

# Admissions Guide

FOR STAFFING  
COLLEGE FAIRS

2025-2026





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Dear Alumni & Parents,

Thank you in advance for all you will do to help WashU recruit, enroll, and welcome talented students in your communities. The work you do makes a difference, and prospective students and their families are eager to connect with you.

This guide and the accompanying WashU one-pager provide important information about the university and the admission process that will help you as you staff college fairs. **The guide is not for duplication or distribution.** It is solely for your personal edification. We appreciate your dedication to making WashU an outstanding place for our students to learn and grow. We look forward to working with you.

Ronné Turner

VICE PROVOST FOR UNDERGRADUATE ENROLLMENT &  
STUDENT FINANCIAL AID

Mollie Corum

SENIOR DIRECTOR, CLASS & UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS  
ENGAGEMENT & ANNUAL GIVING

# WashU

WashU is a medium-sized research institution located in St. Louis. We provide a distinctive undergraduate experience that offers students the flexibility to follow their passions and develop their skills through unique learning opportunities. Students have the best of both worlds: the friendly, supportive community of a small school combined with the extensive resources of a large university.

The WashU one-pager, which you received along with this information guide, features current facts and figures about the university, along with information about financial aid, scholarship programs, and the application process. This should be your go-to resource for questions from prospective students and families.

To supplement that content, we've called out important areas in this guide—including the key talking points featured here, along with details about WashU's commitment to accessibility and frequently asked questions—to support the conversations you may have.

## KEY TALKING POINTS

- **At WashU**, you'll be pushed—and inspired—to do great things, in ways that both celebrate and cultivate your abilities. In an environment where curiosity leads and creativity thrives, we'll empower you to use your imagination just as much as your intelligence.
- **With our flexible curriculum** and personalized approach, you can explore a variety of disciplines across schools and special programs. Through individualized advising appointments that start your first year, you will establish academic and experiential goals for your time at WashU.
- **We provide resources to support your post-graduate success** from day one. Throughout your time at WashU, career coaches will help you secure internships and other co-curricular opportunities that will contribute to successful placement in top companies and graduate programs.
- **As an undergraduate student**, you'll receive a world-class education from distinguished faculty leading their fields. And you'll have the opportunity to work with them on research projects in top-notch academic facilities.
- **WashU students** are focused and ambitious but also collaborative and supportive. You'll find that your peers, faculty, and staff will cheer you on, encouraging your success and also pushing you to leave your comfort zone, both inside and outside of the classroom.
- **WashU meets 100%** of demonstrated financial need without loans for all admitted students.

## A CLOSER LOOK

Throughout the year, we provide a variety of exciting in-person and virtual opportunities to get to know our dynamic, supportive, and collaborative community! We encourage students and families to ask questions, see the sights, and take it all in.

To learn more about our current offerings go to [visit.washu.edu](https://visit.washu.edu) or call 800.638.0700.

# Making WashU Accessible

We believe in providing inspiration, support, and guidance to outstanding students from all backgrounds, and with all academic interests. We believe in removing barriers to access, and tailoring our experience to each student and family. We believe in knowing our students and helping them direct their talents, drive, and energy toward becoming successful, contributing global citizens who work to improve their communities and the world.

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## How we are working to make WashU financially accessible

**We meet 100% of demonstrated financial need for all admitted students, and our financial aid offers do not include loans.** WashU's average financial aid offer is more than \$73,000.

### NO-LOAN POLICY

WashU's no-loan policy means that need-based loans for undergraduates are replaced with scholarships, university grants, and work-study in all financial aid offers. This policy is our latest step towards expanding financial aid at WashU, ensuring that all admitted students can obtain a world-class education without going in to debt.

### FEE WAIVERS

Students from families with annual incomes of \$75,000 per year or less, or students who are applying for need-based financial aid, automatically qualify for a WashU fee waiver and can simply indicate this on their admission application.

### WASHU PLEDGE

The WashU Pledge covers the full cost of tuition, fees, housing, and food for incoming students from Missouri and select counties in southern Illinois who come from a family earning \$75,000 or less annually. This financial aid offer is guaranteed for all four years and includes no loans.

There is no separate application for the WashU Pledge. You simply need to apply for and be admitted as a first-time, full-time undergraduate student to WashU, and also apply for financial aid.

