Admission to Northwestern

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 Disability Services at 651-631-5292 (see also page 6).

Admission to Adult Undergraduate Program

Prospective students are encouraged to call, email, or visit with questions regarding the application process, semester deadlines, or program specifics. Students need continuous access to computer technology to be successful in their program, and it is recommended that they read the catalog, prior to acceptance, to understand the policies that they will be subject to once they are admitted.

Admission Criteria

The following criteria are applied when admitting adult undergraduate certificate and degree (A.A., A.S., B.A., B.S.) students:

1. Evidence of a new birth in Jesus Christ.
2. Willingness to abide by the conduct expectations as outlined in the Declaration of Christian Community.
3. Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.00 (on a 4.00 scale) from all previous college work.
4. Submission of an application and required essay(s).
5. Submission of an official high school transcript or an official GED certificate. This requirement will be waived if the applicant has
   - earned a previous Bachelor's degree or
   - completed 30 or more collegiate semester credits that are transferrable to Northwestern.
6. Submission of all official transcripts from postsecondary institutions at which the applicant was previously registered at whether or not transferable credits were earned.
7. Ability to demonstrate English language proficiency (see complete policy for requirements).

Note: Northwestern does not enroll students into degree-seeking programs under the age of compulsory school attendance in Minnesota (age 17) who have not yet earned a high school diploma.

Certain programs may have additional admission requirements, stipulations, or restrictions. Exceptions to admission criteria may be made on a case-by-case basis.

Non-Degree Seeking Students

Non-degree seeking students typically desire to take individual courses for personal enrichment or professional development without fully enrolling in a certificate or degree program at Northwestern. Taking individual courses does not grant eligibility to participate in co-curricular activities and does not warrant financial aid eligibility.

Non-degree seeking students are able to attempt and register for 16 credits. If students would like to continue, they must apply to be a degree-seeking student.

The following criteria are applied when admitting non-degree seeking students:

1. Evidence of a new birth in Jesus Christ.
2. Willingness to abide by the conduct expectations as outlined in the Declaration of Christian Community.
3. Submission of an Individual Course(s) Application.
4. Submission of an official high school transcript and/or the most recent undergraduate school attended.
5. Ability to demonstrate English language proficiency (see complete policy for requirements).

English Language Proficiency

For those whose native language is not English (e.g., International Student, Refugee, Political Asylee, Permanent Resident, or Non-resident Alien), English language proficiency must be demonstrated by taking one of the following exams:

- A minimum score of 530 on the paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), 197 on the computer-based TOEFL, or 71 on the internet-based TOEFL.
- A minimum score of 6 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).
- A minimum score of 50 on the Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE).
- A minimum score of 100 on the Duolingo English Test.

The TOEFL/IELTS/PTE/Duolingo requirement may be waived for the following reasons:

- Student is from a recognized English-speaking country (contact Admissions for a list of identified countries).
- Student has successfully completed an English writing course with a grade of C- or better and has earned a minimum of 12 credits from an accredited U.S. college/university.

Provisionally Admitted Students

Students who are admitted on a provisional basis must satisfy the conditions of their acceptance in order to continue in their program, and students may be provisionally admitted for any of the following reasons:

1. Inadequate GPA
   Students who are admitted on a provisional basis because of inadequate GPA must have a minimum Northwestern cumulative GPA of 2.00 by the end of the first registered semester. If the applicable GPA provision is not satisfied, students will be academically suspended from their adult undergraduate program, and they may apply for re-enrollment after waiting one semester.
2. Missing Official Transcript(s)
   Students who are admitted on a provisional basis because of missing official transcript(s) must submit all missing official documents to the Registrar's Office by the end of the first registered semester. If all missing official transcript(s) are not received by the end of the first registered semester, students will not be allowed to register for any future courses until the provision has been satisfied.
3. Other
   Any other provision may be stipulated by Northwestern and must be satisfied in order to continue registering for courses. If any other provisions are not satisfied, students will be administratively withdrawn from their adult undergraduate program, and they may apply for re-enrollment after waiting one semester.

Admission to Dual Enrollment (PSEO) and Early College Program

Early College

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

Admission as an Early College student does not imply eligibility to complete a certificate or degree program, eligibility for financial aid, or eligibility to participate in intercollegiate athletics. Contact an admission counselor for Dual Enrollment at 651-631-5126 or 800-827-6827. See also pages 41 and 146.

Postsecondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)

The state-funded PSEO program offers Minnesota high school juniors and seniors an opportunity to achieve academic goals early by earning college credit while in high school. Northwestern offers online, on-site, and on-campus courses that are approved for high-school students' participation through PSEO. Students are required to be Minnesota residents and be physically present in Minnesota to be eligible for the PSEO program.

Admission as a PSEO student does not imply eligibility to complete a certificate or degree program, eligibility for financial aid, or eligibility to participate in intercollegiate athletics. Contact an admission counselor for Dual Enrollment at 651-631- 5126 or 800-827-6827. See also pages 41 and 146.

Admission Criteria

The following are the qualifications for Northwestern's **Online and On-site PSEO and Early College programs**:

1. High school GPA of 3.00
2. ACT/PLAN/PreACT score of at least 18, ACT Aspire score of at least 427, or SAT/PSAT score of at least 940 (requested, not required). Additional assessments for home and private school students—contact Admissions for these other accepted tests.
3. Cumulative university GPA of 2.0 or higher to stay in the program
4. Junior or senior in high school and at least 15 years old at the time of enrollment

The application deadline for the fall semester is August 1.
The application deadline for the spring semester is December 15.
The application deadline for the summer semester is April 15 (Early College).

