



## 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 [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). PDF forms are also available on that site when you choose "FAFSA Filing Options." 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 [www.uwlax.edu/finaid](http://www.uwlax.edu/finaid).

Check out the Financial Aid Office's scholarship page for more funding opportunities at [www.uwlax.edu/scholarships](http://www.uwlax.edu/scholarships)

### IT MAKES CENTS! MONEY MANAGEMENT CENTER

Seven out of 10 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

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

### THE SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCE CENTER (SRC)

Get into the mindset – every scholarship received lowers the total money needed to pay for your education. Make it your goal to apply for one scholarship each week.

The SRC is here to help with any scholarship needs you may have and are dedicated to helping you find, apply for and obtain scholarships.

[www.uwlax.edu/scholarships](http://www.uwlax.edu/scholarships)

## Spring & Summer Timeline

### FEBRUARY:

- Register for required placement tests.
  - Take them before June.
  - See enclosed information for details.
- Submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). If you are submitting a FAFSA, please be sure the Admissions Office has your Social Security number on file.

### MARCH:

- Do we have your highest official ACT or SAT score? Contact the Admissions Office at [admissions@uwlax.edu](mailto:admissions@uwlax.edu) if you are not sure.
- Log onto WINGS to see your financial aid package.
- Apply for tuition reciprocity if you are from Minnesota. Visit <https://www.ohe.state.mn.us/ssl/reciprocity/apply1.cfm> to apply.

### APRIL:

- Sign up for START. Instructions will be sent to your home via mail 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 the Eagle Mail e-newsletter for information on New Student Orientation and Welcome Week.

### SEPTEMBER:

- Move into your residence hall on Aug. 30 or 31.
- Start classes on Tuesday, Sept. 3.

## VISIT UWL!

### NEED ANOTHER LOOK AT CAMPUS?

Register now for a Campus Close-Up program. Learn about academic programs and campus services. Speak with faculty, staff and students about life at UWL.

When? Friday, Feb. 15, 2019

Friday, April 26, 2019

9:30 a.m.–3:15 p.m.

Schedule at [www.uwlax.edu/visit](http://www.uwlax.edu/visit)

### NEED ANOTHER VISIT OPTION?

Go to [www.uwlax.edu/visit](http://www.uwlax.edu/visit) to schedule a tour or an admissions appointment. Campus tours are not available during Spring Break, March 16-24, 2019.

### CAN'T MAKE IT TO CAMPUS?

Take our Virtual Tour and visit campus from the comfort of your own home!  
<https://www.uwlax.edu/admissions/#virtualtour>

NEWSLETTER FOR ADMITTED NEW FRESHMEN

# LA CROSSE TALK



UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE

FEBRUARY

## CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR ADMISSION TO UW-LA CROSSE!

We hope you are excited to embark on a new adventure at UWL. This newsletter will provide you with great information about your next steps but also about all of the outstanding resources available to students. We are here to support you and your family members during this important transition. Please contact us if you have any questions or concerns.



EMBARK ON YOUR PATH.

*We'll show you the way.*

## Why UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH?

The Office of Undergraduate Research and Creativity 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 Undergraduate Research and Creativity 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 [www.uwlax.edu/urc](http://www.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, for internships or 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.


[www.uwlax.edu/careerservices](http://www.uwlax.edu/careerservices)

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

Campus Operator	608.785.8000
Cashier's Office	608.785.8719
Financial Aid Office	608.785.8604
First Year Experience/Student Success	608.785.8055
Multicultural Student Services Office	608.785.8225
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.

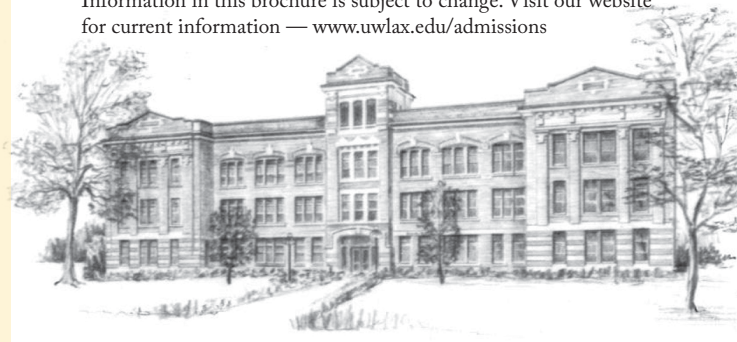
[www.uwlax.edu/admissions](http://www.uwlax.edu/admissions)

## UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE Admissions Office

2320 Student Union  
1725 State St. | La Crosse, WI 54601 USA  
608.785.8939 | 608.785.8940 fax  
Schedule your visit: [www.uwlax.edu/visit](http://www.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 — [www.uwlax.edu/admissions](http://www.uwlax.edu/admissions)



## YOUR NEXT STEPS

### 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 date as soon as possible. Students are **strongly encouraged** to take the exam before START so that your scores are available when you register for classes.