### FIRST-YEAR GRANTS

As part of an ongoing effort to provide every student the true WashU experience, the following initiatives assist first-year students from families earning \$75,000 or less annually with their transition to college.

- A \$1,525 Technology Grant to cover the cost of a computer.
- A \$1,500 Startup Grant to cover necessities such as school supplies, residential hall supplies, and winter clothing.
- Recipients of the Startup Grant will also receive an overall increase in financial aid with the elimination of the \$1,550 summer earnings expectation.

### PERSONALIZED ASSISTANCE

Our Student Financial Services team is committed to helping you throughout your undergraduate years. WashU financial aid counselors work individually with each family to understand their unique circumstances.

**WashU is committed to making it work for you financially.**  
**We meet 100% of demonstrated financial need without loans for all admitted students.**

### FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIPS

- Offers that range up to the full cost of attendance
- Merit-based scholarships and need-based scholarships. Visit [admissions.washu.edu](https://admissions.washu.edu) for full details.
- WashU financial aid counselors work individually with each family to understand their unique circumstances.
- Home equity is not considered in determining financial aid offers.
- A commitment to helping you throughout your undergraduate years.

### UNDERGRADUATE CHARGES 2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR

Tuition	\$68,240
Student Activity Fee	682
Student Health & Wellness Fee	672
Average University Housing & Food*	23,338
University Charges	\$92,932

\*The rate shown above is based on a modern double room in university housing and the Platinum Plan meal plan.

Additional costs for books and supplies vary with the course of study. Some programs of study may require specific computer equipment. Additional expenses not billed by the university vary by student.

### How we are working to make the admission process more accessible

#### NEED BLIND

We have a need-blind admission process for all first-year applicants who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents. That means your ability to pay tuition will not be considered in the admission decision process.

#### TEST OPTIONAL POLICY

WashU has a test optional policy for all applicants. This test waiver policy means that:

- Applicants have a choice about whether to submit standardized test scores or use the waiver.
- Applicants who have taken the SAT or ACT and feel their scores reflect their abilities should submit them.
- Applicants who do not have scores, had limited opportunity to sit for exams more than once, or who do not feel their scores accurately reflect their abilities and do not wish to share them, should select the waiver option.
- All applicants, whether or not they submit standardized testing, will receive full consideration for admission.

PLEASE NOTE: We will continue to require evidence of English Language proficiency (TOEFL, IELTS, or Duolingo English Test) for international applicants for whom English is a second language.

To find answers to common questions about the application process for Fall 2026 admission (Class of 2030), visit [admissions.washu.edu](https://admissions.washu.edu).

### How we are supporting our students

#### STUDENT SUCCESS

The Taylor Family Center for Student Success, in collaboration with partners across the campus, works to ensure that all students can take advantage of the full WashU experience, regardless of background. Our community is built on a vast array of beliefs, experiences, and goals that not only shape students' individual perspectives, but also form our rich intellectual environment. We employ data-driven approaches to impact the student experience and guide their success throughout their undergraduate education and into their post-graduate lives.

# WashU FAQ

2025-2026

## What types of courses do students typically take before coming to WashU?

WashU is looking for students with a high school diploma or equivalent who took a challenging college-preparatory curriculum. Most candidates' transcripts include the following:

- Four years of English
- Four years of mathematics (architecture, business, and engineering strongly recommend calculus)
- Three to four years of laboratory science (engineering recommends chemistry and physics)
- Three to four years of history or social science
- At least two years of the same foreign language since the ninth grade
- The College of Arts & Sciences recommends both chemistry and physics for students who plan to do coursework in pre-medicine or the natural sciences

## Is there a required minimum GPA or class rank?

Although we do look for students who are strong academically, WashU does not have any minimum requirements for GPA or class rank. Most applicants take advantage of honors, advanced placement (AP), and International Baccalaureate (IB) courses, if offered by their high schools. Because we know not all high schools have the same curricular and extracurricular offerings, we approach application review through an asset-based lens and try to identify merit wherever we find it. We consider a combination of academic and personal factors in making the admission decision for each student.

