

Admissions

Except for international students, undergraduate students are admitted to the UW’s Seattle campus every quarter, including summer. Admission may be closed some quarters if full enrollment prohibits admission of new students. Freshman applicants must have completed certain core courses in high school, and they are further evaluated on the basis of a combination of high school grades, rigor of high school curriculum, college-admission test scores, and information in a personal statement.

Transfer applicants must also have completed core-subject high school requirements, or have made up any deficiencies with college coursework. Many transfer students complete an academic associate degree at a Washington community college and then apply for admission to the UW.

The Office of Admissions, in addition to processing undergraduate applications, counsels prospective students, evaluates the credits of transfer students, conducts campus tours, and provides outreach to Washington high schools and community colleges.

In This Chapter:

Admission criteria	10
Special admissions	13
Services provided by the Office of Admissions	14
Admission information available from the Student Database & EARS	15
Admission information available on the Internet	16

See also: www.admit.washington.edu

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Freshmen

Freshman applicants must present a high school program that includes the following core subject requirements:

- 4 years of college-preparatory English including at least 3 years of composition and/or literature
- 2 years of one foreign language
- 3 years of college-preparatory mathematics (usually algebra, geometry, and intermediate algebra/trigonometry)
- 3 years of social sciences
- 2 years of science, including 1 year with laboratory of biology, chemistry, or physics
- ½ year of fine, visual, or performing arts
- ½ year of electives from the above areas

Freshmen must also present SAT or ACT scores with the writing scores. Admission is based on high school GPA, test scores, a personal statement, and an overall assessment of academic and unique personal strengths and potential. Admission of applicants who are not Washington residents may be more competitive than for residents of Washington state.

More detailed information about freshman admission is available at www.admit.washington.edu/BeforeYouApply/Freshman or in the Freshman Admission Handbook, which advisers may obtain from the Office of Admissions.

Transfer students

Any student who has matriculated at a college after graduation from high school (i.e., enrolled at a college in a degree-seeking program) must apply as a transfer student, regardless of the number of college credits completed.

The transfer admission review process involves a comprehensive review of an applicant's entire academic record and personal accomplishments. All applicants, including transfer students, must present the high school program outlined above or equivalent college courses. In addition to high school transcripts, transfer applicants must submit transcripts from each college attended. The criteria by which transfer students are admitted are similar in concept to the criteria for

freshman admission: GPA, test scores, a personal statement, and an overall assessment of academic preparation and unique personal strengths and potential.

More detailed information about transfer admission is available at www.admit.washington.edu/BeforeYouApply/Transfer or in the Transfer Admission and Planning (TAP) brochure, which advisers may obtain from the Office of Admissions.

Running Start

Running Start is a Washington State program that allows high school students in grades 11 and 12 to enroll in college courses at participating Washington colleges and/or universities. Although the UW accepts Running Start credit, the UW does not participate in the Running Start Program. In other words, the UW is not one of the colleges in the state at which Running Start high school students may take college courses.

Regardless of the number of college credits earned, students enrolled in Running Start through other institutions must apply as freshmen; they must meet freshman deadlines and admission criteria, and they should use the Freshman Application Packet. However, students who matriculate (enroll at a college in a degree-seeking program) at another institution after leaving high school (except for the summer immediately following high school) are no longer enrolled in high school or Running Start and, therefore, must apply as transfer students and should request the Transfer Admission and Planning booklet or consult the transfer admission website.

The core subject requirements (listed under "Freshmen" above) may be met with high school or college courses. The UW grants transfer credit for Running Start courses if they are college level transferable academic courses and recorded on an official college transcript. All the usual transfer credit restrictions apply.

Immigrants and refugees

Immigrant and refugee applicants, both freshmen and transfer, are not required to submit English Language exemption test scores for admission consideration. However, students who are not U.S. citizens and who come from countries other than Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia, Ireland, and New Zealand will be

required to complete (or test out of) a series of five Academic English Program (AEP) courses, beginning with their first quarter of enrollment. Test scores that exempt students from the entire AEP requirement are listed below under “International students.” In addition, an AEP Diagnostic Examination is available through the UW’s English Language Program to determine how many (if any) of the five AEP courses will be required.

Note that the English language proficiency requirement should not be confused with the high school English core subject requirement. Applicants must meet both requirements. Further information about English language proficiency is available at www.admit.washington.edu/BeforeYouApply/Freshman/Core/English/Alternatives (for freshmen) and www.admit.washington.edu/BeforeYouApply/Transfer/Requirements/Core/English/NonNative (for transfer students) or in Undergraduate Admissions Pamphlet #3.

