

Admission to the Traditional Undergraduate Program

Contact the Office of Admissions at 651-631-5110 or 800-827-6827, admissions@unwsp.edu, or unwsp.edu/admissions.

Applying to Northwestern

Please arrange to have the following sent to the Office of Admissions:

- Biographical and essay portions of the application (unwsp.edu/web/undergrad/apply)
- Official high school transcript
- ACT/SAT scores (Northwestern recommends, but does not require, the writing section of the ACT exam.)

Prospective students who demonstrate potential to impact the university community through unique abilities, character, skills, or background will be shown preference in the admission process.

The university does not discriminate on grounds of race, color, national or ethnic origin, sex, or disability. Admission to University of Northwestern does not guarantee any unique or specific disability-related accommodations. Prospective students with such concerns should contact the Disabilities Office of Support Services (DOSS) at 651-631-5221 or 800-692-4020, ext. 5221 (see also page 14).

APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR FALL SEMESTER

The New Student application deadline is August 1. However, the university strongly recommends applying prior to May 1. Admission may close prior to the stated deadline.

APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR SPRING SEMESTER

The New Student application deadline is December 15. Admission may close prior to the stated deadline.

Admission Criteria

The following are criteria for admission to Northwestern's traditional undergraduate program:

1. Evidence of a new birth in Jesus Christ.
2. Likelihood of a successful university experience.
3. High school/home school diploma or GED certificate.
4. Transcripts for all courses attempted, whether high school or college.
5. ACT/SAT/TOEFL scores.
6. Ability to contribute to the University of Northwestern "community of excellence."
7. Willingness to contribute to, and abide by, the patterns of life and conduct of the Northwestern community as outlined in the Declaration of Christian Community found in the application packet and the "Community Guidelines" in the Student Handbook.

Transitional Admission

A limited number of students with below-standard academic credentials can be admitted to the Transition-to-University Program. Unless low entrance examination scores are clearly offset by academic success in the classroom, students with ACT composite scores of 17 or below (or SAT Critical Reading and Mathematics combined scores of 850 or below), if admitted, must be enrolled in this program. The Transition-to-University Program entails the following stipulations:

1. First-semester enrollment includes the **Study Strategies course (STS0009)** plus other courses as required:
 - **ENG0009** if ACT English or ACT English/Writing score is 18 or below (SAT Writing score of 440 or below) or
 - **LAN0009** for students whose first language is not English,
 - **MAT0008** if ACT Mathematics score is 17 or below and major does not require College Algebra,
 - **RDG0009** if ACT Reading score is 16 or below
2. Students are allowed to register for up to 15 credits per semester.
3. Students are allowed to participate in one co-curricular activity per semester.
4. Students are assigned a first year advisor who assists them in planning their studies and transition into their chosen major.
5. Once students have completed the required courses and have attained good academic standing (see page 30), they are assigned an advisor in their major.

Admission of Special Students

The Special Student classification at University of Northwestern is designed for persons who desire to enroll for selected courses but do not intend to complete a certificate or degree program. The Office of Admissions will provide an abbreviated form of the application to students applying for this status.

Admission as a Special Student does not imply eligibility to complete a certificate or degree program and does not grant eligibility to participate in intercollegiate athletics.

Admission of International Students

The university is authorized under Federal law to enroll nonimmigrant students.

In addition to the regular admission criteria outlined above, additional admission procedures are necessary for students who are not citizens of the United States. Evidence of sufficient financial resources must be presented prior to admission and before student visa arrangements can be made. International students are encouraged to have all processes completed by April 1.

For students from non-English speaking countries, English language capability must be demonstrated by a score of at least 530 on the paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), 197 on the computer-based TOEFL, a 72 on the web-based TOEFL exam, or a score of at least 5.5 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) exam. In the absence of any ACT/SAT score or writing placement examination results, all students for whom English is not the first language are required to start their English composition sequence with LAN0009.

Early Admission

Students who have not yet graduated from high school may be considered for admission at the end of their junior year. To qualify, the student must demonstrate exceptional academic ability, as evidenced by high grades in the subject areas of intended university study,

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and present above-average test scores. A major consideration for Early Admission is an evaluation by an appropriate secondary school administrator concerning the candidate's maturity and likelihood of success at the university level. An interview with the Director of Admissions is required.

Visiting Campus

A campus visit—whether a personal appointment or a special admissions event—is the best way for you to confirm that Northwestern is a good fit for you. We invite you to visit as often as you like.

Prospective students are encouraged to schedule a campus visit for an interview with an admission counselor, a campus tour, and the daily chapel service. The visit can include appointments with a financial aid counselor, professors, coaches, or directors.

Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)

The state-funded PSEO program offers high school students an opportunity to achieve academic goals early by earning college credit while in high school.

Northwestern offers online and on-campus courses that are approved for high-school students' participation through PSEO. Contact the Admission Counselor for Undergraduate Online Learning at 651-631-5111 or 800-827-6827. See also pages 31 and 126.

Admission of PSEO Students

The following are the qualifications for Northwestern's **Online PSEO program**:

1. High school GPA of 2.75
2. ACT/PLAN score of at least 18, SAT score of at least 1200, or a PSAT score of at least 120. For any other standardized tests, students must rank in at least the top 50%. Contact admissions for other accepted tests.
3. Cumulative university GPA of 2.0 or higher to stay in the program

The application deadline for the Fall semester is July 15.

The application deadline for the Spring semester is December 1.

The following are the qualifications for Northwestern's **On-campus PSEO program**:

1. Minimum high school GPA of 3.0
2. ACT/PLAN score of at least 24, SAT score of at least 1650, or a PSAT score of at least 165
3. Ability to commute to and from Northwestern's campus
4. Demonstrate an excellent "fit" with the Northwestern community as determined by the Admission Committee
5. Cumulative university GPA of 3.0 or higher to stay in the program

The application deadline for the Fall semester is April 1 for priority consideration or June 1 for regular consideration.

The application deadline for the Spring semester is November 15.

Early College

High school juniors and seniors who are residents outside the State of Minnesota, who would like to take summer courses, or who would like to take non state-approved courses, can earn college credit while in high school through the Early College Program.

All Early College students must provide evidence of being able to perform college-level work. This evidence includes the following:

1. High school GPA of 2.75
2. ACT/PLAN score of at least 18, SAT score of at least 1200, or a PSAT score of at least 120. For any other standardized tests, students must rank in at least the top 50%. Contact admissions for other accepted tests.
3. Cumulative university GPA of 2.0 or higher to stay in the program

Credit by Examination (AP/IB/CLEP/DSST)

Credit for selected courses may be secured by students who demonstrate competency by means of scores on standardized examinations such as Advanced Placement (AP), International Baccalaureate (IB), College Level Examination Program (CLEP), and DSST or by locally constructed examinations (see also page 41). A student may receive a maximum of 32 credits by these means. Specific information including courses and requirements, may be secured from the Registrar.

Students may not take a lower-level CLEP or DSST examination in an area in which they have completed a higher-level course. Credits may not be earned through CLEP or DSST examinations whose content duplicates credit previously earned.

Further information may be obtained by going to unwsp.edu/registrar and selecting the **Credit by Examination** link.

Readmission

Students wishing to be readmitted after an absence of one semester or more must complete the Re-enrollment form. This form can be obtained by going to unwsp.edu/registrar.

A student who has been academically suspended may petition for readmission to the university two semesters after termination using the Re-enrollment form. Summer sessions are not counted in the required two semesters. Evidence must be supplied to support the request. The best evidence is university level academic courses with above average grades.