Admissions Policies: Transfer Students and Transfer Credits

Application procedures/requirements

Applications (https://apply.wisconsin.edu/) for admission are to be sent electronically. The university will begin accepting transfer applications on August 1 for the summer and fall terms. Applications may be submitted beginning April 1 for the winter and spring terms. To be considered for admission, the following items must be submitted to the Admissions Office, UW-La Crosse, 2320 Student Union, 1725 State Street, La Crosse, WI 54601 USA:

1. A completed UW System application. (https://apply.wisconsin.edu/)
2. An official high school transcript if applicant has earned less than 60 transferable semester credits.
3. All official college transcripts sent directly from the institution(s) attended to the UW-La Crosse Admissions Office. This includes transcripts for credit earned at the applicant’s current institution and any previous institutions (including college credits earned while in high school).
4. A list of courses in progress, if currently enrolled, with course numbers, titles, and the number of credits for each course.
5. A non-refundable application fee, unless directly transferring from a UW System campus within one year.
6. ACT/SAT scores (not generally required if applicant has completed a minimum of 18 transferable credits).

Admission guidelines

All applications receive a comprehensive review. Applicants with at least a 2.25 cumulative grade point average in all previous transferable college level work will be considered stronger candidates for admission. Applicants with a cumulative grade point average between a 2.00 and a 2.24 will be considered for admission on a space available basis. In addition to grade point guidelines, applicants must be in good standing at their previous institution(s) to be admitted to UWL. Applicants who were not admissible as new first years must earn at least 18 transferable semester credits to be considered for admission as a transfer student.

Due to enrollment limitations and the competitive nature of admission to the university, admission consideration will be primarily based on academic preparation. While academic preparation is the primary criterion used in the admissions review process, other non-academic secondary factors may contribute to the strength of an application. These may include qualities such as demonstrated leadership, extracurricular involvement, special talent, personal statement, recommendations, and/or adding a diverse dimension to our campus community.

Admission to the university does not assure admission to specific degree programs. All transfer students must meet the same criteria (i.e., grade point average, course requirements, etc.) for admission to specific majors or programs as continuing students.

Universal Credit Transfer Agreement

UWL accepts transcripts sent directly from the issuing institution(s) or through an electronic secure document sending service. Transcripts that are marked “Issued to Student” or that are hand delivered by a student will not be accepted unless the transcript remains sealed in the original stamped envelope from the issuing institution(s).

University of Wisconsin System Undergraduate Transfer Policy

The University of Wisconsin System Undergraduate Transfer Policy (https://www.wisconsin.edu/uw-policies/uw-system-administrative-policies/uw-system-undergraduate-transfer-policy/) provides guidance to UW institutions regarding the admission and credit evaluation of transfer students from UW institutions, the Wisconsin Technical College System, and other accredited colleges and universities. Key aspects of the policy, as well as other general transfer information, can be found within the policy.

Universal Credit Transfer Agreement

The Universal Credit Transfer Agreement (https://www.wisconsin.edu/transfer/universal-transfer/) (UCTA) provides a set of courses that are...
transferable between all University of Wisconsin System institutions and Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) districts and typically satisfy general education or general degree requirements.

**Undergraduate transfer credit policies**

Credits considered for transfer to UWL must have been earned at regionally or nationally accredited institutions, e.g., Higher Learning Commission/North Central Association. In addition to institutional accreditation, the quality, comparability, and applicability of the credits are examined to determine transferability to UWL. Transfer credit is allowed for appropriate college-level courses completed at four-year colleges and universities as well as from two-year colleges and vocational/technical schools with accredited college parallel programs. Credits in vocational/technical programs other than college parallel programs will not transfer to this university. (See WTCS transfer policy below.) Military service school credit may be granted in transfer based upon recommendations of the American Council on Education. Credits also may be transferred from examination programs such as the Advanced Placement Program (AP), the College Level Examination Program (CLEP), or the International Baccalaureate program (IB).

When credits are transferred and accepted, they are recorded in terms of UWL courses. The student's record shows courses, grades, and credits; however, only credits are used. Grades and/or grade points are not generally transferred. Exceptions to this policy are necessary for admission into certain programs/majors. The cumulative grade point average of each UWL student is determined only by credits and grades earned in residence at the university.

If a student is currently enrolled at UWL and intends to take course work elsewhere either in a summer term or during an academic year, the student must secure approval in advance of enrollment at other institutions for course work to be taken for transfer to this university. The student should see the academic services director in the dean's office of the school/college in which they are enrolled and complete an "Off-Campus Permit" form, which is used to secure approval to transfer credits from other institutions. Students planning to transfer UWL credits to other universities should check with the receiving institution regarding the transferability of credit.

**Transfer of "D" credits**

A course in which a grade of "D" was earned and accepted by this university may be applied to general education and/or core requirements but will be subject to re-evaluation at a later date if the student chooses to major or minor in the subject area or discipline in which the "D" grade was earned.

**General education waiver policy**

Students who have completed the following may transfer to UW-La Crosse as having satisfied the General Education Program:

- Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
- Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree from a regionally accredited college or university including but not limited to:
  - Associate of Arts and Science degree from a University of Wisconsin System Branch Campus;
  - Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree from a Wisconsin Technical College System institution with an accredited college parallel program.
- The Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC).

Students admitted with a bachelor's degree or an associate degree are still required to meet all core, professional, ethnic studies, prerequisite, major and minor requirements. The university reserves the right to review the student's associate degree and require additional general education courses.

**Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) transfer policy**

In accordance with UW System undergraduate transfer policy, students transferring from a WTCS accredited liberal arts/collegiate transfer program to UWL may generally transfer up to 72 credits. UWL may accept additional credits toward the degree where appropriate. Students must follow UWL's established minimum credits earned in residence requirement for undergraduate graduation.

UWL may grant transfer credit for general education (i.e., in communications, behavioral sciences, social sciences, mathematics, and natural science) offered within a WTCS applied associate degree program. In determining transferability of these courses, UWL will take into account the quality and comparability of the coursework and its applicability to degree requirements.

**Articulation Agreements**

UW La Crosse faculty and staff work jointly to identify pathways for students using labor market data, job protection data and course capacity information with domestic and international partner institutions. All current articulation agreements can be found at: www.uwlax.edu/academic-affairs/resources/articulation-agreements/ (https://www.uwlax.edu/academic-affairs/resources/articulation-agreements/)

For the most accurate information, it is recommended students contact the UWL Admissions Office for details.