

# Financial Aid 2023-24 UNDERGRADUATE CHECKLIST

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## Apply for aid at [Studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov)

- Both you and a parent must create an FSA User ID and password.
- You must submit the completed 2023-24 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) which is available after October 1, 2022. Be sure to include UWL's school code, 003919.
- We strongly encourage you to use the IRS Data Retrieval Tool by indicating "Already Filed" and selecting the IRS Data Retrieval Tool option.
- We recommend you apply before February 1, 2023, although the FAFSA can be completed throughout the upcoming academic year.

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## Know your cost to attend UWL

- Estimate your college cost at [www.uwlax.edu/cost](http://www.uwlax.edu/cost)

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## Apply for scholarships

- Apply for UWL Foundation Scholarships at [uwlax.academicworks.com](http://uwlax.academicworks.com). Applications are available October 1 and must be submitted by February 1.
- Apply for Private Scholarships. UWL's Scholarship Resource Center has information about private scholarships at [www.uwlax.edu/scholarships](http://www.uwlax.edu/scholarships).
- In your UWL WINGS Student Center, report any private scholarships you have been awarded.

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## Submit any additional documentation requested by the UWL Financial Aid Office

- We will send you an email when we receive your FAFSA which will let you know if we need any additional documentation from you. Be sure to check the "To-Do" section of your UWL WINGS Student Center, <https://wings.uwlax.edu>.

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## Minnesota Reciprocity

- If you are a Minnesota resident, complete the 2023-24 reciprocity application prior to the start of classes at <https://www.ohe.state.mn.us>. This should be available starting March 2023.

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## Your financial aid offer

- Once you receive an email that your financial aid offer is available to review in your UWL WINGS Student Center, you are able to accept, decline or reduce the aid offered.
- Review the "Guide to Your Financial Aid Offer", available at [www.uwlax.edu/finaid](http://www.uwlax.edu/finaid) for more detailed information about the aid offered.
- Only borrow what you need. Visit [uwlax.edu/finaid/info/types-of-aid/loans](http://uwlax.edu/finaid/info/types-of-aid/loans) and select "Limit What You Borrow" for a list of helpful suggestions.
- The "Other Financing Option" item on your offer is informational letting you know the maximum that can be borrowed in a private loan or a Federal Parent PLUS Loan. Note that this figure exceeds the amount owed to UWL because it includes items like transportation and miscellaneous expenses which will not be billed by UWL.

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## Additional federal loan steps

- If you are accepting your first federal loans, you must complete both a Direct Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN) and Entrance Loan Counseling (ELC) which can be completed at [studentaid.gov](https://studentaid.gov).

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## Set up your refund preference

- All of your financial aid proceeds will be applied electronically to your university bill. If funds remain after the bill is paid, a refund is generated. In your UWL WINGS Student Center/Finances section, select "Student Choice Refund". You can submit information that will allow any refunds to be deposited directly into your personal bank account. Direct deposit is highly recommended.

## Welcome to UWL!

The UWL Financial Aid Office is here to help you navigate your way through the financial aid process. Visit [uwlax.edu/finaid](http://uwlax.edu/finaid)



Check out the **UWL Scholarship Resource Center** for information about our private scholarship database, a variety of helpful workshops and application review assistance. Visit [www.uwlax.edu/scholarships](http://www.uwlax.edu/scholarships)



Find helpful information on college and finances provided through the **UWL It Make\$ Cents! Financial Literacy Program**. Information on budgeting, credit, saving, banking, investing, protections and how to pay for college is available at [www.uwlax.edu/it-makes-cents](http://www.uwlax.edu/it-makes-cents)



## Financial Aid Office

215 Graff Main Hall  
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La Crosse, WI 54601  
608.785.8604  
[finaid@uwlax.edu](mailto:finaid@uwlax.edu)  
[www.uwlax.edu/finaid](http://www.uwlax.edu/finaid)

Welcome New Student,

I would like to congratulate you on your admission to UW-La Crosse for the 2023-24 academic year! I want to provide you with information about the UW-La Crosse Financial Aid Office and the services we offer.

For your convenience we have provided a Financial Aid **checklist** on the back of this letter to help you navigate your way through the UW-La Crosse financial aid application process.

If you are interested in applying for financial aid, you will need to complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with your parent(s)' assistance. The 2023-24 FAFSA will be **available after October 1, 2022** at <https://studentaid.gov>.

We encourage you to contact us directly, either in person at 215 Graff Main Hall, by phone at 608-785-8604 or by e-mail at [finaid@uwlax.edu](mailto:finaid@uwlax.edu) when you have questions arise or assistance is needed. We also provide helpful financial aid information via our website, <https://www.uwlax.edu/finaid/>.

**The UWL Financial Aid Office is not able to discuss your information with your parents, spouse or other individuals without your written permission.** The FERPA Act of 1974 protects the privacy of student records, including those created and maintained by the Financial Aid Office. You may create a FERPA Secure PIN (<https://www.uwlax.edu/records/ferpa/>) to give to a third party, such as parents or guardians, to allow UWL staff to release the details of your records to the person with the PIN.

Sincerely,

*Louise L. Janke*

Director of Financial Aid

(FA915)