



Even before you are admitted to Western.....

✚ Begin Your Financial Aid Paperwork Scholarship Search Now

Teacher Education
2022-23 FAFSA is Open Now
Financial Aid Checklist
Priority FAFSA Deadline – January 31st
The sooner you submit the FAFSA, the better the options!

and

- Review Washington State Financial Aid Resources: <https://wsac.wa.gov/apply>
- Create your profile on the Washington Student Achievement Council's (WSAC) online scholarship search website: <http://www.thewashboard.org> and search for unique Washington State scholarships
- Search Western's website for scholarships: <http://www.finaid.wvu.edu/scholarships>
- Search *local* organizations and businesses (including banks and credit unions) for scholarships
- Western provides support for undocumented and DACA-eligible students:
https://www.finaid.wvu.edu/scholarships/pages/undocumented_students.php
- Undocumented students who are ineligible to complete the FAFSA due to immigration status may instead complete the *Washington Application for Student Financial Aid* (WASFA) at <https://wsac.wa.gov/wasfa>
- Western offers a wide variety of unique scholarships, so be organized and start searching
- Be aware of scholarship application deadlines, as these do vary

Washington State and the *Professional Educator Standards Board* (PESB) offer some unique incentives that are specific to teacher education students that plan to teach in Washington K-12 public schools. Conditional Loans (i.e. forgivable loans) are offered for some PESP approved teacher preparation programs: <https://wsac.wa.gov/teachers>

- Review Western's Tips for Completing the FAFSA – *Free Application for Federal Student Aid*:
http://www.finaid.wvu.edu/client_services/pages/apply/fafsa.php
- Create a FSA ID (Federal Student Aid Identification), you don't already have one: <https://studentaid.gov/>
- Follow Western's Financial Aid Checklist - https://www.finaid.wvu.edu/client_services/pages/apply/fin_aid_checklist.php
- File the FAFSA at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov> . Submit your FAFSA **as soon as possible** to assure timely processing. **Be sure you include the WWU federal school code on the FAFSA: 003802**. You can apply for aid after the priority deadline (Jan 31st), but applying before offers the best level of priority consideration for financial aid opportunities.
- Review Your Student Aid Report (SAR)** at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>; respond to any messages re: your application.
- If Your FAFSA is Selected for Verification**

You will be provided with instructions and documents to complete and return to Western. Provide your documents promptly as FAFSA verification must be completed before financial aid can be awarded.

- Check Your Application Status online**

After applying for admission to *Western Washington University*, you will be sent instructions on how to set up a WWU account and then be able to view your current admissions and aid application status with WWU's online access.

After you are admitted and confirmed to attend Western.....

WWU FAFSA PRIORITY FILING DEADLINE – JANUARY 31

□ Complete an Electronic Promissory Note Online (first time student loan borrowers)

If you have not borrowed through the Federal Direct Student Loan Program before, complete an electronic *Master Promissory Note (MPN)* at <https://studentaid.gov/mpn/> . You can take this step now even if you have not yet received a financial aid award notice indicating you are eligible for a federal student loan. Parents using the Parent Loan for Undergraduate Students (PLUS) must also complete a *master promissory note*.

□ Complete Loan Entrance Counseling Online (first time student loan borrowers)

Students who are considering taking out their first federal direct student loan *must* complete an Entrance Loan Counseling session. A quick and easy interactive loan counseling tool is available from the federal student aid website at <https://studentaid.gov/h/manage-loans> . You can take this step now even if you have not yet received a financial aid award notice indicating that you are eligible for a federal student loan. Parents borrowing through the PLUS program are not required to receive entrance loan counseling. Be sure to note Western Washington University (FAFSA: 003802) when prompted to include a school; this allows Western to receive notification that you completed the counseling session.

□ Manage Your Western Student Account

- **Your financial aid should disburse onto your Western student account *if you are registered for full-time credits and all financial aid requirements are satisfied.***
- Check your billing statement at Western to ensure that your financial aid is properly credited, or to make a payment on your student account. More details are available on the web at www.wwu.edu/sbo
- Students are responsible for paying their student account by the posted deadlines regardless of financial aid.
- Western offers a structured tuition payment plan – three installments per quarter *if you sign up in advance:* <https://sbo.wwu.edu/announcements/39>

□ Refund Process

All student account refunds will be by ACH Direct Deposit to your personal checking or savings account; there are steps necessary to ensure that the auto-deposit process works: <https://sbo.wwu.edu/refunding>

If you have a credit union/bank account then this is likely the best option. Alternatively, Western offers the opportunity to open a basic bank account with BankMobile for students who may not currently have a banking account – *but be aware of additional fees.* **[Remember, YOU have the ability to select the option that is best for you:](#)**

- **Direct Deposit to the Bank or Credit Union of your choice**
- **Direct Deposit to the BankMobile**

□ Monitor Your Western Student Email Account

Your student email account is the official means of communications from the Financial Aid Department. Official Financial Aid Department communications to your student email account include important announcements and information about requirements you may have outstanding.

□ Keep Your Contact Information Current

Once admitted, make sure you receive important messages from Western by notifying us of address changes promptly at https://admin.wwu.edu/pls/wwis/twbkwbis.P_WWWLogin.