

Admission and Financial Aid Application

Instructions for First-Year/Freshman Candidates

This information is provided for U.S. citizens and U.S. permanent residents (regardless of country of residence) who are applying as first-year/freshman candidates. Be sure to read the instructions carefully before you begin the application.

EARLY DECISION I AND II

If Wheaton is your first choice among the colleges you are considering, you may wish to apply as an Early Decision candidate. Wheaton offers two Early Decision plans, both of which are binding.

For either Early Decision plan, be sure to check the appropriate Early Decision box on the application and supplement. Note that your high school counselor and parent/guardian also must sign the Early Decision Agreement form, available at commonapp.org.

Early Decision I

If you wish to apply Early Decision I, you must submit your application and the signed Early Decision Agreement by November 15. You will be notified of the committee's decision by December 15. If you are admitted, you are expected to enroll and to withdraw all other college applications by January 5, 2010. If the committee feels that additional information (e.g., second marking period grades) will be needed to evaluate your candidacy, action on your application may be deferred.

Early Decision II

If you wish to apply Early Decision II, you must submit your application and the signed Early Decision Agreement by January 15. You will be notified of the committee's decision by February 15. If you are admitted, you are expected to enroll and to withdraw all other college applications by March 1, 2010.

REGULAR DECISION (fall entrance)

January 15 is the deadline for all completed freshman applications for fall entrance. All candidates are notified of the committee's decision by April 1.

REGULAR DECISION (spring entrance)

The deadline for freshman applications for spring semester entrance is November 1. Candidates whose applications are complete will be notified of the committee's decision on a rolling basis, beginning in late November.

ADMISSION APPLICATION, SUPPLEMENT AND FEE

You may apply to Wheaton through the Common Application Web site: commonapp.org. Questions about the online application process should be directed to the Office of Admission by e-mail at webapp@wheatoncollege.edu.

Paper copies of the Common Application and Wheaton Supplement may be downloaded from the Wheaton Web site (wheatoncollege.edu/admission/apply) and also are available in most high school guidance offices.

Please complete the Common Application and the Wheaton Supplement to the Common Application and submit them to the Office of Admission with the required \$55 application fee. Your check should be made payable to Wheaton College. The \$55 application fee is waived for freshman candidates who apply online by January 5, 2010. If the application fee is a financial hardship, you may request a fee waiver from your high school counselor.

Remember to indicate the decision plan for which you are applying on the application and on all other forms. Be sure to sign and date your application. If submitting a paper application, please type or print clearly and write your full name and date of birth on every credential submitted as part of your application.

Note: Remember to complete the co-curricular and employment sections of the application. Even if you plan to submit a personal résumé, this portion of the application is required.

REQUIRED CREDENTIALS

Academic Writing Sample

In addition to the Common Application Personal Statement, you must submit a graded academic writing sample. Your paper should be an analytical or research-based sample from an English, social studies, humanities or natural science class, and not an example of creative writing. Papers must have been written (in the English language) within the past year, be no more than five pages in length, and include the class instructor's notations and the grade received. Because writing samples will not be returned, legible copies are acceptable.

English Proficiency (non-native English speakers only)

Applicants for whom English is not the first language must submit evidence of English proficiency. TOEFL, administered by the Educational Testing Service (ETS), is the preferred test. The ETS code for sending your scores to Wheaton is **3963**. Wheaton also will accept results from the IELTS. The English proficiency requirement may be waived for some students, including those whose high school coursework is entirely in English. See wheatoncollege.edu/admission/international/credentials.html for waiver details.

Secondary School Report, Academic Transcripts (high school and college) and Midyear Report

After completing the candidate's section, ask your high school college advisor to submit the Secondary School Report form, which is part of the Common Application. An official copy of your high school transcript must accompany the Secondary School Report. An official midyear transcript must be submitted by your high school as soon as it is available. **Please note:** The Admission

Committee will not make decisions on candidates without at least first-term grades.

If your high school requires you to submit a release form, complete the Release of First Marking Period Grades form, available at wheatoncollege.edu/admission/apply/, and give it to your school counselor.

Teacher Evaluations

Ask two of your instructors to complete the Common Application Teacher Evaluation form and submit it directly to the Office of Admission by the appropriate application deadline date. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit evaluations from instructors who have taught them in an academic subject within the last two years.

