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GUARANTEED ADMISSIONS PROGRAM PILOT  
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS  
DISTRICTS AND SCHOOLS  
November 2021

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Washington's public four-year college and universities want you! We are excited to welcome Washington students to any one of our public four-year college or universities.

If you want to go to college, are thinking of college or have not considered college, there is a place for you in Washington to go to college and achieve your dreams, attain career credentials, and follow your passion.

Washington's public four-year college and universities offer terrific options available in your own backyard. We are committed to serve all students with a focus on identifying and reducing gaps among student populations

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## General Questions

### **What is the Guaranteed Admission Pilot (GAP) Program?**

The Guaranteed Admissions Pilot Program supports guaranteed admissions efforts at [Central Washington University](#), [Eastern Washington University](#), [The Evergreen State College](#), [Western Washington University](#) and [Washington State University](#).

### **What are the benefits of being in the GAP program?**

The benefits of the GAP program are numerous. You will be guaranteed admission to one or more participating institution if you meet the criteria including GPA and completion of courses for that college or university. You will receive your admission decision sooner than most students apply for admissions.

### **What is a Grade Point Average (GPA)?**

A GPA is a calculated average of the letter grades (A-F) you earn in high school following a 0-4.0 or 5.0 scale. Every term, you receive a GPA based on the grades earned in all classes during that term. Throughout high school, you will also maintain a cumulative GPA, which is an ongoing average of all terms beginning with the 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

### **What is a High School Transcript?**

A high school transcript is a complete record of your classes, grades, class rank and GPA. This complete record of your coursework, grades and credits provides information to colleges and universities in the admissions process.

### **What are College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADRs)?**

CADRs are the minimum number of high school credits required in six subject areas to meet state minimum admission standards at Washington public four-year college or university.

The CADRs include:

- English Language Arts (4 credits)
- Math (3 credits)
- Art (1 credit)
- Science (3 credits)
- Social Sciences (3 credits)
- World Languages (2 credits)
- Senior Year Math-based Quantitative Course (1 credit)

### **How do the CADRS match with high school graduation requirements?**

CADRs and high school graduation requirements align. A student who completes the high school graduation requirements in Washington will generally meet CADRs. To learn more, go [here](#).

### **What if a student does not meet all the CADRs?**

Students are encouraged to take a minimum of three credits of CADR courses each year of high school, including the senior year. However, if a student does not meet all the CADRs, she/he/they should reach out to the university or college of interest to discuss further. Public four-year university and college contact can be found [here](#).

## **Admissions**

### **How does guaranteed admissions differ from “regular” admissions?**

Guaranteed admissions offers admissions to a student and then requires the student to apply to the institution. “Regular” admissions require a student to first apply for admissions and then a student may be offered admission.

### **What are the criteria for “regular” admissions?**

Washington public baccalaureate institutions consider the whole student in the admissions review process. Holistic admissions consider grades, courses – both the type and the level at which taken - and assessments, along with other information to make an admissions decision. This may include leadership in activities outside of the school environment or other examples a student may provide.

The state sets minimum admission [criteria](#). The state’s criteria align with institutional holistic admissions. This allows for the opportunity to engage in a more comprehensive review of the application, including areas in which an applicant may not meet admissions standards. If a student has not met the College Academic Distribution requirements, the student may still be offered provisional acceptance to an institution and complete missing coursework in the first year of college. Students have flexibility within the state minimum standards. The 1.2 Alternate First-Year Student Admission Policy provides an option for students who may not meet the state’s first-year students admission policy. The state admissions policy standards can be accessed [here](#).

Admissions is as much a standardized practice as it is influenced by the diverse range of students’ experience and education. While there is no certainty in the admissions process for any student, all Washington public baccalaureate institutions are able, and do, make exceptions for applicants who do not meet CADRs and who they believe can be successful at our institutions. These exceptions are considered on a case-by-case

basis. It is challenging to capture the nuance of every application into a single statement for all students and all institutions, therefore, **students and families are strongly encouraged to [reach out](#) and discuss concerns so we can partner together. We invite students and families into conversation with us.**

## Student Eligibility

### **What criteria must high school students meet to be eligible for the guaranteed admissions?**

Participating institutions require two criteria be met for a student to be eligible for guaranteed admissions: (1) A minimum GPA or minimum GPA/class ranking and (2) Completion of the College Academic Distribution Requirements (CADRs).

- CWU - GPA 3.0 and CADRs completion
- EWU - GPA 3.0 and CADRs completion
- Evergreen - GPA 2.5 and CADRs completion
- WSU - GPA 3.6 or ranked in top 10 percent of high school class and CADRs completion
- WWU – GPA 3.0 and CADRs completion

If a student meets the criteria or is on track to meet the criteria by high school completion, he/she/they are guaranteed admission to the institution.

### **If a student is eligible for guaranteed admission are there any additional requirements for admissions to the university or college?**

Yes. Once a student has been determined to meet the guaranteed admission criteria and are notified, they are eligible for guaranteed admissions at one or more participating institutions. Eligible students must then complete the following additional steps

- Apply to the institution by completing an admissions application.
- Complete any additional requirements identified by the institution.

- Continue to engage in challenging high school coursework and maintain their high school GPA during their senior year to meet the guaranteed admission criteria.

### **Is the admissions application fee for students eligible for guaranteed admission waived?**

No. Washington's public baccalaureate institutions are not allowed by the Washington Constitution under [Article 8](#) Sections 5 and 7 or [statute\(s\)](#) to waive admission application fees unless a student demonstrates financial need. Financial need is reviewed on a case-by-case basis by each institution.

Admission application waivers are available for students who demonstrate financial need. To determine if a student is eligible for an admission application fee waiver, students should contact a participating institution [here](#).

### **Why do I have to complete an admissions application?**

The admissions application gives college and universities permission to begin contacting you regarding admissions and allows institutions to send regular emails with updates and other important information. Without your permission we are unable to contact you.

### **Does it matter that I am an undocumented student?**

Your citizenship status has no bearing on whether you can participate in GAP.

### **If I do participate in the program, am I locked into coming to one or more of the participating institutions?**

You are not locked into coming to one or more of the participating institutions. We invite you to come meet with some key individuals on our campuses so that we can help you learn more about the institutions and get a better feel for what life is like as a student.

### **What happens if I don't meet the GAP criteria upon graduation from high school?**

To be eligible for guaranteed admissions, students are encouraged to continue to engage in challenging high school coursework. Students must maintain their high school GPA during their senior year to meet the guaranteed admission criteria. If a student becomes ineligible for guaranteed admission, institutions are ready to work with you through the "regular" admissions process.

**If a student does not meet GAP criteria, can they attend a Washington public baccalaureate institution?**

Yes. Washington’s public baccalaureate institutions want Washington students. If a student wants to go to college, is thinking of college, or has not considered college, there is a place for the student in Washington to go to college. More information can be found [here](#).

**Will participating institutions communicate to students that are not eligible for guaranteed admissions?**

Yes. Washington’s public baccalaureate institutions want Washington students to enroll in college after high school. We are committed to growing our own to raise educational attainment among Washingtonians to meet workforce and state needs.

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