

# ADMISSION, EXPENSES, FINANCIAL AID AND HOUSING

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## INTRODUCTION

Selection for admission to the college is based upon such factors as candidates' secondary school record; recommendations by counselors and teachers; standardized test scores; out-of-class activities; work experience; and leadership endeavors. All candidates are invited to submit any supplementary material which they believe will aid the Admissions Committee in evaluating their application.

## VISITING THE CAMPUS

Through research and reading, you can learn a lot about a college. But the best way to determine if WPI is a good match for you is by visiting the campus. Group Information Sessions, Campus Tours, and Open Houses are the very best ways to get to know WPI.

The Group Sessions, for which no appointment is needed, are held Monday-Friday at 10:00 a.m., and 2:00 p.m. in the Admissions Office and are followed by a tour of the campus. Group Sessions are also available on selected Saturdays. Please call the Admissions Office for specific dates and times. WPI also sponsors several Open Houses throughout the fall and spring. Campus tours, presentations by academic departments, and sessions on such topics as placement, financial aid and admissions are highlights. All students on our mailing list will receive an invitation to our Open Houses and should register in advance to attend.

Student-led tours of the campus are offered Monday through Friday at 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. (although tours run on a limited schedule during WPI's term breaks and in the summer). Lunch with a WPI student is also available from 12:00-1:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, while classes are in session. In addition, we will try to accommodate any requests to sit in on classes, meet privately with a faculty member or shadow a current student. A personal interview is one of the best ways to learn more about WPI. It also gives us the opportunity to learn more about you. Interviews are available on campus by appointment only. We schedule interviews year round, with the exception of March. If you would like to schedule a time to meet with one of our Admissions Office members, please contact the office directly. Whatever option you choose, you can arrange for a campus visit by calling the Admissions Office at (508) 831-5286, and our receptionist will be happy to assist you.

## QUALIFICATIONS

In order to qualify for admission, candidates must have completed a full secondary school course of study including the following secondary school units:

ENGLISH	4	
MATHEMATICS	4	(including pre-calculus)
LAB SCIENCES	2	

Completion of the required mathematics and science courses in less than four years of study may qualify a student for early admission.

## APPLYING TO WPI

Although the vast majority of entering freshmen matriculate in September, WPI does admit freshmen in January. Candidates for the September term should file their application by February 1. Freshman candidates for admission to the January term should file their applications by November 15.

In our efforts to make applying to WPI as easy as possible, we offer a variety of application options. You can use the traditional paper application form or you can apply on-line via [admissions.wpi.edu](http://admissions.wpi.edu). The \$60 application fee is required for all applicants. We also accept the paper and on-line versions of the Common Application and the University Application. For more information on these options, please call the Office of Admissions at (508) 831-5286.

## STANDARDIZED TESTS

Freshmen candidates, who wish for their test scores to be considered for admission must register to take the SAT I **OR** the ACT prior to the application deadline chosen. Candidates may also submit alternative materials through WPI's Flex Path option in lieu of test scores. Those who choose WPI's Flex Path may submit alternative materials that they believe will better reflect their potential for success at WPI and are encouraged to submit examples of academic work or extracurricular projects that reflect a high level of organization, motivation, creativity and problem-solving ability.

Candidates who wish to have their test scores considered should arrange to have their scores submitted directly to WPI by either the College Board or ACT. The WPI code number is 3969 for the College Board tests and 1942 for the ACT test.

## FINANCIAL AID

Students applying for financial aid should check the appropriate box on the application for admission. Financial aid candidates should submit the College Scholarship Service (CSS) PROFILE Application and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which are available online at [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com) and [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). For regular admission applicants, these forms should reach the WPI Office of Financial Aid by February 1. Students applying for Early Action should submit the completed PROFILE to the College Scholarship Service beginning November 15. All financial aid candidates are required to send directly to our office, signed copies of their own and their parents' Federal Income Tax Returns and W-2 Forms from the prior year. Financial Aid is available for U.S. citizens and/or permanent residents of the U.S. A limited amount of need-based financial aid is available for International Students which is administered through the WPI Admissions Office. In order to apply for need based assistance, international students need to complete the College Scholarship Service (CSS) PROFILE Application ([www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)) or the Foreign Student Financial Aid Application which may be obtained in the WPI Admissions Office or online at [wpi.edu/Admin/FA/International/](http://wpi.edu/Admin/FA/International/).