## What testing do you require?

Applicants for the Class of 2030 (entering in Fall 2026) will have the option to submit standardized test scores. If applicants choose to submit SAT or ACT scores as part of their application, they may self-report those scores; verification will be required following the acceptance of an offer of admission. Applicants who choose to submit test scores don't have to submit the Writing test for the ACT, or the optional Essay for the SAT. Also, the ACT Science section is now optional and not required by WashU. If applicants decide to complete the Science section, that score will be sent to us separately and will not be used in the ACT Superscore Composite calculation. Please note that we will continue to require evidence of English Language proficiency (TOEFL, IELTS, or Duolingo English Test) for international applicants for whom English is a second language.

## Do you offer \_\_\_\_\_ major?

WashU offers more than 100 fields of study and more than 1,900 courses. To learn more about our undergraduate degrees and academic programs, scan this



QR code. There you can browse the current offerings by school or degree offered. You'll also find opportunities for interdisciplinary study and special programs.

## What applications do you accept?

We accept the Common Application and the Coalition Application. Students may submit whichever application suits them, and they should submit all components of that one application. We are also part of the QuestBridge Match program and welcome applications from students participating in QuestBridge. Learn more about the QuestBridge process and important deadlines at [questbridge.org](https://questbridge.org).

### CONTACT INFO

#### Undergraduate Admissions

admissions@wustl.edu  
800.638.0700  
314.935.6000

#### Student Financial Services

financial@wustl.edu  
888.547.6670  
314.935.5900

### What is the average financial aid offer?

WashU's average financial aid offer is more than \$73,000. We are committed to meeting 100% of demonstrated financial need for all admitted students without loans. We know that each family's financial situation is unique. Please contact Student Financial Services to speak with a counselor: 314.935.5900, 888.547.6670, or [financial@wustl.edu](mailto:financial@wustl.edu).

### What is your AP/IB policy?

Depending on the subject, a score of 4 or 5 on the AP exams or a score of 5 or better on the higher-level IB exams may result in advanced placement in an appropriate subject at WashU. It may also result in credit being awarded depending upon the policy of a student's undergraduate division and the academic departments. Full details are available in the online bulletin: [bulletin.washu.edu](http://bulletin.washu.edu).

### Will credits from a course I took at a local college transfer to WashU?

If a student takes a course at a local college (including a community college) and wants the credits to transfer to WashU, the following must be fulfilled:

- The course must be held on a college campus and taught by a college professor.
- The course must not be a course offered toward partial fulfillment of the requirements for the high school diploma.
- A grade of C or better is required.

The deans at WashU make the final decision about course credits, so enrolling students meet with a dean who will determine what credits would transfer.

## The WashU Center for Career

**Engagement** is an integrated hub for career development and education. From day one, the center provides:

- Career coaching and planning
- Career assessment and skills training
- Access to a global community of leaders, recruiters, influencer networks, and alumni

93%

93% of WashU graduates are employed, in school, or pursuing other positive outcomes within six months

10,000+

one-on-one career coaching appointments each year

\$600,000+

in internship funding awarded annually

240,000+

job and internship opportunities available to WashU students annually

61,000+

employers recruit WashU students for jobs and internships

800+

organizations where students intern, research, and gain professional experience

650+

organizations where WashU graduates land jobs

140+

graduate and professional schools where WashU graduates continue their education

# College Fair FAQ

2025-2026

A College Fair is an opportunity for students and their families to learn about a variety of colleges and universities at a central time and place (usually a high school or community center). Representatives from colleges (frequently alumni or parent volunteers) staff a table to distribute information, answer questions about their own experiences at the university, and encourage students to complete a brief registration form.

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## What do I do before the fair?

- 1** Read through this information and familiarize yourself with the process.
- 2** Check your email for the specific details about the fair you are staffing.
- 3** Check your box of materials as soon as it arrives to be sure you have all materials listed here. If something is missing, please call the College Fair Coordinator office as soon as possible so that we may resend materials to you before the fair. Office hours are 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, and we can be reached at 314.935.8011.
- 4** Review the information about WashU and the admission process included in this document, as well as in the WashU one-pager, for answers to questions you may receive.
- 5** Contact the College Fair Coordinator office if you have any questions about WashU programs, the College Fair, or the materials.
- 6** Plan to arrive 30 minutes before the program begins so you have time to find your spot and set up your table.
- 7** Should something happen that prevents you from attending a fair as scheduled, please call or email the College Fair Coordinator office immediately.