### 2 PAY YOUR DEPOSITS FOR FALL 2019

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 checklist that was included with your admission letter). After your enrollment deposit is received, you will be mailed on-campus housing information and instructions. Please follow the instructions, complete the contract and pay the deposit.

Only students who have submitted the enrollment deposit will be sent START materials in the spring. Both deposits are refundable until May 1, 2019.

DATES TO REMEMBER:  
START for First-Year Students & Families  
June 10, 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 20, 21, 24

First Day of Classes  
Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2019

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



### 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 [www.uwlax.edu/info/password-reset](http://www.uwlax.edu/info/password-reset) if you have misplaced or cannot remember login information.



## 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@uwlax.edu](mailto:admissions@uwlax.edu).

## IF YOUR PLANS HAVE CHANGED ...

Please email our office at [admissions@uwlax.edu](mailto:admissions@uwlax.edu) if you are no longer planning to attend UW-La Crosse for fall 2019. Deposits will be refunded only if the Admissions Office is notified of your cancellation by May 1, 2019.

## 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 enhancement program where incoming freshmen develop their mathematical skills online for six weeks before meeting on campus for a one-week campus stay. The goal of the program is for students placed into MTH 050 or 051 to increase their skills in order to place into a higher mathematics class. To learn more, visit the Fast Track site at [www.uwlax.edu/Mathematics/FastTrack](http://www.uwlax.edu/Mathematics/FastTrack)

### FIRST FLIGHT:

First Flight is a great option to consider as you start your college experience. You will engage in adventure education and be placed in unique situations with other incoming freshmen. Each program will run for six days. Depending on which trip you select, three or four nights are spent climbing, backpacking or kayaking. To learn more, visit the First Flight site at <https://www.uwlax.edu/first-flight>

## 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 <https://www.uwlax.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 must be sent to the Admissions Office prior to the student's first day of class. If transcripts are not received, students will not be eligible to register for their second semester of classes.



## 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 [www.uwlax.edu/student-health-center](http://www.uwlax.edu/student-health-center)

## HOUSING APPLICATION

The housing contract and application process 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.
- Create a roommate profile.

After you have completed the housing application, you will be able to access the Roommate Group process. This process allows you to connect with other UWL students who have completed the housing application. Once you have found your roommate, you can form a roommate group, which will allow you to be assigned to a room together for the 2019-20 academic year.

- 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.
- Do you 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 <https://www.uwlax.edu/reslife/apply-for-housing/application-process/>



## Themed HOUSING COMMUNITIES:

- HEALTH PROFESSIONS LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITY
- LGBTQ+ LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITY
- OUTDOOR RECREATION INTEREST COMMUNITY

For any residence life questions, go to the Office of Residence Life website at [www.uwlax.edu/reslife](http://www.uwlax.edu/reslife). You may also email questions to [housing@uwlax.edu](mailto:housing@uwlax.edu) or call 608.785.8075.



## 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 [www.uwlax.edu/cab](http://www.uwlax.edu/cab) for info.

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

## IMPORTANT IT INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

Microsoft Office 365 offers core productivity tools for the campus. Students are allowed, at no cost, to install Office 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@uwlax.edu](mailto:its@uwlax.edu). Follow ITS on Facebook at "UWL ITS" and on Twitter at "@EagleHelpDesk"

To protect yourself from phishing attacks, malware, viruses and ransomware, following 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: <https://www.uwlax.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@uwlax.edu](mailto:helpdesk@uwlax.edu)

## PARKING ON CAMPUS

Parking in any of the university lots requires a purchasing a parking permit.

Campus parking sells permits based on seniority. The Parking Office strongly discourages incoming freshmen from bringing cars to campus. There may be a limited number of resident parking permits available for purchase.

All students living on campus will learn about the online procedures for purchasing a parking permit at START this summer. Parking permits for students living on campus are \$166 per semester and \$240 for two semesters.

Commuter parking permits for new freshmen living off campus will be sold on a first come, first serve basis this summer. Information will be available at START. Parking permits for students living off campus are \$135 per semester and \$190 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/Safety Bus also has no cost. It runs from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. Thursdays, and from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. Fridays and Saturdays. The Safety Bus runs between on- and off-campus housing areas and downtown La Crosse every 15 minutes.

### SMRT BUS (REGIONAL BUS SERVICE)

This transit bus service makes various trips around the greater La Crosse area.