OPTIONAL CREDENTIALS

Standardized Test Scores (SAT, ACT, SAT Subject Tests)

The submission of standardized test results is optional. Applicants who wish to have their scores considered should check the “yes” box in the Optional Standardized Testing Information section of the Wheaton Supplement to the Common Application and arrange to have official score reports sent directly from the testing agency to the Office of Admission at Wheaton College. The ETS code (College Board/SAT) for sending your scores to Wheaton is **3963**; the ACT code is **1932**.

Score reports for submitters must be received no later than the application deadline. Students applying for Early Decision I who wish to include their test scores in their applications should plan to complete testing no later than October of their senior year.

Personal Academic Portfolio

Students may wish to submit additional material with their application in the form of a Personal Academic Portfolio, which may provide evidence of particular talents or interests. Portfolios must be clearly labeled with your name and date of birth. Examples may include creative writing (fiction, poetry or plays), artwork, audio or videotapes of work in music or theatre, entrepreneurial achievements, and summaries of academic and/or volunteer service projects.

Candidates wishing to have their portfolios reviewed by faculty must clearly label their submission (e.g., “art portfolio,” “music portfolio,” “theatre portfolio,” or “creative writing portfolio”). In order to secure a faculty review, portfolios must be submitted two weeks before the application deadline. Portfolios will not be returned. Students are discouraged from submitting originals. Please note the individual departmental requirements below:

Creative writing portfolios must be submitted as hard copies by mail. Portfolios in electronic form (CD, DVD or online) will not be reviewed.

Art portfolios must be submitted as slides or digital prints. Portfolios presented in electronic form will not be reviewed.

Music portfolios should consist of recordings of individual performances rather than group choral or instrumental performances. All performances must be in CD or DVD format.

Educational Assessments/Diagnostic Testing

Students with specific learning disabilities or learning style differences may wish to submit copies of any recent professional assessments or documentation with their application to Wheaton. Submission of documentation is purely voluntary and all materials are kept confidential. Students planning to submit testing should note that testing should be no more than three years old. It is recommended that you pursue testing while in high school. Testing may be offered as a service by your public school system.

CAMPUS VISITS

We encourage you to visit the Wheaton campus. Personal interviews are strongly recommended for all applicants, and while you are on campus you also may participate in an information session and/or a tour. Tours and interviews are available by appointment weekdays (and Saturday mornings all fall) between April 1 and January 15. If you are unable to schedule a visit to the campus, the Office of Admission will attempt, upon request, to arrange an interview with a member of the Alumni and Parent Admission Committee (APAC) living near your home or school. Please contact the Office of Admission well in advance to schedule an on-campus or APAC interview. Contact us at 800-394-6003 or 508-286-8251 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Eastern Time) Monday through Friday.

FINANCIAL AID

Once a student is admitted to the college, aid is determined based on a combined assessment of financial eligibility and the overall academic strength of the candidate. U.S. citizens and permanent residents applying for financial assistance must complete both the CSS PROFILE and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The Wheaton CSS code number is **3963** and the Wheaton FAFSA code number is **002227**. For more information, please contact the Office of Student Financial Services at 800-541-3639 or 508-286-8232 or at sfs@wheatoncollege.edu.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

The FAFSA is used to determine eligibility for federal funding and is required of all financial aid applicants. The FAFSA is available online at fafsa.ed.gov. Students, along with their parents, should complete and submit the form to the processor as soon as possible after January 1. Although the form asks for specific information from student and parent tax returns, applicants should not wait to complete tax returns for the current year before

submitting the FAFSA. Complete the application in early January using the best possible estimates of family income; corrections can be submitted later. Wheaton's federal code number for the FAFSA is **002227**.

CSS PROFILE Application

Wheaton uses the information from the PROFILE to determine eligibility for institutional funding. The PROFILE is available online at collegeboard.com; processing takes only 48 hours. CSS will send you an individualized application based on the registration information provided. Wheaton's institutional code number for PROFILE is **3963**. Applicants with questions about the PROFILE service should contact the Office of Student Financial Services at 800-541-3639 or at sfs@wheatoncollege.edu.