## APPLICATION FEE

A \$60 application fee is required for all applicants. WPI endorses the fee waiver policy of the College Entrance Examination Board.

## NOTIFICATION

All candidates for admission will receive an acknowledgment of the receipt of their application. Should applicants fail to receive this acknowledgment within four weeks, they are encouraged to check with their high school guidance office or the Office of Admissions at WPI. Admissions decisions will be mailed to all applicants no later than April 1.

**DECISION TO MATRICULATE**

Accepted candidates must inform the college by May 1, the candidates' common reply date, of their decision to matriculate by returning a \$500 non-refundable tuition deposit along with the Acceptance of Admission Form.

**EARLY ACTION**

Students may apply to WPI early and receive early notification of their admissions decision under the Early Action plan. The plan is as follows:

1. Candidates should check the early action box on the application.
2. The completed application for admission must be submitted by November 15 for Round 1, or by January 1 for Round 2.
3. The Admissions Committee will review all early action applications and notify all candidates of their decisions by December 15 for Round 1 or by February 1 for Round 2. Early action is a non-binding admissions plan. Accepted students have until May 1 to submit a \$500 non-refundable tuition deposit.
4. Admitted early action candidates who are applying for financial aid will receive notification regarding eligibility for aid soon after their financial aid forms are submitted and complete.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT**

WPI awards credit to students who score a score a "4" or "5" on the Advanced Placement Examinations. The Director of Academic Advising will notify such students of their earned credit by mailing an AP letter to the home address during early August. You can visit the Academic Advising web site for a complete list of AP credits for exams taken or call 508-831-5381.

**Humanities**

For students who do take the examination in one or more of the WPI humanities areas and score a "4" or "5," the university will award advanced placement credit for one course per examination toward the humanities requirement. Soon after arriving on campus, students receiving such credit must speak with an appropriate humanities department advisor about how this credit may be integrated into a thematic program of studies leading to fulfillment of the WPI humanities requirement.

**Computer Science**

Advanced placement in computer science can be earned by scoring a "4" or "5" on the CS exam. Credit for CS 1000 is granted for the A computer science exam; credit for an additional 1000-level course is granted for a score of "4" or "5" on the AB exam.

**Natural Sciences**

Students who pass the advanced placement test in Biology or Physics B with a "4 or 5" will be awarded 1/3 unit of advanced placement credit. This credit will show on the transcript as "L". For students who score "4 or 5" in Physics C (Mechanics) will be awarded 1/3 credit in Physics 1110/ 1111. Students who score "4 or 5" in Physics C (Electricity and Magnetism) will be awarded 1/3 advanced placement credit for Physics 1120/1121. For those students who pass Physics B will be awarded 1/3

credit in Physics 1000. Students who score "4" or "5" in Chemistry will be awarded 1/3 unit for CH 1010. In addition, students are eligible to earn credit for other general chemistry courses, CH 1020-1040, by achieving scores of 70 or better on course-specific examinations offered by the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. General Chemistry Credit exams will be given before the start of each term. Please contact the Chemistry Department at 508-831-5371 for information on when the exams will be offered. Note this policy applies only to WPI students.

**Mathematics**

Students who pass the AB mathematics examination with a "4" or "5" will be awarded 2/3 unit of advanced placement credit for MA 1021 and MA 1022. Students with a "4" or "5" on the advanced placement BC exam will be awarded 1 unit advanced placement credit for MA 1021, MA 1022 and MA 1023.

In the four-course 1021-1024 mathematics sequence, students who arrive at WPI with a one-year high school calculus course, prepared to start with the second (or third) course in the WPI sequence, and who successfully pass that course and the one that follows it in sequence, will be considered to have established advanced placement credit for the first one (or two) courses. To qualify for the credit, the advanced WPI courses must be passed the first time in sequence in A- and B-term of the student's first year. The courses credited retroactively will be listed by number without an assigned grade and will count toward the distribution requirement in mathematics.

Transfer students are not eligible to obtain math credit under this policy.

**NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION**

During the week prior to classes, the Campus Center and Student Activities Department coordinates a comprehensive new student orientation program for all first-year and transfer students. New student orientation provides an introduction to the WPI experience, ranging from academic work and expectations and project-based education, to student life and campus activities. Led by upperclass student team leaders and faculty advisors, new students to WPI attend team meetings that are designed to familiarize them with the overall campus environment.

