

## FINANCIAL AID HOW TO'S

Each year, the UW-La Crosse Financial Aid Office awards \$60 million in aid in the form of loans, state and federal grants, and student employment. Approximately 70% of UWL students receive financial aid each year.

Students apply for financial aid by completing the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) online at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov). You can also file the FAFSA using the my StudentAid mobile app. The Financial Aid Office recommends that families use the "IRS Data Retrieval Option" when completing the income information sections of the FAFSA.

For a step-by-step guide to completing your financial aid application, or to learn more about additional financial assistance, go to [uwlax.edu/finaid](http://uwlax.edu/finaid).

### IT MAKE\$ CENTS! MONEY MANAGEMENT CENTER

Seven out of ten students nationally are stressed about their finances. Have questions concerning your finances? Ask us! Schedule a consultation with an It Make\$ Cents! Financial Peer Mentor.

We can assist you with:

- Debt
- Budgeting
- Banking & Investing
- Paying for College
- Credit
- Loans
- Identity Protection

[uwlax.edu/it-makes-cents](http://uwlax.edu/it-makes-cents)

### THE SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCE CENTER (SRC)

UWL's Scholarship Resource Center (SRC) encourages students to focus on alternative funding options that match with their personal achievements and unique personalities. SRC is committed to helping students locate scholarships that fit their unique qualifications, educate them regarding submitting high quality applications and ultimately, see them further their education by receiving scholarships to fund their costs.

## NEW FRESHMAN TIMELINE

### FEBRUARY:

- Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [studentaid.gov](http://studentaid.gov). If you are submitting a FAFSA, please be sure the Admissions Office has your Social Security number on file.

### MARCH:

- Register for required placement tests.
  - Registration is scheduled to open on March 15, 2024.
  - Take them before May 15, 2024.
  - See enclosed information for details.
- Log into WINGS to see your financial aid package.
- Apply for tuition reciprocity if you are from Minnesota. Visit [www.ohe.state.mn.us/ssl/reciprocity2023/index.cfm](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/ssl/reciprocity2023/index.cfm) to apply.

### APRIL:

- Sign up for START. Instructions will be mailed to your home address in the spring if you have paid the \$100 enrollment deposit.

### JUNE:

- Attend START.
- Receive hall and roommate assignments.
- Have an official final high school transcript sent to the Admissions Office.
- If you have earned college credit while in high school, request all final college transcripts to be sent to the Admissions Office.

### JULY-AUGUST:

- Look for communication regarding New Student Orientation and Welcome Week.

### SEPTEMBER:

- Move into your residence hall.
- Start classes on Sept. 3.

### OCTOBER:

- Participate in Family Weekend Oct. 4-6.



NEWSLETTER FOR ADMITTED NEW FRESHMEN

# UWL LA CROSSE TALK

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE

FEBRUARY

**Congratulations** on your admission to UWL! We are looking forward to welcoming you to campus for Fall 2024. Our students, faculty, and staff are proud to be part of UWL, and we look forward to having you join our tradition of excellence. You will find a challenging and dynamic environment where you will meet others who share your passion for learning. See you on campus soon!

## YOUR NEXT STEPS

### DATES TO REMEMBER:

START for First-Year Students and Families  
**June 10, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 20, 21, 24**

**STudent Advising, Registration and Transition (START)** is for all new first-year students. Students will need to attend one of the nine dates. More information will be sent via mail in the spring.

**FIRST DAY OF CLASSES TUESDAY, SEPT. 3, 2024**

[uwlax.edu/admissions](http://uwlax.edu/admissions)



### 1. REGISTER FOR THE WISCONSIN PLACEMENT TESTS *(Information Enclosed)*

The Wisconsin Placement Tests are required of all students planning to attend UWL. Please carefully read the enclosed information and register for your test as soon as possible. Students are strongly encouraged to take the exam by May 15, 2024 so that your scores are available when you register for classes.

