader world view in and outside of the classroom.

Most of the students return to their home institutions to complete degrees after they attend classes at WSU. Since the purpose for the non-degree status is not for the student to ultimately attain a degree from WSU, the period of study is usually expected to be one year or less. However, non-degree students have been known to return to WSU for post-baccalaureate or graduate study after learning about the fine facilities, high-quality faculty, and many resources we have to offer.

Whitman County High School Students Enrolling at Washington State University

For fall and spring semesters, eligible local Whitman County high school students enroll through Running Start. For more information on the Running Start program, please contact the Registrar's Office at 509-335-1693.

Limited Enrollment Programs

Since academic departments may establish additional requirements for admission or certification to specific programs, eligibility for admission to Washington State University does not ensure acceptance into any department or program as a certified major and degree candidate. Several academic programs, including but not necessarily limited to architecture, business administration, communication, computer science, construction management, economics, education, engineering, fine arts, hospitality business management, interior design, landscape architecture, mathematics, music, nursing, psychology, pharmacy, and veterinary medicine, are unable to accept all interested students. In these situations, and others which may arise in the future, the most highly qualified students will be selected up to the enrollment limits in the specific programs. Students applying for admission to selective programs should contact the program or check its web site for application details. Application deadlines are subject to change.

Credit by Examination

Recognizing the natural ability and education experience of many of its applicants, Washington State University has developed a broad program of credit by examination.

In consultation with academic departments, credit may be granted to entering or enrolled undergraduate students via external examinations, institutional examinations, and approved military service schools. WSU does not accept credit by examination granted by other institutions. Credit by examination shall yield no grade points. Such credits may partially fulfill General Education Requirements for graduation. External examinations include but not limited to: Advanced Placement (AP) examinations; general and subject College Level Examination Program (CLEP); and International Baccalaureate (IB). Acceptable scores for receiving credit may be found at www.wsu.edu/advancedcredit.

The maximum combined lower-division transfer credit allowed from regionally accredited institutions, AP, CLEP, IB and military credit shall be 73 semester hours toward a baccalaureate degree irrespective of when those hours were earned.

Matriculated students who are currently registered may take a special examination for university credit in a course in which they are not registered. Such credits yield no grade points but may yield credit toward completion of General Education Requirements for graduation. For further information contact the Registrar's Office.

Advance Payment on Tuition and Fees

All undergraduate applicants, except former students returning, special students, contract students, and foreign students living outside the USA (except Canada), are required to submit a nonrefundable advance payment on tuition and fees in the amount of \$200 prior to final admission. The advance payment will be requested of those applicants who are eligible for admission and should not be submitted until notice of eligibility is received by the applicant.

Graduate Admission Requirements

Applicants for admission to the Graduate School must meet the special requirements of the Graduate School and the particular program desired. For complete information, refer to the Graduate School listing in this catalog.