**READMISSION**

Students who were formerly at WPI but left before completing undergraduate study, and now wish to apply for readmission, should contact the Registrar's Office for information and forms. Completed readmission forms must be received by WPI no later than the following due dates in order to be acted upon for entrance in the indicated term:

July 15 for Term A                      November 15 for Term C

If possible, candidates should also plan on an interview with the Director of Academic Advising and with a departmental consultant in their intended major area of study prior to filing the readmission form.

## TRANSFER STUDENTS

The WPI Plan provides some advantages that are particularly attractive for transfer students. Transfer applicants should furnish official transcript(s), an autobiographical statement and Math/Science teacher recommendations in addition to the application for admission. The priority deadline for receipt of priority applications for entrance in September is April 15. The deadline for admission for January entrance is November 15. Applicants are encouraged to submit their applications as early as possible.

All transfer students are required to spend at least two years as full-time registered students. For more details on transfer admission, see [admissions.wpi.edu](http://admissions.wpi.edu).

## TRANSFER AGREEMENT

WPI currently holds formal articulation agreements with specified programs of study at Bristol Community College, Mass Bay Community College, and Quinsigamond Community College. However, WPI will grant appropriate transfer credit on a case-by-case basis from any properly-accredited two-year or four-year institution.

## HUMANITIES AND ARTS REQUIREMENT FOR TRANSFER STUDENTS

All transfer students should review their humanities and arts record and plan with the Humanities and Arts Department's coordinator for transfer students (J. Hanlan - SL23), who will determine for students the transfer credit applicable towards the Humanities and Arts Requirement.

All transfer students entering WPI with fewer than two units of humanities and arts credit must complete thematically related work in humanities and arts at WPI, including an inquiry seminar or practicum to the extent that the overall humanities and arts credit totals two units. The humanities and arts requirement is considered fulfilled for transfer students who have completed the equivalent of two units of humanities and arts work prior to their matriculation at WPI.

A Completion of Degree Requirement form must be submitted once the Humanities and Arts degree requirement has been satisfied.

Transfer students who have satisfied the Humanities and Arts degree requirement based on work completed at another school and who submit the Completion of Degree Requirement form as part of the transfer-credit posting process will have the Completion of Degree Requirement form and grade recorded without a fee. This process will normally take place prior to or during the first term of full-time enrollment at WPI.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The presence of international students serves as a means of strengthening the knowledge and understanding of foreign countries and cultures and is highly encouraged and supported at WPI. Programs and support services for international students and exchange programs are given high priority. As an institution of higher learning, WPI is dedicated to international education.

In addition to the standardized tests listed above, international applicants must provide proof of English language proficiency. English language proficiency may be demonstrated by the official results of:

- TOEFL (Test of English as a Second Language)-Minimum score: 550 (213 electronic form or 79 internet based)
- IELTS (International English Language Testing System) 6.5 or higher with no band below 6.0.

International students whose score results are less than those above may still be conditionally admitted, with required attendance at WPI's English as a Second Language Program during the summer prior to enrollment.

## THE ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) PROGRAM

The ESL Summer Institute is an intensive five-week non-credit course of study in English for specific purposes for conditionally-admitted international students and others whose first language is not English. This ESL program is designed to help prepare these international students for regular courses in engineering, science and technology before the regular academic year begins. A second intake is available for international students who desire only a head-start in preparation for such courses before the academic year begins.

For students who need additional support during the regular academic year, the ESL Seminar, a tutorial course designed to help the student further strengthen linguistic skills, is offered.

During the regular academic year, ESL for Spouses is a non-credit course offered to interested partners accompanying WPI students and professors.

**ESTIMATED EXPENSES**

The expenses for a year at WPI will vary with each student. Expenses for the 2007-08 year are as follows:

Tuition	\$34,000
Social Fee	250
Health Fee	280
Total Tuition and Fees	\$34,830
Room (Typical Freshman Double)	6,104
Board (7-Day, 19-Meal Plan)	4,564
Books and Supplies (Estimated)	1,000
New Student Fee	200
	\$46,698

Health insurance is required for all students. If coverage is not through a parental plan, student health insurance is available at a projected cost of \$940 for the 2007-08 academic year. The health insurance plan is mandatory for international students.

Basic tuition entitles full-time students to full academic and student services including counseling, placement and recreational facilities. Other costs must be anticipated, such as laundry, clothing, travel expenses, entertainment and personal expenses.