## What training materials and supplies will I receive?

- 1** This guide and the accompanying WashU one-pager include information that will help you to answer questions you may receive. Please note: the guide is not for duplication or distribution.
- 2** Materials to distribute: WashU one-pager, registration cards, and Admissions officer business cards.
- 3** Name tag(s) for you to wear.
- 4** Pens.
- 5** Yellow batch card for you to complete and return with completed registration cards.
- 6** Table runner.
- 7** Postage-paid envelope to return table runner and completed cards.

## How do I set up my table?

See the diagrams to the right for instructions on setting up your table display.

## What materials may I hand out?

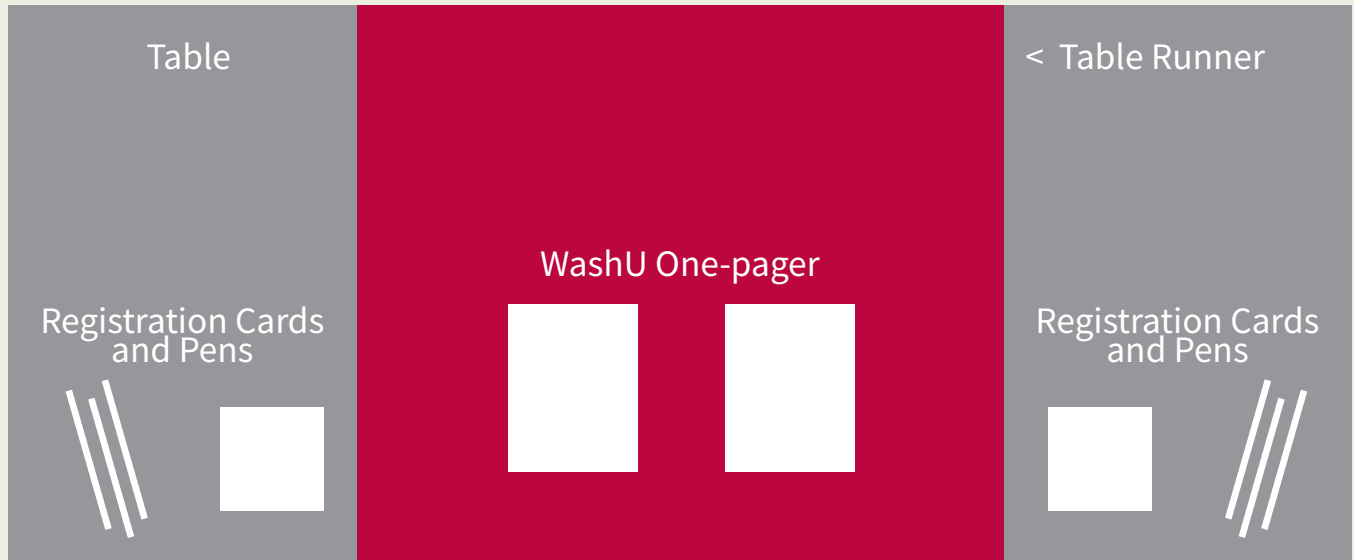
- WashU one-pager
- Admissions officer business cards
- Registration cards

These are materials students may take freely. The number of copies you receive depends on the expected attendance.





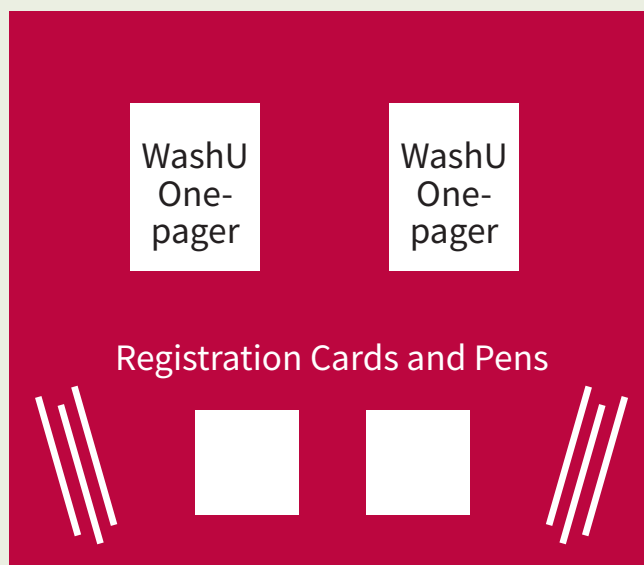
## LONG TABLE DISPLAY



**Table Front**  
with Outward-Facing WashU Logo

## SHORT TABLE DISPLAY

Table Runner >



**Table Front**  
with Outward-Facing WashU Logo

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## What do I do during the fair?