Immigrant and refugee applicants should use the same freshman and/or transfer application packets as U.S. citizens.

International students

International students are non-U.S. citizens who have no permanent immigration status in the U.S.; they usually are required to have a student visa. Students with permanent resident, immigrant, or refugee status in the U.S. are not considered international students for admission purposes.

The UW accepts relatively few international applicants. International students—freshmen, transfer, and postbaccalaureate—must apply to the UW’s Seattle campus by January 15 for either autumn or summer/autumn admission. International applicants are not admitted in winter and spring quarters. The UW’s Bothell and Tacoma campuses admit international students every quarter; students may apply for any quarter in which their program admits students.

International applicants must submit proof of English language proficiency in order to be considered for admission. Applicants with scores below the minimum requirement will not be considered regardless of other admission qualifications.

The minimum scores to be considered for admission are as follows (only one is required):

TOEFL (P)	540	(paper-based score)
TOEFL (C)	207	(computer-based score)
TOEFL (I)	57	(internet-based score)
MLT	85	(UW-administered exam only)
IELTS	6	

Unless otherwise exempted, international students must complete up to five Academic English Program courses, starting in their first quarter of enrollment at the UW and continuing with one course each quarter until the series is completed. An AEP Diagnostic Examination is available, and students who take it may place out of some or all of the five courses. Students who have a high enough TOEFL, MLT, etc. score are exempt from the five quarters of English Language. The minimum scores to be exempt from AEP course requirements are as follows (only one is required):

TOEFL (P)	580	(paper-based score)
TOEFL (C)	237	(computer-based score)
TOEFL (I)	70	(internet-based score)
MLT	90	(UW-administered exam only)
ACT-English	20	
SATCR	490	
SAT-R Verbal	490	(recentered score)
SAT Verbal	410	(pre 4/95, old score)
IELTS	7	

Information regarding international student admission is available at:

www.admit.washington.edu/BeforeYouApply/International

Postbaccalaureate students

Postbaccalaureate students are those who have already completed a qualifying bachelor’s degree and who are interested in further study at the undergraduate level.

Postbaccalaureate admission is extremely limited and competitive. In addition to academic performance and curricular history, the admission decision is based on a variety of factors, including the feasibility of the applicant’s academic plan as described in the required statement of purpose, the applicant’s potential for success in the intended major, and the applicant’s educational options vs. need to attend the UW. Applicants seeking entry to competitive majors generally need some kind of endorsement from the prospective

major department in order to be competitive for UW admission.

Information regarding postbaccalaureate admission is available on the Web at:

www.admit.washington.edu/BeforeYouApply/Postbacs

Nonmatriculated students

Nonmatriculated students are, traditionally, students interested only in attending classes and not in receiving a UW degree. Such students are not required to submit transcripts or test scores for admission. Currently, the UW Registration Office admits only the following categories of nonmatriculated students:

- Students attending summer quarter only.
- State employees, including UW faculty and staff, utilizing the tuition waiver available to state employees (at least half-time employment).

Persons interested in attending the UW as nonmatriculated students in quarters other than summer should be referred to UW Educational Outreach. No formal admission procedures or academic credentials are required for registration in UW Extension courses. In addition to a number of popular non-credit certificate programs, Educational Outreach offers a variety of online learning courses, and can help place students in regular UW day courses on a space-available basis.

Returning former students

Returning former students are offered admission if they submit the Returning Student Re-enrollment Application (obtained not from Admissions but from the Registrar's Office or online) by the deadline for the quarter they wish to return. Students who have been dropped for low scholarship must first be reinstated by the appropriate college before being readmitted to the University. Students who have been away from the UW for two or more years will be required to submit a personal statement about their academic plans and meet with an adviser at Undergraduate Advising before readmission.

Bothell and Tacoma campuses

Bothell and Tacoma campus admission is handled by the Tacoma and Bothell campuses. Each campus admits freshmen and transfer students. Currently, the minimum transfer admission requirement is 80 (Bothell) or 90 (Tacoma) transferable credits with at least a 2.00 GPA. Credits must include:

- 45-60 credits of general education courses, including 15-20 credits each in Visual, Literary, and Performing Arts; Individuals and Societies; and The Natural World
- 5 credits English composition, plus additional writing (varies)
- 4 credits of quantitative/symbolic reasoning, above the level of intermediate algebra
- 2 years of high school foreign language, or 10 college credits of one language

Selection criteria include the appropriateness of the applicant's academic preparation for the degree program offered at the Bothell or Tacoma campus; likelihood of success; commitment to completing the degree program; and relationship between career plans and the degree program. Admission to some programs is quite competitive.