The following are the qualifications for Northwestern's **On-campus PSEO and Early College programs**:

1. Minimum high school GPA of 3.3
2. ACT/PLAN/PreACT score of at least 22, ACT Aspire score of at least 434, or SAT/PSAT score of at least 1090 (requested, not required)
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. Junior or senior in high school and at least 15 years old at the time of enrollment
6. Enroll in a minimum of four on-campus credits at Northwestern (once admitted into the program)
7. Cumulative university GPA of 3.0 or higher to stay in the program

The application deadline for the fall semester is May 1.

The application deadline for the spring semester is November 15.

Admission to Traditional Undergraduate Program

Contact the Office of Admissions at 651-631-5111 or 800-827-6827, admissions@unwsp.edu, or unwsp.edu/admissions.

How to Apply

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

- Biographical and essay portions of the application (unwsp.edu/apply)
- Official high school transcript, if applicable (see Admission Criteria below)
- ACT/SAT/CLT scores (Northwestern requests, 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.

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. This requirement will be waived if the applicant has
   - earned a previous Bachelor's degree or
   - completed 30 or more collegiate semester credits that are transferable to Northwestern.
4. Transcripts for all courses attempted, whether high school or college.
5. A minimum 2.50 high school GPA for all non-transfer applicants or transfer applicants without a post-high school collegiate GPA.
6. A minimum 2.50 cumulative post-high school collegiate GPA for all transfer applicants.
7. A minimum 2.75 cumulative post-high school collegiate GPA for all post-baccalaureate applicants.
8. ACT/SAT/CLT scores for all non-transfer applicants (requested, not required).
9. TOEFL/IELTS/PTE/Duolingo scores as applicable (see Admission of International Students).
10. Ability to contribute to the University of Northwestern "community of excellence."
11. 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.

Note: Northwestern does not enroll students into degree-seeking programs under the age of compulsory school attendance in Minnesota (age 17) who have not yet earned a high school diploma.

Supplemental Lab Courses

Students with a high school GPA below 3.0 and fewer than 30 earned semester college credits are required to enroll in HIS1005L Historical Perspectives Lab (will be taken concurrently with HIS1005 Historical Perspectives on Culture, Belief, and Civilization), which must be successfully completed in the first semester or repeated in the second semester.

Students with a high school GPA below 3.0 are also required to take the UNW placement exams in English and mathematics.

Students who do not achieve a satisfactory score on the UNW English placement exam will be required to enroll in ENG1107L College Writing & Research Lab, (taken concurrently with ENG1107 College Writing & Research), which must be successfully completed during the first four semesters.

Students who do not achieve a satisfactory score on the UNW mathematics placement exam will be required to enroll in one of the following depending on the core curriculum mathematics requirement for the major. The mathematics lab course must be successfully completed during the first four semesters:

- MAT1005L Mathematics for the Liberal Arts Lab (taken concurrently with MAT1005 Mathematics for the Liberal Arts),
- MAT1006L Mathematics for Elementary School Teachers Lab (taken concurrently with MAT1006 Mathematics for Elementary School Teachers),
- MAT1035L Business Mathematics Lab (taken concurrently with MAT1035 Business Mathematics), or
- MAT2055L Statistics Lab (taken concurrently with MAT2055 Statistics), or
- PSY3005L Statistics and Research for the Social Sciences Lab (taken concurrently with PSY3005 Statistics and Research for the Social Sciences)

Requirements for students taking one or more supplemental lab courses in their first semester will include:

- Registration for no more than 15 credits per semester
- Participation in no more than one co-curricular activity per semester
- An assigned co-advisor through Academic Achievement

Provisional Admission

A limited number of students with below-standard academic credentials may be provisionally admitted, pending an additional review process. Students with a high school GPA of 2.66 or below, if admitted, will be enrolled in certain required courses. Provisional admittance will be applied to transfer students on a case-by-case basis.

Admission of Non-Degree Seeking Students

The Non-Degree Seeking 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 Non-Degree Seeking Student does not imply eligibility to complete a certificate or degree program, does not imply eligibility for financial aid, 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 on pages 15, 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 fall semester enrollment.

For those whose native language is not English (e.g., International Student, Refugee, Political Asylee, Permanent Resident, or Non-resident Alien), English language proficiency must be demonstrated by taking one of the following exams:

- A minimum score of 530 on the paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), 197 on the computer-based TOEFL, or 71 on the Internet-based TOEFL.
- A minimum score of six on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).
- A minimum score of 50 on the Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE).
- A minimum score of 100 on the Duolingo English Test.

The TOEFL/IELTS/PTE/Duolingo requirement may be waived for the following reasons:

- Student is from a recognized English-speaking country (see Admissions for a list of identified countries).
- Student has successfully completed an English writing course with a grade of C- or better and has earned a minimum of 12 credits from an accredited U.S. college/university.

In the absence of any ACT/SAT score or writing placement examination or if the student's high school cum GPA is 2.66 or below, all students for whom English is not the first language are required to start their English composition sequence with ENG1107 and LAN1107L.