



## TRANSFER Admission Expectations 2010



### Our Admission Process

#### ■ **Competitive and selective**

We consider both academic and nonacademic indicators of success, the learning environment, and the applicant's potential for contribution to the university community.

#### ■ **Academic qualifications matter most**

Nonacademic indicators of success strengthen a good application, but they never make an academically weak applicant admissible.

#### ■ **Individual strengths recognized**

Outstanding performance in one area may compensate for less than competitive performance in another.

#### ■ **Comprehensive review**

We review applications holistically. No one indicator, such as a certain GPA or completion of certain courses, guarantees admission.

### Minimum Requirements for Application

To apply, students must have completed the minimum requirements. To be admitted, students need to present academic achievement significantly more competitive than these minimum requirements.

- **24 transferable semester credits** (excluding AP and other test credit; transfer students are not accepted at the freshman level)
- **Algebra** (one year high school or equivalent)
- **Plane geometry** (one year high school or equivalent; must be regular college track, not lower-track such as modified, basic, or informal)
- **College preparatory math** (one year high school or a college-level course)
- **Single foreign language** (two high school years or two college semesters)

### Intended Major

Admission does not guarantee acceptance to the intended major, which is a separate process from the undergraduate admission process. For more details on admission to your intended major, go online to [www.pubs.wisc.edu/ug/entrance](http://www.pubs.wisc.edu/ug/entrance).

### Academic Course Preparation

Competitive academic course work will include:

- **Breadth** (English composition, college-level math, science, social science, humanities/literature, and, if appropriate, foreign language)
- **Increasing level of difficulty**
- **Course rigor** (appropriate for continued study at UW–Madison)
- **Appropriate preparation for major**

### Grades and GPA

Most transfer students admitted in recent years have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. However, students with a strong GPA but weak curriculum will not likely be admitted.

- **Grade trends** (steady or improving, but not declining)
- **Grade patterns** (consistent across all academic areas, not weak in a particular area)
- **Cumulative GPA** (must be competitive not only for university admission, but for admission to the intended major as well)

### High School Record

The fewer the number of college credits earned, the more important the high school record becomes. In these cases, we consider:

- **Rank in class**
- **Academic GPA**
- **Trends in grades**
- **Curriculum/rigor of courses**
- **ACT/SAT score**

### How to Apply and Deadlines

Apply online at [apply.wisconsin.edu](http://apply.wisconsin.edu). You can also download a paper application at [www.admissions.wisc.edu](http://www.admissions.wisc.edu).

We begin admitting for spring in October and for fall in February. October 1 is our application deadline for spring term admission and February 1 is our deadline for fall. Students must submit the application, application fee (if applicable), and all official transcripts (high school and postsecondary).

### For More Information

#### Office of Admissions

University of Wisconsin–Madison • 716 Langdon Street • Madison, WI 53706–1481 • 608–262–3961  
[transfer@admissions.wisc.edu](mailto:transfer@admissions.wisc.edu) • [www.admissions.wisc.edu](http://www.admissions.wisc.edu)

# Academic Preparations for a UW–Madison Degree

As a prospective transfer student, you can begin earning a UW–Madison degree before you even enroll here. With just two semesters of course work at your current institution, you can satisfy UW–Madison’s university-wide general education requirements. And if you plan to stay at your current school longer than two semesters before transferring, you can go on to meet additional degree requirements and prepare for entrance to your intended major at UW–Madison.

## General Education Requirements (GER)

[www.ls.wisc.edu/gened](http://www.ls.wisc.edu/gened)

UW–Madison’s GER consists of three parts:

1. Composition/Communication 6 credits
2. Math/Quantitative Reasoning 6 credits
3. Breadth (natural science, humanities/arts, social studies, ethnic studies) 16–18 credits

To satisfy UW–Madison’s GER before you transfer, select the following courses at your current institution. If you are currently attending a UW System or Wisconsin Technical College System school, visit the Transfer Information System (TIS) at [tis.uwsa.edu](http://tis.uwsa.edu) to determine exactly how your courses will transfer.

### Composition

- **Communication Part A (3 credits):** An English composition course that focuses on expository writing and speaking, argumentation, and critical reading, and requires a research project using library resources.
- **Communication Part B (3 credits):** The purpose of this requirement is to provide students with training in writing papers and giving oral presentations that involve research within an academic discipline. Because traditional courses do not combine the academic content with an extensive writing and speaking component, this is the one course you should plan on satisfying after transferring to UW–Madison. We offer many “Comm B” courses in academic disciplines as diverse as the sciences, social studies, and humanities.

### Math

- **Quantitative Reasoning Part A (3 credits):** Typically a college-level algebra course requiring three years of high school math.
- **Quantitative Reasoning Part B (3 credits):** A more advanced-level math course such as calculus and finite math, or a non-math course requiring quantitative reasoning such as microeconomics, logic, statistics, chemistry, and physics.

### Breadth

- **Natural Science (4–6 credits):** Courses such as biology, physics, chemistry, geology; students can choose either one 4- or 5-credit course with a lab or two courses for a total of 6 credits.
- **Humanities/Literature/Arts (6 credits):** Courses that study human endeavors in the arts such as history, literature, music, philosophy, and religious studies.
- **Social Studies (3 credits):** A course that studies humans in their social relations such as sociology, geography, economics, political science, and psychology.
- **Ethnic Studies (3 credits):** A course that studies the culture and contributions of a persistently marginalized racial or ethnic group in the United States.

## Degree Requirements

[www.pubs.wisc.edu/ug](http://www.pubs.wisc.edu/ug)

In addition to GER, each UW–Madison school and college has a set of requirements that students must complete to earn a degree. For information on specific school and college degree requirements, visit our *Undergraduate Catalog* online (URL above) and choose the school or college that offers your intended major. If you’re not sure which school or college offers your intended major, search for your major under the *Undergraduate Majors* link and note the school or college listed in parentheses after each major.

## Entrance Requirements for Majors

[www.pubs.wisc.edu/ug/entrance](http://www.pubs.wisc.edu/ug/entrance)

Admission to UW–Madison does not necessarily guarantee admission to your major of choice. All majors have required procedures, and often prerequisites, for enrolling in the major after you arrive on campus. Some majors are open to all interested students, while other majors with limited space require an application. Entrance to the limited enrollment majors is competitive which means that not all students will be admitted to the major, even if they meet the minimum requirements for the major. For more information on your major of choice, visit the URL above.