**SPECIAL STUDENT**

1/3 unit	\$2,856
1/6 unit	\$1,428
1/12 unit	\$ 714

**PAYMENT OF TUITION DEPOSIT****ENTERING STUDENTS**

Payment of a nonrefundable \$500 deposit is required upon acceptance of admission to WPI. The \$500 will be credited as follows: \$250 to the student's tuition in the first term and \$250 toward the bill for housing. If housing is not needed, then the full \$500 is credited to the tuition bill for the first term.

Information about deferred tuition payment plans offered by commercial firms is available from the WPI Accounting Office.

**ENROLLMENT AND TUITION DUE DATES**

Enrollment for students pursuing a baccalaureate degree will occur three times per year:

1. Fall semester-at the beginning of Term A.
2. Spring semester-at the beginning of Term C.
3. Summer session-at the beginning of Term E.

There will be no enrollment at the start of Terms B and D, although a course change period will be available for students continuing from the previous term.

Special tuition features relative to Term E enrollment will be described in the Summer Session catalog.

Dates upon which semester tuition fees are due are listed in the WPI Chronology of Academic Schedule and Events on the inside front cover of this catalog.

**OVERLOAD CHARGES**

1. There will be a tuition surcharge on registration which contains academic overloads in excess of 2 1/6 unit per semester.
2. Neither physical education or military science will be included in the determination of overloads.
3. The overload charge will be based upon the total registration credit held by the student at the close of the initial change period each of the two terms of that semester. Students will be subject to the appropriate overload charge in effect at the time. (Please consult the Projects and Registrar's Office or the Accounting Office for current fees.)
4. Fall overload billing will take place during Term A and spring overload billing during Term C.
5. The current Term E charge system will not be affected.

**FULL-TIME STUDENTS TUITION CHARGES UPON WITHDRAWAL OR SUSPENSION**

Charges upon formal withdrawal from the college during each semester are:

	<b>Charge</b>
1. Withdrawal after enrollment but prior to first day of classes of the first term of a semester.	\$100.00
2. Withdrawal within one week following first day of classes of the above term.	20% of tuition
3. Withdrawal within two weeks following first day of classes of the above term.	40% of tuition
4. Withdrawal within three weeks following first day of classes of the above term.	60% of tuition
5. Withdrawal prior to end of course change period of the second term of a semester.	80% of tuition
6. Withdrawal after course change period of the second term of a semester.	100% of tuition

To qualify for a reduction in charges, students must submit a formal withdrawal application via the Projects and Registrar's Office. The date this application is received in the Projects and Registrar's Office will determine the charge.

**There is no reduction in charges in the case of withdrawal from individual courses.**

Students who have paid full tuition for eight semesters may be allowed to enroll as special (part-time) students on a per-course basis and be charged tuition accordingly. (Two summer terms enrolled as a full-time student may be counted as a semester.) Application forms for Special Student status are available at the Projects and Registrar's Office.

A late fee ranging from \$25 to \$50 is assessed for payment of bills after the specified dates.

## SPECIAL (SU, SX) STUDENTS TUITION CHARGES UPON WITHDRAWAL

During the regular academic year (Terms A, B, C and D), withdrawal will result in charges being reduced in the following manner for special students in seven-week courses:

	<b>Charge</b>
1. Withdrawal before the third scheduled class.	\$25.00
2. Withdrawal after the third class but during the first week of class.	25% of tuition
3. Withdrawal during the second week of class.	50% of tuition
4. Withdrawal during the third week of class.	75% of tuition
5. Withdrawal after the third week of class.	100% of tuition

Withdrawal of SU and SX students from 14-week courses will follow the current policies of the Projects and Registrar's Office.

## ROOM CHARGES UPON WITHDRAWAL OR SUSPENSION

	<b>Charge</b>
1. Withdrawal after enrollment, but prior to the first day of classes. (Forfeiture of advance payment.)	\$100.00
2. Withdrawal after the first day of classes.	100% charge of room fee

## BOARD CHARGES UPON WITHDRAWAL OR SUSPENSION

	<b>Charge</b>
1. Withdrawal after enrollment, but prior to the first day of classes.	No Charges
2. Withdrawal within four weeks following the first day of classes.	25% of board fee
3. Withdrawal within eight weeks following the first day of classes.	50% of board fee
4. Withdrawal within twelve weeks following the first day of classes.	75% of board fee
5. Withdrawal after twelve weeks following the first day of classes.	100% of board fee

## FINANCIAL AID UPON WITHDRAWAL/SUSPENSION

Federal regulations for a student receiving federal financial aid funds require repayments to the fund from excess credit when a student withdraws or is suspended during a semester. Health insurance, health fee, and social fee are neither prorated nor refunded. Federal funds are returned in the following order based on federal guidelines: Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loan, Subsidized Federal Stafford Loan, Perkins Loan, Federal PLUS Loan, Federal Pell Grant, and Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant. WPI scholarships and institute loans are reduced up to the amount of remaining credit sources.