Unlike UW-Seattle, UW-Bothell and UW-Tacoma admit international students in all quarters. For details on their special admission requirements for international students, see the UW-Bothell and UW-Tacoma websites.

Bothell and Tacoma campus students seeking to transfer to the Seattle campus, and vice-versa, must go through the entire admission process just as though they were transferring from a non-UW institution.

A student who has been accepted at two UW campuses cannot earn degrees from both campuses simultaneously. Such a student must complete a degree at one campus, then apply as a postbaccalaureate student at the second campus.

For information about cross-campus registration (enrolling in courses at a UW campus other than the one at which the student is matriculated), see page 28. For information about majoring at one campus and minorning at another, see page 55.

Evening Degree Program (UW-Seattle)

Evening Degree Program (EDP) admission is handled by the Office of Admissions. Admission requirements are the same as day program transfer and postbaccalaureate students, except that a minimum of 75 transferable credits is required for consideration to the EDP. The criteria for admission (i.e., the competitiveness of admission) are set independently from the day program.

Although progress toward completing these requirements is not part of the admission evaluation, the 75 credits should include the majority of the student's Arts and Sciences breadth (Areas of Knowledge), basic skills, and additional writing (W-course) requirements. Since the Evening Degree Program is targeted toward degree completion, it offers primarily upper-division courses that meet the requirements of the student's major, as well as a variety of courses that can count toward any remaining VLPA and I&S requirements.

A student admitted to the regular day program may transfer to the Evening Degree Program at any time. Because admission to the Evening Degree Program is less competitive, however, a student initially admitted to the Evening Degree Program who wants to transfer to the day program must reapply to the UW and meet the criteria for admission as a day-program student.

After completing one quarter in the day program, students who transfer to the Evening Degree Program may later re-enter the day program without reapplying for admission, provided they are still pursuing the same degree (for example, a first bachelor's degree).

Admission to departments

Special selection procedures are used by some UW departments. Many departments have admission requirements that differ from the minimum University requirements. Therefore, acceptance by the University does not guarantee admission to a desired program. A list of the departments with special selection procedures is included in the Transfer Admission and Planning booklet available from the Office of Admissions. Department admission requirements are also available at www.washington.edu/uaa/gateway/advising/majors. Some departments with admission requirements require that the student complete one or more quarters at the UW before applying for admission to the major; others require prerequisite courses available only at

the UW. Other departments, however, accept applications for admission from students who are applying for admission to the UW at the same time. Admission to a major does not guarantee admission to the UW. A student accepted by a department but not admissible to the UW will not be admitted.

A transfer student who is not admitted directly to a competitive major, may be considered for admission to an alternative major – if requested on their application for admission – via the comprehensive review process. A student who has not yet met minimum departmental admission requirements may also be considered via the comprehensive review process for admission in one of the premajor categories.

A postbaccalaureate student not accepted by the department for which s/he applied will rarely be offered admission to the University.

Admissions publications

More detailed information about the admission process is included in the Freshman Admission Handbook, the Transfer Admission and Planning booklet, and the Information Packet for International Students, published by the Office of Admissions. The UW Equivalency Guide for Community Colleges in Washington, which lists UW equivalents for transferable courses from Washington state community colleges, is available online at admit.washington.edu/BeforeYouApply/Transfer/Plan/EquivalencyGuide. Academic Planning Worksheets for prospective transfer students are available at:

admit.washington.edu/BeforeYouApply/Transfer/Plan/Worksheets

SPECIAL ADMISSIONS

Special admission and appeals

For freshmen: admit.washington.edu/Apply/Freshman/Decision/SpecialAdmission

For transfer students: admit.washington.edu/Apply/Transfer/Decision/SpecialAdmission

The University's admission policies must comply with Washington State regulations and faculty-authorized requirements. It is the responsibility of the Office of Admissions to apply these standards consistently and fairly. The faculty recognizes, however, that ex-

ceptions should be granted occasionally for students in unusual situations. Applicants who have been denied may write a letter of petition requesting special consideration if they believe there are extenuating circumstances not explained in the Personal Statement, or if they believe an error has occurred in the initial evaluation. Appeals must be made in writing by the applicant to the Faculty Council on Academic Standard's Subcommittee on Admission and Graduation, Office of Admissions. Guidelines for special admission and appeal are available at the URLs listed above.