Student and Parent Tax Returns

Wheaton also requires that you and your parent(s) or guardian(s) submit copies of your federal income tax returns. If you are using estimates on FAFSA and PROFILE because you have not yet completed the appropriate year's tax return, you must submit the most recent year's tax return by the published deadline. You should include all pages, schedules and W-2 forms. Once a current-year tax form has been filed, a complete copy must be forwarded to the college. If you or your parent(s) have not and will not be filing a federal tax return, you must send a letter stating this and list all sources of income for the year.

Noncustodial Parent's Statement

If your parents are separated, divorced or never married, the parent with whom you do not live (the noncustodial parent) must complete a Noncustodial Parent's Statement. You will be given a link for your noncustodial parent to complete this form when you complete your PROFILE online.

Business/Farm Supplement

If you or your parent(s) own a business or a farm, you must submit a Business/Farm Supplement to Wheaton. You will be instructed to download and complete the form when completing the PROFILE. You may also request one from the Office of Student Financial Services. This form should be returned directly to Wheaton when completed. If the business files a corporate or partnership tax return, we request that you submit a copy of the business tax return along with the Business/Farm Supplement.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

While Wheaton attempts to provide financial assistance to all eligible applicants, the college cannot assure that funding will be available for applicants whose files are completed after Wheaton's deadlines. In order to meet deadlines, students should file the FAFSA and PROFILE applications at least two weeks prior to the deadline. All other required documents must be received by the published deadline for priority consideration for assistance. The financial aid application deadlines are as follows:

	Admission deadline	Financial aid deadline
Early Decision I*	Nov. 15	Nov. 15*
Early Decision II	Jan. 15	Jan. 15
Regular Decision (Fall)	Jan. 15	Feb. 1
Spring Entrance	Nov. 1	Nov. 1

***Note:** Early Decision I candidates do not need to submit the FAFSA form by the November deadline. We will send an estimated award in December based only on the PROFILE, tax returns and supplements. Early Decision I candidates must file the FAFSA after January 1 and submit current-year tax returns in order to finalize the financial aid award.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US:

Office of Admission

800-394-6003 508-286-8251 (outside the U.S.)
 Fax: 508-286-8271
 E-mail: admission@wheatoncollege.edu

Office of Student Financial Services

800-541-3639 508-286-8232 (outside the U.S.)
 Fax: 508-286-3787
 E-mail: sfs@wheatoncollege.edu

Wheaton College
 26 E. Main Street
 Norton, Massachusetts 02766-2322 USA

Wheaton College is committed to the principles of Equal Opportunity as defined under federal and state law, and does not discriminate unlawfully on the basis of race, color, creed, disability, national/ethnic origin, age, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or disabled veteran/Vietnam era veteran status in its admission policy, programs, or activities; educational policies; scholarship and loan programs; athletic and other college-administered programs; or employment practices and programs. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies: Affirmative Action Officer, Human Resources, Wheaton College, Norton, Massachusetts 02766, 508-286-8206.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST FOR FIRST-YEAR/FRESHMAN CANDIDATES

Use this checklist to make sure that you submit all credentials required for the first-year/freshman application process. Please be sure to write or type your name and date of birth (mm/dd/yy) on every non-electronic credential submitted as part of your application.

Soon after we receive your application, you will receive a login ID and password that will allow you to track the status of your application online. Please note that it may take up to two weeks from the time we receive your application credentials before they appear in our online tracking system.

- Common Application, including personal statement
- Wheaton Supplement to the Common Application
- \$55 Application Fee (waived for online applications completed before January 5, 2010)
- Academic Writing Sample
- Secondary School Report and Transcripts (high school and college, if any)
- Midyear Report (when grades from the current academic year are available)
- Two Academic Instructor Evaluations

Required (If applicable)

- Early Decision Agreement Form (signed by you, your parent/guardian and your high school counselor)
- English Proficiency: TOEFL or IELTS scores (non-native English speakers only)

Optional Credentials

- Standardized Test Scores (SAT, ACT, SAT Subject Tests)
- Personal Academic Portfolio (see instructions)

Financial Aid

- The Free Application for Federal Student Aid: FAFSA
- CSS PROFILE Application
- Student and Parent Tax Returns
- Noncustodial Parent's Statement (if applicable)
- Business/Farm Supplement (if applicable)