WPI is committed to assisting students and their parents in finding ways to finance the cost of a WPI education through financial aid assistance and private financing options. Central to WPI's program is the concept of financial need. This concept is based on the assumption that parents and students together accept the responsibility for educational expenses to the extent they are able. Over 87% of WPI undergraduates are receiving financial help from federal, state, and institutional resources. A combination of grants, loans and/or work study assistance from federal, state and WPI funding are allocated to students who demonstrate financial need. The proportion of grant, or "gift" assistance, versus loan and work, may be determined by the college on the following criteria: the magnitude of the financial need, the student's academic performance, and the availability of funds.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Students are required to file the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the CSS (College Scholarship Service) PROFILE Application. Students list WPI's school code number under the section on each form where it designates which schools are to receive the form. In addition, students and their parents are required to send to the WPI Office of Financial Aid a signed copy of their federal income tax forms (or a statement signed by the student/ parent indicating he/she will not file a return), schedules, and W-2 statements from the prior year. In the case of separation or divorce, the student's noncustodial parent must complete the Noncustodial PROFILE.

### EARLY ACTION APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL AID

Applicants must indicate on their admission application they are applying for financial aid. For those students applying for early action admission, the CSS PROFILE Application (and Noncustodial PROFILE, if applicable) can be submitted as early as October 1st, but no later than February 1st. The FAFSA and the CSS PROFILE Application are available online at [www.fafsa.edu](http://www.fafsa.edu) and [www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com). All federal income tax return forms, as outlined above, are required as soon after January 1st as possible, as well as completion of the FAFSA. No award decision is final until all material is received and reviewed.

Successful candidates for early action admission will be notified of financial aid eligibility on a rolling basis. Applicants will then have from the date of your aid eligibility letter until the candidates' common reply date, May 1st, to either accept or decline the aid offered.

### REGULAR DECISION APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL AID

Applicants must indicate on their admission application they are applying for financial aid. Successful candidates for admission will be notified of a financial aid decision in early April if a financial aid application has been submitted. Applicants will then have from the date of the financial aid decision until the candidates' common reply date, May 1st, to either accept or decline the aid offered.

To ensure a complete review, we must receive the FAFSA and the CSS PROFILE Application by February 1st. Applications completed after this date will be reviewed subject to available funding. The Office of Financial Aid encourages students to complete the FAFSA and the CSS PROFILE Application (and Noncustodial PROFILE, if applicable), by the beginning of January to ensure that WPI's filing deadline of February 1st is met.

### UPPERCLASS APPLICATION FOR FINANCIAL AID

Upperclass students who received need based financial aid must reapply for financial aid every year by completing the FAFSA and the WPI Financial Aid Upperclass Application. In a few cases, some upperclass students will also be required to submit the CSS PROFILE Application in addition to these requirements. Typically, upperclass students who will need to complete the CSS PROFILE Application are those whose parents are recently separated or divorced, students who are re-admitted to WPI, students whose custodial and noncustodial parents have changed since the prior academic year, and students who did not apply for need based financial aid in the prior academic year. The WPI Office of Financial Aid reserves the right to request that a CSS PROFILE Application be completed by any upperclass student applying for need based financial aid.

The WPI Upperclass Financial Aid Application will be available at the end of Term B and is due by the beginning of Term D. Filing information on the FAFSA (and CSS PROFILE Application, if necessary) as well as signed copies of student and parent federal income tax returns, including all schedules and W-2 statements, is due by April 15th. The complete application provides consideration for grants, scholarships, loans and federal on-campus employment for the following academic year. Students and their parent(s) are expected to obtain and submit all requested forms in a timely manner for each year of planned enrollment. If any of the required forms are submitted late, the student may experience a reduction in his/her grant or scholarship eligibility for the year in which he/she is applying for need based financial assistance. The amount of financial aid upperclass students receive will depend on their family's demonstrated financial need which is determined from the FAFSA, the WPI Upperclass Financial Aid Application and the CSS PROFILE Application, if required.

