WHAT IS THE WESTERN UNDERGRADUATE EXCHANGE?

The Western Undergraduate Exchange is a student exchange program coordinated by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) and administered for Arizona by the Arizona Board of Regents. Through the Western Undergraduate Exchange, Arizona residents may enroll in certain programs at the two-year and four-year public colleges listed here. Western Undergraduate Exchange tuition is 150 percent of the host institution’s regular resident tuition. In all cases, Western Undergraduate Exchange tuition is considerably less than non-resident tuition.

HOW THE WESTERN UNDERGRADUATE EXCHANGE WORKS

The Western Undergraduate Exchange is a “decentralized” program. Therefore, the student applies to the institution of choice and the institution responds directly to the student. The institution may admit or deny admission to any applicant.

When admitted as a Western Undergraduate Exchange student, the student will pay 150 percent of the institution’s regular resident tuition (i.e., 50 percent more than resident tuition), plus any fees that all students are required to pay.

The full charge (tuition plus fees) applicable in any specific program can be determined from the website of the institution or from the admissions office. A student may continue to enjoy Western Undergraduate Exchange tuition status as long as he or she is enrolled in the program to which they were admitted and meet any other criteria for continued participation set by the institution. Changing to another program (at the same or a different institution) may be made at the reduced Western Undergraduate Exchange level only if the new program is also open to Western Undergraduate Exchange students and the change is approved by the institution.

Each state determines which institutions and programs it will make available to students in the Western Undergraduate Exchange. Eligibility for admission and for Western Undergraduate Exchange tuition is determined by each participating institution. If admitted as a Western Undergraduate Exchange student, the student may not petition for in-state residency status.

Information and applications must be obtained directly from the institutions of choice. General information may be obtained from the WICHE Regional Office in Boulder, Colorado at 303-541-0210, or the Arizona Board of Regents WICHE Office at 602-229-2500. The most current information is available at http://wue.wiche.edu/

This document is available in an alternate format, upon request. Arizona Board of Regents, 602-229-2500, www.azregents.edu.
Many undergraduate fields are available to Western Undergraduate Exchange students at the participating colleges and universities. Some institutions have opened their entire curriculum on a space available or first-come, first-served basis; others offer only designated programs. However, some colleges and universities choose not to participate.

Participating institutions require evidence of academic performance, such as ACT/SAT test scores and high school GPA, or place other limits on Western Undergraduate Exchange enrollment.

If interested, apply for admission directly to the institution(s) of your choice. Further information about specific programs in the Western Undergraduate Exchange may be obtained from the admissions office of the participating institutions.

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Arizona residents may attend certain programs in the following states and territories, if they meet eligibility requirements:

- ALASKA
- CALIFORNIA
- COLORADO
- HAWAII
- IDAHO
- MONTANA
- NEVADA
- NEW MEXICO
- NORTH DAKOTA
- NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
- OREGON
- SOUTH DAKOTA
- UTAH
- WASHINGTON
- WYOMING

Resident Tuition ............................................................ $10,000
Nonresident Tuition ..................................................... $27,000
($17,000 more than resident)
WUE Tuition .................................................................. $15,000
(150% x resident)
WUE Student Saves ..................................................... $12,000
($27,000 - $15,000)

Arizona residents

SAVED
$13 MILLION
through participation in the Western Undergraduate Exchange Program during 2018-2019.

“I am so grateful to be paying reduced tuition thanks to WUE. It has made it possible for me to attend an out-of-state university that offered my major: a bachelor’s in dental hygiene. Not only has WUE made school affordable, but it also challenged me to work for my goals in a set time frame.”

- Megan, Arizona Resident, Class of 2017, Idaho State University, Dental Hygiene

“When I was accepted into the University of Northern Colorado’s program, I knew it was the perfect fit. UNC’s theatre program is incredible, and being offered a place in the acting program was a dream come true. However, I was unable to afford out-of-state tuition, especially for a degree program in a career field that is difficult to penetrate. WUE has allowed me to pursue my dream career and be a part of an exceptional program. I will be graduating with very little debt thanks to WUE, and I could not be more thankful.”

— Yasmine, Arizona resident, Class of 2017, University of Northern Colorado, Theatre Arts, Acting