The University of Wisconsin–Madison offers a Transfer Contract for students who begin in an associate degree program at any of the 13 UW Colleges campuses. Students who begin as first-semester freshmen at one of the 13 UW Colleges campuses, who declare an intent to use the Contract to gain admission to UW–Madison, who meet requirements for admission to UW–Madison, and who meet specified levels of academic achievement at a UW Colleges campus, will be granted admission to UW–Madison as a transfer student.

Students are eligible for admission under the Transfer Contract if they:

1. Enroll as a freshman on a UW Colleges campus. Students who come to UW Colleges with up to 6 previous transfer credits are still eligible for the Contract.

2. Submit the Declaration of Intent to Participate prior to completing 30 credits and keep a copy for their records. UW Colleges will validate eligibility and inform the UW–Madison Office of Admissions and Recruitment. UW–Madison will send a follow-up letter to the student.

3. Meet with a transfer program advisor at the two-year college at least once per semester while enrolled.

4. Prior to enrollment at UW–Madison, complete a minimum of 54 college-level academic (not developmental) credits at a UW Colleges campus within three academic years of initial enrollment, or 72 credits maximum earned. Students may find that additional credits will not necessarily advance their baccalaureate degree completion goals. (Final semester credits will be subject to grade evaluation.)

5. Earn a 3.2 GPA in the transfer program course work as determined by UW–Madison computation. The GPA for transfer is computed in accordance with UW–Madison’s grading practices (all grades for repeated courses are included in the computation). Transfer Contract students must meet the same criteria for admission to specific majors and programs as continuing students. Some majors require higher levels of academic achievement than those required for admission to the university. (See Important Notes section.)

6. Meet the minimum requirements for admission to UW–Madison, as follows:

   a. Algebra (one year of high school or equivalent)
   b. Plane geometry (one year of high school level, college track or equivalent)
c. College preparatory math (one year of high school or one college-level course)
d. Single foreign language (two high school years or two college semesters). Many UW–Madison programs require three or four units of a foreign language for degree completion. Transfer Contract students are strongly encouraged to have three units of foreign language prior to transferring. The foreign language requirement is satisfied via proficiency in cases where one’s high school/secondary school language of instruction was not English.

7. Take transfer program courses that meet the following list of UW–Madison curricular requirements. Courses transferred to or exempted at the two-year college will not satisfy these course requirements. These courses are required for almost all UW–Madison’s bachelor’s degree programs and the completion of these curricular elements helps to assure a solid foundation of academic preparation for achievement at UW–Madison. The terms in this list have specific meanings at UW–Madison. Lists of courses that meet these requirements are available from transfer program advisors.

   a. Communication Part A, Literacy Proficiency (3 credits)
   b. Quantitative Reasoning Part A (3 credits, or 3 credits of Calculus)
   c. Quantitative Reasoning Part B (3 credits)
   d. Literature, at least one course (3 credits)
   e. Humanities, at least one course (3 credits)
   f. Social Studies, at least one course (3 credits)
   g. Physical Science, at least one course (3 credits)
   h. Biological Science, at least one course (3 credits)
   i. Ethnic Studies, at least one course (3 credits)

8. Complete the Transfer Contract requirements within three academic years or 72 credits from the time of matriculation at the two-year college. For F-1 international students, the three-academic-year period begins once they are enrolled as full-time, degree-seeking students in academic credit courses. Students enrolled in the UW Colleges Intensive English Program (IEP) must complete all IEP studies before the three-academic-year period goes into effect.

9. Complete and submit the regular application for transfer admission to UW–Madison according to the schedule specified for the planned term of entry to UW–Madison. Students must note in their personal statement that they are applying under the Transfer Contract.

10. All incoming international students to UW–Madison will be asked to complete our ESLAT (English as a second language assessment test) placement test before attending orientation. The Office of Admissions and Recruitment will only grant credit for previously completed English coursework in the US if the student tests into (or places out of) our English 118 course. (Note: Regardless of a student’s ESLAT results, successful completion of English 102 at a UW Colleges campus satisfies the Communication Part A curricular requirement in item 7 above.)
Important Notes:

- In addition to the requirement to meet with a UW Colleges advisor, students should consult with a UW–Madison advisor to get information on requirements for their intended degree and major at UW–Madison and to prepare for a successful transfer experience.

- Admission to UW–Madison does not guarantee admission to any specific academic major or program. Transfer Contract students gain entry to individual majors and programs through the same path as all other UW–Madison undergraduates. Admission to some programs is by declaration and admission to other programs is by a competitive application process. For some programs, students may be advised to seek early transfer. Students admitted with minimum qualifications under this agreement may find that there are some programs and majors for which they are not competitive for admission.

- UW Colleges students who do not participate in the Transfer Contract but who wish to transfer to UW–Madison must meet the UW–Madison transfer requirements in effect at the time of application for transfer admission. Such applications will be evaluated as part of a competitive transfer application and admissions process.

- UW–Madison and UW Colleges reserve the right to change the terms of the Transfer Contract as needed; all students are subject to the terms and conditions of the Transfer Contract as listed at the time they submit the Declaration of Intent to Participate.