### WPI NEED BASED SCHOLARSHIPS/GRANTS

WPI need based scholarships and grants awarded to students will not increase in future academic years, regardless of changes in a student's financial need. Conversely, students' WPI need based scholarships and grants can decrease based on a lower financial need and/or poor academic performance (from the prior academic year). Once a student's scholarship or grant has been decreased, it will not be increased in future academic years. Because of this, it is extremely important that students monitor the number of classes they pass each academic year.

### WPI MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS

WPI merit scholarships will not increase or decrease based on changes to a student's financial need. However, a student's merit scholarship will decrease or be eliminated if a student does not meet the renewal criteria to maintain these scholarships. Students should refer to their Admissions Merit Scholarship letter for detailed information on renewal criteria for merit scholarships.

### TRANSFER STUDENTS

Transfer students may apply for financial aid eligibility beginning with their first term of matriculation, and must indicate interest in financial aid on the admission application. Transfer aid applications will be reviewed based on the same documentation required for first year applicants and are packaged on a funds available basis. The FAFSA and CSS PROFILE (and Noncustodial PROFILE, if applicable) are due by March 1st.

## FORMS OF AID

### FEDERAL PELL GRANTS

Federal Pell Grants are awarded to high need students from low and lower middle-income families. These grants range from \$400 to \$4,050 per academic year. A Student Aid Report (SAR) is sent to all students who file a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The WPI Financial Aid Office will verify the data on the form, making corrections if necessary. In 2006-07, WPI administered over \$920,000 in Federal Pell Grant funds to eligible full and part time students.

### FEDERAL ACADEMIC COMPETITIVENESS GRANT (ACG)

Federal Academic Competitiveness Grants are awarded to full-time undergraduate students enrolled in an eligible program who receive a Federal Pell Grant and are U.S. citizens. Students also must have completed a rigorous secondary school program of study and be enrolled in at least a two-year academic program acceptable for full credit toward a bachelor degree program. The ACG for the first academic year is awarded up to \$750 and up to \$1,300 for the second academic year. In 2006-07, WPI administered over \$87,000 in Federal ACG funds to eligible students.

### FEDERAL NATIONAL SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS ACCESS TO RETAIN TALENT GRANT (NATIONAL SMART GRANT)

Federal National SMART Grants are awarded to full-time undergraduate students enrolled in the third or fourth academic year of an eligible program, who receive a Federal Pell Grant, and are U.S. citizens. An eligible program in the National SMART Grant is one that leads to a bachelor's degree in an eligible major or a graduate degree program in an eligible major that includes at least three academic years of undergraduate education. The award is up to \$4,000 for each of the third and fourth academic years. In 2006-07, WPI administered over \$318,000 in Federal National SMART Grant funds to eligible students.

### FEDERAL SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GRANTS (FSEOG)

Federal SEOG funds are allocated to institutions by the Federal government. These funds, which are awarded to students as campus based grants, are awarded to high need students who are also eligible for the Federal Pell Grant. WPI students received over \$813,000 in Federal SEOG funds in the 2006-07 academic year.

### FEDERAL STAFFORD STUDENT LOAN

There are two types of Federal Stafford Loans offered to students by the federal government: the Federal Subsidized Stafford Loan and the Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan. A student's federal financial need will determine which loan(s) he/she will be offered in the financial aid award.

Federal Subsidized Stafford Loans are loans that the federal government pays the interest on while the student is enrolled in school at least half time and during periods of grace.

Students not eligible for the Federal Subsidized Stafford Loan may borrow through the Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan Program. In the Unsubsidized Stafford Loan Program, the federal government does not pay the interest on this loan. Rather, the student has the option to either pay the interest or

capitalize it and postpone repayment of principal and interest until after graduation or falling below at least half time enrollment.

Repayment of both principal and interest for the subsidized and unsubsidized federal Stafford loans begins at the end of the 6 month "grace period" following the last day of enrollment or withdrawal from school. The repayment period is ten years and the interest rate is set for loans borrowed prior to July 1, 2006 at the bond equivalent rate of 91 day Treasury bills (as of the preceding June) plus 2.3%, capped at 8.25%. For loans borrowed after July 1, 2006 the interest rate is fixed at 6.8%. Approximately 3%- 4% in origination and guarantee fees may be deducted by the bank before the proceeds are disbursed to the school.

