



# Financial Aid Edition

## EAGLE MAIL

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Online version available at  
<http://www.uwlax.edu/finaid/Financial-Aid-newsletter/>

### IMPORTANT DATES

**Wednesday, February 11** – Love & Money – 6:30pm to 7:30pm, 260 Graff Main Hall

**Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>** – Your Credit Score - It's Worth Knowing – 6:30pm to 7:30pm, Ward Room, Cartwright Center

**Wednesday, February 18** – Summer & Part-time Job Fair, 10am to 3pm, Valhalla, Cartwright Center

**Wednesday, February 25** – Tax Information Workshop – 6:30pm to 7:30pm, Reuter Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

### University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Financial Aid Office

215 Graff Main Hall  
1725 State Street  
La Crosse, WI 54601 USA  
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Office Hours:  
Monday-Friday  
7:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

email: [finaid@uwlax.edu](mailto:finaid@uwlax.edu)  
[www.uwlax.edu/finaid](http://www.uwlax.edu/finaid)



## IRS Data Retrieval & Tax Transcripts

The IRS Data Retrieval Tool allows applicants who have already filed their federal income tax returns to pre-fill the answers to some questions on the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid), by transferring data from their federal tax returns. The IRS Data Retrieval Tool can be used 2-3 weeks after the federal income tax return is filed if the return is filed electronically.

Students and/or parents who do not utilize the IRS Data Retrieval Tool when initially completing the FAFSA may be asked to provide an IRS Federal Tax Return Transcript. This transcript can be requested at <http://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Get-Transcript>. You will be given the option of viewing and printing the transcript immediately or having one mailed to you. Be sure to choose the Tax **Return** transcript and NOT the Tax Account transcript.

## Financial Aid For Summer School

Students who are enrolled at least half-time (6 credits for undergraduates and 5 credits for graduate students) in summer may apply for federal student loans for enrollment in the summer session. You must have a completed 2015-16 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and a 2015 Application for Summer Financial Aid, available at [www.uwlax.edu/finaid/summer-session](http://www.uwlax.edu/finaid/summer-session). Even though registration for summer session begins in February, summer financial awards will not be available until early April. Federal Direct Loans received for the summer will reduce your Federal Direct Loan eligibility for the 2015-16 academic year. If you are originally enrolled at least half-time, receive aid and later drop below half-time, you may be required to return your summer aid.

## Ask Earnest

*"Dear Earnest, Why was my FAFSA selected for verification?"*

The verification process requires additional documentation and/or information to ensure your FAFSA was completed correctly. The review process doesn't always mean something is incorrect. Approximately 30% of all FAFSA's are selected by the application processor for federal verification. Even if a FAFSA is not selected for federal verification, it may be selected for institutional verification. At UW-L, students who show the potential for grant eligibility are selected for institutional verification. The verification process ensures students are awarded correctly. Watch your "to do list" in the WINGS student center to determine if any additional documents or information is required to process your aid application.

# It Make\$ Cents!

## Upcoming Events

### Love & Money

Wed., Feb. 11, 6:30-7:30pm  
Valhalla, Cartwright Center

### Your Credit Score – It's Worth Knowing

Tues., Feb. 17, 6:30-7:30pm  
Ward Room, Cartwright Center

### Tax information Workshop

Wed., Feb. 25, 6:30-7:30pm  
Reuter Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

### Healthy Cooking on a Budget

Tues., Mar. 3, 6:30-7:30pm  
Reuter Hall, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

### Life After College: Job Benefits & Insurance

Wed., Mar. 4, 6:30-7:30pm  
Centennial Hall

### Credit: The Good, The Bad & The Ugly

Tues., Mar. 10, 6:30-7:30pm  
Ward Room, Cartwright Center

### Campus Police Talk On: Identity Theft

Tues., Mar. 31<sup>st</sup>, 6:30-7:30pm  
Centennial Hall

### Laundry Day: Squeaky Clean Credit

Wed., Apr. 15, 6:30-8:30pm  
(Ask to see if your hall is participating)

### Money Monologues

Sat., April 18<sup>th</sup>  
Thurs., April 23<sup>rd</sup>

### Price is Right-Style Game Night

Tues., April 21, 5-7:30pm  
Valhalla, Cartwright Center



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

## Earn Incentive Points for Learning Life Skills

The It Make\$ Cents! Money Management Center incentive program allows students to earn points for attending a variety of campus events throughout the semester. The mission of It Make\$ Cents!, a financial literacy program, is to address the financial concerns of students that are unique to college life, and equip students with the knowledge, skills and resources necessary to maintain lifelong financial wellness.

The events each semester range from discussions about identity theft with campus police to a Price is Right-Style Game Night. Each event is worth a certain amount of points that will be tallied and entered into a drawing for great prizes. The more events a student attends, the more financial knowledge they accumulate and the better the prize that they are eligible for. We hope to see you at our spring events!

## SCHOLARSHIPS DUE IN FEBRUARY

For more scholarships, go to <https://uwlax.academicworks.com> and choose the External tab

### [Women in Focus, Inc. Scholarship Program](#)

Amount: \$2,000 minimum  
Deadline: 2/15/2015

### [Scholarship Plus](#)

Amount: Deadline: 2/17/2015

### [Create A Greeting Card Scholarship](#)

Amount: \$10,000 Deadline: 2/18/2015

### [Michael Yasick ADHD Scholarship](#)

Amount: \$2,000 Deadline: 2/18/2015

### [The Christophers Poster Contest](#)

Amount: \$100 - \$1,000  
Deadline: 2/18/2015

### [Frank L. Greathouse Government](#)

[Accounting Scholarship](#)  
Amount: \$7,000 Deadline: 2/20/2015

### [Minorities in Government Finance](#)

[Scholarship](#)  
Amount: \$7,000 Deadline: 2/20/2015

### [Vegetarian Resource Group Scholarship](#)

Amount: \$10,000 (1) / \$5,000 (2)  
Deadline: 2/20/2015

### [John Lennon Scholarship](#)

Amount: Deadline: 2/27/2015

### [LAGRANT Foundation – Graduate Students](#)

Amount: \$5,000 Deadline: 2/27/2015

### [LAGRANT Foundation – Undergraduate Students](#)

Amount: \$2,500 Deadline: 2/27/2015

### [WICPA Educational Foundation](#)

Amount: \$2,500 Deadline: 2/27/2015

### [Joe Martin Scholarship](#)

Amount: \$2,500 Deadline: 2/28/2015

### [Sweet & Simple Scholarship](#)

Amount: \$1,500 Deadline: 2/28/2015

### [The 7<sup>th</sup> GotScholarship \\$20,000 Give Away](#)

Amount: \$20,000 Deadline: 2/28/2015

[Click on the name of the scholarship for the application process.](#)

## Check Your Credit Report For Free

Credit reports are increasingly important to everyday life—getting a job, obtaining an affordable loan or insurance policy, or renting a home.

- Each person is responsible for the accuracy of the information in his or her credit report, but only about 4 in 10 Wisconsin adults check their reports each year.
- **Everybody is entitled by law to three free credit reports each year** through [www.AnnualCreditReport.com](http://www.AnnualCreditReport.com). Free reports provide the same information as paid reports, so paying for credit monitoring or related services is typically unnecessary.
- The dates 2/2, 6/6 and 10/10 are a simple way to remember to request your free credit reports. Reading a credit report can be intimidating, and [fyi.uwex.edu/creditreport](http://fyi.uwex.edu/creditreport) can be helpful.