Please stand behind your table and wait for students or family members to approach. Be welcoming and friendly, and when someone approaches, please:

- Greet them and introduce yourself as an alum or parent. Families will be interested to hear about your firsthand experiences.
- Offer to answer any questions. If the student has no questions, ask what they are interested in studying. This often opens the lines of communication.
- Encourage students to complete a registration card so that we may send them additional information about WashU. Students who are already on the mailing list can provide their name on the card and check the box telling us that they are on the mailing list.
- Some fairs utilize scanning technologies that allow interested students to submit their information digitally to WashU instead of completing a paper card. We will reach out to you if the fair you are staffing uses digital scanning.
- Remind students they are welcome to take any of the materials you have for distribution. Advise them that students on our mailing list will receive additional materials in the mail, including our viewbook.
- Encourage students to engage with the WashU community, through a campus visit or virtually. This is the best way for students to determine if WashU is a good match for them. They can learn more about what is available at [visit.washu.edu](https://visit.washu.edu).
- It is okay to say “I don’t know.” If you don’t know the answer to a question, you may be able to find it in this guide. If you can’t find the answer, don’t worry. Encourage the student to call the Admissions Office at 800.638.0700 or 314.935.6000. Do not include specific requests for information on the cards.

- If the fair is crowded, you may not have time to speak individually with each student. Use the materials to help you manage. For example, while you are speaking with one student, you can encourage another to read through the WashU one-pager until you are able to chat with them.
- If you run out of registration cards, ask students to print their names, email addresses, and full mailing addresses on a piece of paper. Please be sure to let them know they will receive all materials in the mail or electronically.

## What do I do after the fair?

- Complete the evaluation you receive from the fair site, if applicable.
- Please do not return leftover publications. Ask the fair organizers if they would like any leftover publications or give them to a local high school. You may also recycle or keep them to use at an upcoming fair in the near future.
- Complete the yellow batch card.
- Use the postage-paid label and envelope to return your table runner and completed registration cards as soon as possible.

We will email an evaluation to you after the fair. We appreciate your feedback on topics including:

- Estimated number of visits to the table.
- Other institutions that attended.
- Questions or subjects from the fair that you would like someone from the APAP office to contact you to discuss.

## HELPFUL HINTS

Your role as a volunteer representative is to provide a local, friendly contact for a student or family considering WashU. Your objective is to encourage students to consider engaging with the WashU community and applying for admission.

- Smile and be positive, enthusiastic, and professional. You are representing WashU!
- Do not speak negatively about another university or compare colleges and universities.
- Be courteous to the college representatives at the tables near you.
- Always stand behind your table at a College Fair; never stand in the aisles.
- Never call students to your table. Allow them to decide which tables they would like to visit.
- Our professional association discourages giving away items to students other than informational materials. Therefore, we do not give bags, buttons, or other trinkets to students.
- Wear your WashU name tag or a name tag the venue provides.
- Dress in a professional manner: business casual and/or WashU attire is appropriate.
- Volunteer personal information to a prospective student that is based on your experience. Separate your opinions from facts. If questions get detailed, remind the student that you are a volunteer and encourage them to contact the Admissions Office.
- Many students and parents have specific questions and concerns about academic scholarships and financial aid. Convey to them we meet 100% of demonstrated financial need for all admitted students and we do not include loans in our financial aid offers. We also have a need-blind admission policy for first-year applicants who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents—meaning we do not consider a student’s ability to pay when making admission decisions.
- It is not unusual for a student to bring a high school transcript or mention test scores and ask you if they are likely to be admitted. Please do not make any indication of admissibility or non-admissibility — regardless of the student’s credentials.

Thank you for helping  
recruit talented students  
to WashU!



Office of Undergraduate Admissions

MSC 1089-105-05 | One Brookings Drive | St. Louis, MO 63130-4899

800.638.0700 or 314.935.6000 | [admissions.washu.edu](https://admissions.washu.edu)