Students must file a FAFSA so that WPI can determine need-based eligibility for the Federal Stafford Loan. The Federal government sets annual borrowing limits according to the student's year in school or grade level. As of the 2007-2008 academic year, first year students may borrow up to \$3,500, second year students up to \$4,500 and third and fourth year students up to \$5,500. Students cannot borrow in excess of \$23,000 over the life of their undergraduate education.

The WPI Office of Financial Aid recommends and approves the amount a student may borrow for the subsidized and unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loan. For all new borrowers, a Master Promissory Note must be completed. This may be done electronically or on paper. Students will be notified of the availability of the note to be signed. The Master Promissory Note only needs to be signed once during the student's undergraduate time at WPI, unless you wish to change lenders or your current lender changes their fee structure. If you continue on to graduate school at WPI, you do not need to sign a new MPN. If you are a previous borrower with an out-of-state lender and you have not completed a Master Promissory Note, you must obtain and complete a Master Promissory Note from the lender you borrowed from last year and forward it to the WPI Office of Financial Aid for processing. All new WPI students (first year, transfer & graduate) must complete a Master Promissory Note at WPI.

### FEDERAL PERKINS LOAN

Federal Perkins Loans are federally subsidized loans awarded directly to students by colleges. Students are awarded based on funds available. Repayment of principal and interest, currently fixed at 5%, begins nine months after the recipient's last day of enrollment or withdrawal from college. For all new borrowers, a Master Promissory Note must be completed. The Master Promissory Note only needs to be signed once during the student's undergraduate time at WPI. In 2006-07 WPI administered over \$1.9 million in Federal Perkins Loans.

### FEDERAL WORK STUDY PROGRAM

Federal Work Study funds are allocated annually to colleges who offer federally funded work opportunities to high need financial aid applicants. Federal Work Study is included in the financial aid eligibility letter to students if they qualify for these funds. If a student accepts a Federal Work Study offer, he/she may work a maximum of 10 hours per week at the current wage of \$8.00 per hour. Federal Work Study earnings are paid by direct deposit on a bi-weekly basis directly to the student employee. Work is available in a variety of academic and administrative settings on or off campus. The off campus positions are community service positions and must be set up through the Student Activities

Office. Students who work in community service positions are paid \$8.50 per hour in order to cover travel expenses to and from their jobs. The amount of Federal Work Study funds offered in a student's award letter indicates maximum earnings allowed, but is not a guarantee. The best procedure is to take an available position at the start of the academic year and work as much as the schedule allows up to the maximum 10 hours per week. If a student declines an offer of work, it will not affect the other components of his/her award package. However, please note that due to limited funding, if a student declines Federal Work Study funding or employment, this fund will not be renewed in future academic years. In addition, if a student earns less than \$500 in Federal Work Study funds during the academic year this fund is awarded or fails to work the required hours in community service, his/her Federal Work Study funding will not be renewed in future years.

Students are prohibited from Federal Work Study employment if one of the following situations occurs: if the student falls below the WPI established satisfactory progress levels for retention of aid, the student enrolls on a less than full time basis, or the student registers as a "Special Student."

### STATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

WPI administered over \$240,000 from the MASSGrant Program during the 2006-07 academic year. The MASSGrant is awarded to Massachusetts residents whose combined family contribution falls within state-determined parameters. Students must file the FAFSA by the state-designated deadline and follow all state program procedures to apply.

Massachusetts has reciprocity agreements with six other states: Connecticut, Maine, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and Vermont. These states allow their residents attending institutions in Massachusetts to "carry" need-based state grants into Massachusetts. Grants from all reciprocal states to WPI students last year totaled over \$110,000. Awarding from other state scholarship programs depends on annual state funding levels.

The Massachusetts Gilbert Matching Grants Program is allocated annually to WPI. These funds are awarded to Massachusetts residents who fall within a certain financial need. WPI students received over \$811,000 in the Massachusetts Gilbert Matching Grant during 2006-07.

### STATE FUNDED STUDENT LOAN PROGRAMS

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts provides the Massachusetts No Interest Loan (MA NIL) Program through annual allocations to participating colleges and universities. Students who file the FAFSA and meet state eligibility criteria are eligible for the Massachusetts No Interest Loan on a funds available basis. WPI administered \$173,000 in the MA NIL program in 2006-07.

