

## Financial Aid 2022-23 FRESHMAN CHECKLIST

Estimate your college cost at UW-La Crosse by visiting our Net Price Calculator, more information is available at www.uwlax.edu/finaid/info/cost-to-attend. Based on your personal situation, this tool will help to estimate your costs and help you better understand what types of financial resources may be available.  Submit the completed 2022-23 FAFSA. Complete the FAFSA,	Set up your refund preference. All financial aid proceeds are first applied to your university bill. If funds remain after the bill is paid in full, a refund is generated. In your WINGS Student Center/Finances section, select the option for "Student Choice Refund." Here, you will be able to submit the information required for your refund to be deposited directly into your personal bank account. Direct deposit is highly recommended.  Parents can apply for a Federal Parent PLUS Loan. After reviewing the "Other Financing Options" many parents choose to borrow a Federal Parent PLUS Loan on their student's behalf. This loan is in the parent's name and repayment of the loan is the parent's responsibility. The parent must apply online at studentaid.gov and must also complete a Parent PLUS Loan Master Promissory Note (Parent PLUS MPN) at studentaid.gov. The maximum that can be borrowed in a Parent PLUS Loan is indicated on the student's offer as "Your Other Loan Eligibility." Parents should wait until their student has received their financial aid offer before applying online.  Granting Guest Access to student records. (optional). The FERPA Act of 1974 protects the privacy of student records, including those created and maintained by the Financial Aid Office. The Financial Aid Office can not discuss your information with your parents, spouse or other individuals without your permission. Setting up a FERPA SECURE PIN for individuals you choose and specifying what types of information can be shared with them, will allow UWL staff to release your personal information to those individuals. Guest Access will remain in effect while you are enrolled at UWL unless you request changes. Information is available at uwlax.edu/records/ferpa.
available after October 1, 2021, at <b>studentaid.gov</b> and be sure to include UWL's School Code, <b>003919</b> . We strongly recommend using the IRS Data Retrieval option which requires that you have filed a 2020 federal tax return with the IRS, have a valid Social Security Number, and an unchanged marital status since December 31, 2020. When completing the income tax section on the FAFSA, indicate "Already Filed" and select the IRS Data Retrieval option.	
It is recommended you submit the FAFSA <b>before UWL's priority date of February 1</b> in order to be considered for all financial aid programs, although the FAFSA can be completed throughout the academic year. Make sure your Social Security Number is correct on all forms.	
Apply for UWL Foundation Scholarships. Information about available freshmen scholarships is available at <a href="https://uwlax.academicworks.com">https://uwlax.academicworks.com</a> . Applications must be submitted by February 1.	
Apply for Private Scholarships. Information about private scholarships is available via the UWL Scholarship Resource Center, www.uwlax.edu/scholarships.	
Submit any additional documentation requested by the UWL Financial Aid Office. Upon receipt of your FAFSA, the Financial Aid Office will send a confirmation email. This email will indicate if there is additional documentation required from you. You will find information about any required items in the "To-Do" section of your UWL WINGS Student Center, https://wings.uwlax.edu.	Review billing information and the billing dates for UW-La Crosse.  Billing charges will be placed on your student WINGS account the first week of classes. Billing dates and information are available at www.uwlax.edu/cashiers. The institution's billing process can be found at www.uwlax.edu/cashiers/tuition-and-billing/billing-and-registration.
View your financial aid offer online. You will receive an email notification when your offer is available to review in your WINGS Student Center. After reviewing, you are able to accept, decline or reduce the aid offered. Click on the name of the aid type for more information about each offer.	SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCE CENTER  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.
Review the "Guide To Your Financial Aid Offer" for the upcoming academic year, available at www.uwlax.edu/finaid/current-undergraduates/accept-your-financial-aid-award/acceptdecline-your-award/. Note the information regarding "Other Financing Options."	
ONLY BORROW WHAT YOU NEED. Visit www.uwlax.edu/finaid/loans and select Limit What You Borrow for a list of helpful suggestions.	Find helpful information on college and finances provided through the UW-La Crosse It Make\$ Cents! Financial Literacy Program. Information on budgeting, credit, saving/banking/investing, protection and how to pay for college is available by visiting www.uwlax.edu/it-makes-cents.
Complete a Direct Loan Master Promissory Note (MPN) and Entrance Loan Counseling (ELC). If you are a first-time borrower receiving a Federal Direct Loan, the Direct Loan MPN and ELC	

must be completed before your loan can be applied to your student bill. Both requirements can be completed at studentaid.gov.