Provisional admission

Most petitions concerning core subject deficiencies are denied, and a student must make up the deficiencies by taking qualifying course work at another college before submitting a new application to the UW. In rare cases where such a petition is approved, the student is admitted provisionally. Provisionally admitted students are usually allowed one year to satisfy their admission deficiencies while attending the UW. Petitions for special admission consideration must be written by the applicant and submitted to the Office of Admissions.

Conditional admission

Almost all freshmen and many transfer applicants are in the process of completing one or more admission requirements at the time of application. If otherwise admissible, these applicants are offered admission with the condition that all admission requirements are satisfied prior to their first quarter of enrollment. Deadlines for submitting final transcripts verifying completion are included in the Welcome booklet when a student is admitted. The UW Office of Admissions reserves the right to withdraw the offer of admission if a student does not maintain his/her academic standing and/or satisfy other conditions of their admission. In most cases, if a student fails to complete a subject or other specific admission requirement, the student's admission is cancelled and the student must reapply if he/she wishes to be considered for admission in a future quarter.

Department special admits

Departments may request special admission consideration for applicants who demonstrate special talent in performance-related fields such as music or dance.

Varsity sports

A few varsity sports participants are specially admitted at the request of the Athletic Department.

SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

Transcript evaluation

Transcript evaluation for admission and transfer credit purposes is provided by Admissions Specialists. The specialists determine units of high school core courses completed and the transferability of courses taken at other institutions. The Office of Admissions does not determine the applicability of transfer credit to degree requirements. Questions concerning high school background or specific credit evaluations should be referred to Edie Pelerine, Assistant Director for Processing, ediep@u.washington.edu

In general, transcripts are evaluated only for undergraduate students who have applied to the UW, been offered admission, and have paid the New Student Enrollment and Orientation Fee (NSEOF). Every effort is made to complete each student's evaluation prior to his/her Advising and Orientation appointment date.

Admissions staff will answer basic questions from students or advisers about the transferability of certain courses, but a complete evaluation cannot be made for prospective transfer students. Academic advisers often do rough, unofficial evaluations of transfer records for prospective UW students who need to know what to take at their home institutions before transferring.

The online Equivalency Guide for Washington Community and Technical Colleges is maintained by the Office of Admissions and located at:

admit.washington.edu/BeforeYouApply/Transfer/Plan/EquivalencyGuide

The Office of Admissions does not do transfer credit evaluations for postbaccalaureate students. Instead, advisers work from copies of the original transcripts and count the students' previous coursework toward UW requirements at their own discretion.

Outreach and Recruitment

Information Sessions

A one-hour information session for prospective freshmen is held every Monday and Friday (except state holidays) at 1:30. Check the Admissions website for location. A session for prospective transfer applicants is held every Thursday at 2:30 at the Undergraduate Advising at the Gateway Center. For up-to-date locations and schedules for information sessions, go to:

admit.washington.edu/Visit

Campus tours

Excluding state holidays, 90-minute student-guided walking tours of upper campus are offered every weekday starting at 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Tours usually depart from the Office of Admissions. Saturday tours depart from the George Washington statue at 10:30 a.m. except weekends connected to state holidays or during student breaks. For up-to-date information about tours, go to:

admit.washington.edu/Visit

High school and community college liaison

Members of the Admissions Office periodically conduct visits to high schools and community colleges around the state to familiarize counselors and students with University offerings and admission requirements. Academic counselors from different colleges of the University join the Admissions Office on some visits to community colleges to provide more detailed academic advising. Questions about community college visits should be directed to Susan Inman, Lead Admissions Counselor, (206) 616-3868 or susani@u.washington.edu.

High School/College Relations

In late spring, the Office of Admissions sponsors a conference for high school counselors on the UW campus. Additionally, the Office of Admissions is in regular contact throughout the school year with the guidance counseling community to help promote UW programs, scholarships, and other opportunities via an email list and physical mailings of admissions and recruitment materials.

Pre-admission counseling

In general, the Office of Admissions provides pre-admission counseling for prospective freshmen and

transfer applicants, explaining admission requirements and procedures, providing information on majors and programs, presenting information about a wide range of UW opportunities, and explaining policies on transfer credits. The Admissions Office usually refers questions about how courses may be applied toward general education requirements to Undergraduate Advising.