### 2. PAY YOUR DEPOSITS FOR FALL 2024

We hope that you are enjoying your senior year...it's going by quickly and we are already looking forward to seeing you in June! If you have not already done so, you need to make your \$100 enrollment deposit, complete the on-campus housing application and pay the \$150 housing deposit.

You should submit the enrollment deposit using your WINGS Student Center (see the Next Steps booklet that was included with your admission letter). After your enrollment deposit is received, you will be mailed on-campus housing information and instructions. Follow the instructions to complete your housing application.

Only students who have submitted the enrollment deposit will be sent START materials in the spring. Both deposits are refundable until May 1, 2024.

### 3. DO YOU KNOW YOUR NETID/WINGS PASSWORD?

If you have not logged into your WINGS Student Center, please do so very soon. This is where you will complete important steps like pay deposits, submit the housing application and register for START. You can use the WINGS username/password recovery available at [uwlax.edu/info/password-reset](http://uwlax.edu/info/password-reset) if you have misplaced or cannot remember login information.

## WHY UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH?

The Office of Student Research, Creativity and Experiential Learning is dedicated to fostering curiosity and life-long learning through collaboration, innovation, and the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge.

There are many ways to get involved, from supporting a faculty member's research, to working on a team of student researchers, or conducting your own research project. The Office of Student Research, Creativity and Experiential Learning is here to help you with workshops on starting the research project, funding your research through grants, and other topics. Students from ALL majors and programs are encouraged to participate!

Participating in undergraduate research benefits you in your career and graduate school plans. You will learn grant-writing skills, improve your presentation skills and develop in-depth knowledge about a subject that you enjoy.

Check out all they have to offer and more at [uwlax.edu/urc](http://uwlax.edu/urc).

## CAREER SERVICES


You will be able to explore many different interests during your years at UW-La Crosse. Career Services is here to support your exploration of majors and career interests. Members of the career services team assist students with resumes and cover letters, provide training in job search strategies and help practice interviews. They present to over 230 classes and student groups, and host seven major career events per year. They are a great resource if you are looking for employment (on or off campus) during your time at UWL, if you want to explore internships, or if you are ready to start your job search. Career Services posts thousands of employment opportunities each year to Handshake, our online job posting board, for all students to view. They provide great service to our incoming students, current students and our alumni. [uwlax.edu/aaccs/](http://uwlax.edu/aaccs/)

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Campus Operator	608.785.8000
Cashier's Office	608.785.8719
Financial Aid Office	608.785.8604
Multicultural Student Services Office	608.785.8225
New Student & Family Programs	608.785.8055
Residence Life Office	608.785.8075
Student Health Center	608.785.8558

### UWL Admissions: Join us online!

 [facebook.com/UWLaCrosseAdmissions](https://facebook.com/UWLaCrosseAdmissions)

 [uwlacrosseadmissions](https://www.instagram.com/uwlacrosseadmissions)

Meet other admitted students, stay up to date with the UWL campus and the admissions process.

## UWLAX.EDU/ADMISSIONS

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN  
LA CROSSE **UWL**

### Admissions Office

1725 State St. | La Crosse, WI 54601 USA  
608.785.8939 | 608.785.8940 fax  
Schedule your visit: [uwlax.edu/visit](http://uwlax.edu/visit)

UWL Admissions Office: [admissions@uwlax.edu](mailto:admissions@uwlax.edu)  
Financial Aid Office: [finaid@uwlax.edu](mailto:finaid@uwlax.edu)

Information in this brochure is subject to change. Visit our website for current information – [uwlax.edu/admissions](http://uwlax.edu/admissions)





## SENIOR YEAR SCHEDULE CHANGES

If you are considering changes to your senior schedule, contact our office immediately. Any changes to your senior schedule must be pre-approved and submitted to the Admissions Office in writing. The request may be directed to our office email address, [admissions@uwla.edu](mailto:admissions@uwla.edu).

