



Financial Aid Edition

EAGLE MAIL

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Online version available at
[http://www.uwlax.edu/finaid/
Financial-Aid-Newsletter](http://www.uwlax.edu/finaid/Financial-Aid-Newsletter)

IMPORTANT DATES

Friday, July 3 – Holiday –
Financial Aid Office closed

Fri, Sept 5 - Mon, Sept 7 – New
Student Orientation

Mon, Sept 7 – Labor Day,
Financial Aid Office closed

Tues, Sept 8 – Wed, Sept 16
Welcome Week

Tuesday, Sept 8 – Fall
Semester Classes Begin

University of Wisconsin-La Crosse Financial Aid Office

215 Graff Main Hall
1725 State Street
La Crosse, WI 54601 USA

Phone: 608.785.8604

Fax: 608.785.8843

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday

7:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

email: finaid@uwlax.edu

www.uwlax.edu/finaid



Interest Rates Set for 2015-16

Federal legislation has established procedures for determining the interest rate for student loans (including the Federal Parent PLUS Loans) for the upcoming 2015-16 academic year. The interest rates for the upcoming year reflect a reduction from the 2014-15 year.

The following interest rates have been announced for the 2015-16 academic year:

Undergraduate students (Subsidized and Unsubsidized) **4.29%**

Graduate students (Unsubsidized) **5.84%**

Federal PLUS Loans (Parent and Graduate) **6.84%**

The rates are fixed for the lifetime of the loan.

The rates for the 2016-17 academic year will be determined in June 2016.

What to consider when choosing an alternative education loan

Each alternative loan lender determines the specific interest rate for an individual loan based on the credit worthiness of the student applicant and the co-signer. All students are encouraged to use a co-signer who has established a good credit rating. Some lenders offer a co-signer release after a set number of regular on-time payments if the borrower requests this option and can demonstrate their own creditworthiness at that time. In deciding which lender or loan to use, students will want to consider whether the loan has a fixed or variable interest rate, an origination and/or repayment fee, any options offered by the lender, such as deferment or forbearance once the loan has entered repayment. It is best to contact the lender if you have questions.

Ask Earnest

“Dear Earnest, Is it possible to graduate from UW-La Crosse in four years?”

Definitely. Many UWL students graduate in four years. Graduating “on time” can certainly save, not only on tuition and fees, but on rent, food and other living expenses as well as the total amount of student loans borrowed. To meet this goal, you should develop an academic plan and make every effort to stick to it. Completing a course load of 15 to 18 credits per semester will allow you to complete your degree sooner and save money (credits between 12 and 18 cost the same as 12 credits). Most types of grant and loan awards have a lifetime limit, so planning out your degree in four years would ensure you don't run out of eligibility for these funds before you finish your degree. The Financial Aid Office has prepared a document that you might find helpful, available at www.uwlax.edu/finaid/Graduate-in-4-years.

It Make\$ Cents!



Borrow Responsibly



Live Within Your Means



Limit Excessive Spending



Pay Your Balance



Make Payments on Time



www.uwlax.edu/it-makes-cents

UWL Student Employment

There are two types of employment opportunities available to UWL students:

Federal Work-Study is an employment program for students who demonstrate financial need as determined by the FAFSA.

Student Help, unlike Work-Study, is not “need”-based employment. Many positions are available on campus.

If you have been awarded Federal Work-Study as part of your financial aid award, be sure to complete the required questionnaire in order to be given a work assignment on campus.

You can contact the department(s) on campus that you are interested in working for to inquire about potential Student Help job opportunities. Visit www.uwlax.edu/finaid/student-employment for more information.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE IN JULY

For more scholarships, go to <http://www.uwlax.edu/finaid/scholarships>

[Flavor of the Month](#)
Amount: \$1,500 Deadline: 7/31/2015

[From Failure to Promise Essay Contest](#)
Amount: Varies Deadline: 7/31/2015

[Gen & Kelly Tanabe Scholarship](#)
Amount: \$1,000 Deadline: 7/31/2015

[Goedeker's College Scholarship](#)
Amount: \$500 Deadline: 7/31/2015

[Imagine Cup Games Competition](#)
Amount: \$50,000 (Team of 4)
Deadline: 7/31/2015

[Invensis Young Thinker Scholarship Essay Contest](#)
Amount: \$500 Deadline: 7/31/2015

[James "Rhio" O'Connor Memorial Scholarship](#)
Amount: \$1,000 Deadline: 7/31/2015

[My Mentor Was Me Scholarship Video Challenge](#)
Amount: \$1,000 Deadline: 7/31/2015

[LogoMaker Scholarship Program](#)
Amount: \$2,500 Deadline: 7/31/2015

[Platt Family Scholarship Prize Essay Contest](#)
Amount: Varies Deadline: 7/31/2015

[Structured Settlement Scholarship](#)
Amount: \$1,000 - \$2,000
Deadline: 7/31/2015

[The Herb Affair Scholarship](#)
Amount: \$1,000 Deadline: 7/31/2015

[Top Medical Assistant Schools Scholarship](#)
Amount: \$500 Deadline: 7/31/2015

[TVProviders.com Scholarship](#)
Amount: \$1,000 Deadline: 7/31/2015

[DrugNews Scholarship](#)
Amount: \$1,000 Deadline: 7/31/2015

[Domestic Violence Law Firm Scholarship](#)
Amount: \$1,000 Deadline: 7/31/2015

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

Be sure to read your Award Messages

When logging into WINGS Student Center to review your Financial Aid Award, don't forget to check the individual award messages. Sometimes there is important information about certain financial aid awards as part of these award messages. The messages could inform you about a next step needed to fully accept the aid type, or important information to know about the award. It is recommended you review the award messages for all the types of aid you are awarded.

To review the award messages, click on the “name” of the award item when you are on the “accept aid” screen in the WINGS student center. The message will show up under the award and amount.