Outreach Programs for Prospective Freshmen

In addition to general campus tours and informational sessions, select students are invited to campus for more targeted recruitment events. The Washington Summer Scholars program and Husky Experience are two such examples of events offered by the Office of Admissions. Additionally, Admissions collaborates with numerous departments and programs around campus including Office of Minority Affairs and Diversity, Honors, and Engineering, for example, to offer many additional programs. For more information, contact Jim Rawlins at (206) 616-3864 or at jrawlins@u.washington.edu

Analysis and Data Collection

The Office of Admissions gathers and maintains information on many prospective UW students. The data are used in Admissions-sponsored recruitment efforts, but the office encourages programs and departments around campus to use the information for recruitment and other projects.

Information is collected on which prospective students (freshman and transfer) are interested in various areas of study, along with data about their background or academic performance and contact information. Information is also available on national, state, and institutional trends among college-bound students. The Admissions Office also welcomes information that departments have gathered in their own recruitment programs for inclusion in this campus-wide system.

For more information, contact Jim Rawlins at (206) 616-3864 or at enroll@u.washington.edu

ADMISSION INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM THE STUDENT DATABASE & EARS

NOTE: Applicants seeking information about their application for admission should be directed to the Office of Admissions. Do not attempt to answer ques-

tions about an applicant's admission status, receipt of documents, or academic information. Until a student actually enrolls, most of the application information is subject to interpretation, and any of the information may fluctuate depending upon a variety of internal processing factors (such as corrections, timing, receipt of final documents, etc.). Applicants can view some information about their status in MyUW via the "Admissions Information" section presented on the front page tab.

SRF500 (FI)—Applicant Locator

Enter a student's last name to begin a search for information. The computer will provide an alphabetical list of students with their student numbers, beginning with the name you requested. If the student you are seeking is on the screen, tab once to "line number for detail" and enter the number on the name the line appears on, and send. This will take you to the SRF505 screen for the person if s/he is an applicant, or the SRF305 screen if the person is or was a UW student. From there you can SRT to other SDB screens for the same student.

You can also access this information using the Locator tab in EARS.

SRF505—Applicant Inquiry Screen

This screen lists the status of the student's application, the major to which the student was assigned, the major the student requested, whether the New Student Enrollment and Orientation Fee has been paid, the student's registration date (or "Orientation" may be indicated), and international student information.

SRF506—Requirements/Deficiencies Inquiry

To the extent that the information has been entered into the computer, this screen lists the years of each high school subject completed by the applicant, and notes any admission deficiencies. It also indicates the foreign language used for admission. For students admitted in previous quarters, this information appears on the SRF306 screen.

This information is also available on the Overview tab in EARS.

SRF507—Test Scores Inquiry

This screen lists any test scores (e.g., SAT, ACT,

TOEFL) submitted for admission. AP scores and UW placement test scores are also available on this screen. Most outside test scores are received electronically and automatically match to an applicant's record IF there is a social security number match.

SRF508—Prior School Inquiry

This screen lists previous colleges attended, as provided by the student in his/her application for admission, and any degrees granted. The dates on which transcripts were received are also posted.

SRF536—Unmatched Test Scores

Test scores received electronically but not matching an applicant or student record may be accessible on this screen. If a student thinks scores were sent but you can't find them, you can search for any unmatched test scores under that student's name. If you find scores that don't match an applicant/student record for some reason (e.g., the SSN didn't match our records), contact the Office of Admissions so appropriate steps can be taken to match the test score record with the student's record.

ADMISSION INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET

Admission

The Information for Prospective Students Website at admit.washington.edu has complete and detailed information for freshmen, transfer students, international students, and postbaccalaureate students. Students can apply online, download a PDF application form, or order an application form. Students can also ask admissions questions online and order a Freshman Admission Handbook or Transfer Admission and Planning brochure.

Transferring Credit

admit.washington.edu/BeforeYouApply/Transfer/Plan/EquivalencyGuide

The Equivalency Guide for Washington Community and Technical Colleges lists transferable courses at each Washington state community college, the UW equivalent course, and how the course counts toward UW general education requirements. It also includes an overview of information about transfer credit policies, as well as links to information AP, IB, and dual credit programs such as Running Start.

Washington State University maintains a similar guide to transferring courses at www.wsu.edu/advise/transfer-courses, which can be a useful guide for advisers. However, although it shows how UW courses transfer to WSU, the reverse is not necessarily true; WSU courses may not transfer to the UW in the same way.