## IF YOUR PLANS HAVE CHANGED...

Please email our office at [admissions@uwla.edu](mailto:admissions@uwla.edu) if you are no longer planning to attend UW-La Crosse for fall. Deposits will be refunded only if the Admissions Office is notified of your cancellation by May 1, 2024.

## STUDENT ADVISING, REGISTRATION AND TRANSITION (START)

UPDATES REGARDING START CAN BE FOUND AT [WWW.UWLAX.EDU/START](http://WWW.UWLAX.EDU/START)

Detailed information on how to register for a START date will be sent in April to students who have submitted their enrollment deposit.

Students and families are invited to attend START! You will spend one day on campus selecting classes, learning more about the UWL experience and meeting other new freshmen. We can only accommodate a specific number of students for each date in order to provide adequate advising for all students.



## GET A HEAD START ON YOUR COLLEGE EXPERIENCE

### FASTTRACK:

FastTrack is a summer mathematics bridge program for students placed into MTH 051. The program is a 6-week online, self-paced program with the goal of sharpening algebra skills in order to place into a higher mathematics class.

To learn more, visit the Fast Track site at [uwla.edu/mathematics/fasttrack](http://uwla.edu/mathematics/fasttrack)

## COLLEGE CREDIT TRANSFER

Future UW-La Crosse students can earn college credit in high school through a number of programs.

1. Advanced Placement (AP): Students earning a score of "3" or higher on the AP Exams are eligible for credit.
2. International Baccalaureate (IB): Students earning a "4" or higher on IB-Higher Level exams are eligible for credit.
3. College Level Examination Program (CLEP) credits are also available.

For more information, visit the UWL Admissions website at [uwla.edu/admissions/apply/new-freshman](http://uwla.edu/admissions/apply/new-freshman) and click the "Credit Transfer" tab.

Students can also earn college credit from a college or university during high school. All final college transcripts should be sent to the Admissions Office prior to START. If transcripts are not received, students will not be eligible to register for their second semester of classes.



## HOUSING APPLICATION

The housing application gives you the opportunity to provide information that will shape your on-campus experience. You are encouraged to complete the housing application as soon as possible. If you would like to change your preferences or update information, you can return to the housing application after initially completing it.

- Select or change your top three hall assignment preferences.
- Pick a meal plan.

After you have completed the housing application, you will be able to access the online roommate selection process. You can connect with other UWL students who have applied for housing. Once you have found your roommate, you can form a roommate group, which will allow you to be assigned to a residence hall room together.

- Selecting a roommate is optional. If you do not select a roommate you will be assigned one.
- Review recommended roommates for you based upon preferences provided in the housing application.
- Search for roommates based on responses to specific profile questions.
- Already know who you want to live with? You can also search for roommates by first and last name.

For more information about the housing application, visit [uwla.edu/reslife/apply-for-housing/application-process/](http://uwla.edu/reslife/apply-for-housing/application-process/)

## STUDENT HEALTH CENTER

The UWL Student Health Center (SHC) is a comprehensive outpatient clinic promoting good health, emphasizing patient education and encouraging preventive care to help ensure academic success for all students.

Services available include primary care, mental health, minor injuries, x-ray, lab, immunizations, female and male reproductive care (including STI testing and contraception), allergy shots and physical therapy.

The SHC staff includes board-certified physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, physical therapists, nurses, medical technologists, medical assistants and office personnel who are experienced in working with the health care needs of college students.

To learn more about the Student Health Center services, cost and hours go to [uwla.edu/student-health-center](http://uwla.edu/student-health-center)

## LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITIES:

Living Learning Communities (LLCs) at UWL are intentional living environments offered by the Office of Residence Life in partnership with academic departments and other campus offices. For more information about LLCs visit the Residence Life website at [uwla.edu/reslife/apply-for-housing/living-learning-communities/](http://uwla.edu/reslife/apply-for-housing/living-learning-communities/)

LLCs offered for the 2024-25 academic year include:

- HEALTH PROFESSIONS COMMUNITY
- TRANSFER EXPERIENCE COMMUNITY
- OUTDOOR RECREATION COMMUNITY
- FIRST GENERATION COMMUNITY
- WOMEN IN STEM COMMUNITY
- EDUCATION COMMUNITY
- PRIDE CENTER COMMUNITY

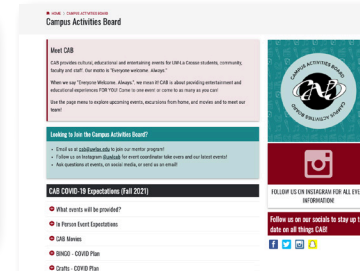


## DID YOU KNOW...?



## YOUR STUDENT ID

will provide FREE admission to all home, regular season athletic events. Grab your school spirit and help cheer on the Eagles! It will also provide you entrance into the Recreational Eagle Center (REC) during the school year at NO additional cost.



## CAB (CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD)

puts on free or low cost entertainment events ALL academic year. Events include musicians, crafts, trivia and weekly movies all on campus! Check [uwla.edu/cab](http://uwla.edu/cab) for info.

**UWL has a textbook rental program that is paid for by your tuition and fees. You can save hundreds of dollars each semester because you will not have to purchase textbooks!**

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

Microsoft Office 365 offers core productivity tools for the campus. Students are allowed, at no cost, to install Office 365 on up to five personal devices.

ITS works diligently to keep students, faculty and staff safe, informed, and secure in the data environment. Be careful when clicking on links, especially on smartphones. If you are not certain of the validity of an email or web link, do not click on it. On your computer, simply hovering your mouse over the FROM: field will reveal if the message is coming from a valid source. Finally, make sure your virus protection software is up to date. Students are encouraged to read all official ITS emails from [its@uwla.edu](mailto:its@uwla.edu). Follow ITS on Facebook at "UWL ITS" and on Twitter at "@EagleHelpDesk"

**To protect yourself from phishing attacks, malware, viruses and ransomware, follow these steps:**

1. ITS will never ask for your password or verify your account through email.
2. If you're not sure if an email is a phishing attack or a valid message, don't click on it.
3. Be sure to read UWL ITS emails, especially when the subject line says ITS Alert or Attack. Ensure important ITS or university emails are not automatically going into your Junk or Clutter folders.
4. If you inadvertently clicked on a phishing email and provided your user name and password, reset them immediately. You can do this by going to the Password Reset Management web page: [uwla.edu/info/password-reset](http://uwla.edu/info/password-reset)
5. Check the ITS Facebook page for phishing attacks, alerts and general technology information.
6. If you still have questions, contact the Eagle Help desk by walking in, calling 608.785.8744, or emailing [helpdesk@uwla.edu](mailto:helpdesk@uwla.edu)

## PARKING ON CAMPUS

**Parking in any university lot requires a parking permit, payment at the pay station or use of the Passport mobile app.**

All new students will learn about the online process for purchasing a parking permit at START this summer. Parking Services sells a limited number of parking permits based on seniority. Students are encouraged to consider their transportation needs to determine if bringing a vehicle to campus is necessary.

Resident (living on campus) parking permits are estimated to be \$173 per semester or \$250 for two semesters. Commuter (living off campus) parking permits are estimated to be \$140 per semester or \$198 for two semesters.



## U-PASS BUS SYSTEM

The U-Pass provides unlimited bus service on any current La Crosse Municipal Transit Utility (MTU) route in La Crosse or Onalaska for no cost when students show their UWL student ID.

The U-Pass/Safe Ride also has no cost. It runs from 10:30 p.m. to 3 a.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. The Safe Ride runs between on and off campus housing areas and downtown La Crosse every 15 minutes.

### Regional Bus Service

UWL is a stop for Coach USA, Jefferson Bus Lines and the Scenic Mississippi Regional Transit (S.M.R.T.).