### WPI COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

WPI awards College Scholarships and other restricted or endowed "gift" assistance, to students who have a demonstrated financial need based on review of the complete financial aid application, including the FAFSA, the CSS PROFILE Application (if first year applicant), IRS tax returns, W-2 forms, and the WPI Upperclass Financial Aid Application (if returning undergraduate). WPI gift aid may be combined with federal and state grants to make up a student's total portion of "gift" assistance, before loans and work are packaged. Grants and scholarships funded directly by WPI exceeded \$35 million in 2006-07.

### WPI INSTITUTE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM

The WPI Institute Loan is an institutional need-based loan awarded to students. Repayment of the principal and interest begins 9 months after the last day of enrollment or withdrawal from college. WPI students borrowed \$1.7 million in Institute Loans during 2006-07. The Institute Loan terms and eligibility criteria are similar to the Federal Perkins Loan Program.

### WPI DEPARTMENT-FUNDED WORK PROGRAM

Students who are not eligible for Federal Work Study funds may seek employment opportunities through departments or offices on campus that set aside funds for hiring undergraduate employees. These employment funds vary from year to year in terms of monies available or the number of students allowed per department/office. Students may also inquire about department-funded summer positions on campus.

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## FINANCIAL AID POLICIES

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Financial aid is awarded one year at a time. Aid applicants are required to reapply annually by the beginning of Term D. An annual review of each applicant's financial need is assessed to assure that aid is renewed equitably as different circumstances cause needs to change. The WPI Office of Financial Aid determines a student's financial need through a review of the complete financial aid application and appropriate IRS forms. Financial aid eligibility letters are mailed to upperclass students in early July for the following academic year.

### STUDENT CONTRIBUTION

It is expected that the student's family will contribute its maximum financial effort and that the student will also make a maximum effort through savings from annual earnings and by accepting a proportion of financial aid in the form of loans and/or in-school employment, if eligible. Students at WPI are expected to contribute a minimum \$2,000 each academic year, from summer or other annual earnings. While this minimum student contribution is used, the WPI Office of Financial Aid must review previous calendar year student earnings and student savings/assets as the basis for determining the annual student contribution.

### INDEPENDENT/DEPENDENT STUDENT STATUS

WPI believes that the primary responsibility for an undergraduate education lies with the student and parent, to whatever extent possible. Therefore, all undergraduates applying for WPI institutional funds are required to provide parental information regardless of federal dependency status.

Although a student may meet federal guidelines to be considered an independent student, and therefore receive federal funds as an independent student, the ability of parents to assist their children, regardless of age and dependency status, is a factor WPI considers in determining eligibility for institutional need-based grants. Because of this, the WPI Office of Financial Aid will require parental information (including federal income tax returns, schedules, and W-2 statements) from all students applying for need based institutional aid.

**AID RETENTION/PROGRESS TOWARD A DEGREE**

There are four key elements to the retention of eligibility for financial aid as it relates to academics:

1. All full time students are expected to register and enroll in twelve 1/3 unit classes per academic year. The more classes a student successfully completes (up to a maximum of 12 courses during terms A-D, the more the student's grant/scholarship eligibility is maintained for the next academic year.

Attempting but not successfully completing courses and project work will reduce financial aid. Please note that advanced placement, transfer credit, incompletes, or extensions cannot be counted in the determination of units completed. The student is responsible for resolution of incompletes with the faculty member assigning the grade.

**WPI Financial Need Scholarships/Grants**

WPI scholarships and grants awarded to students will not increase in future academic years; regardless of changes in a student's financial need. Conversely, students' WPI need based scholarships and grants can decrease based on a lower financial need and/or poor academic performance (from the prior academic year). Once a student's scholarship or grant has been decreased, it will not be increased in future academic years. Because of this, it is extremely important that students monitor the number of classes they pass each academic year.

**WPI Merit Scholarships**

WPI merit scholarships will not increase or decrease based on changes to a student's financial need. However, a student's merit scholarship will decrease or be eliminated if a student does not meet the renewal criteria to maintain these scholarships. Please refer to your Admissions Merit Scholarship letter for detailed information on renewal criteria for merit scholarships.

2. Eligibility for consideration for all types of financial aid for the following academic year is lost if a student is placed on Academic Probation (end of B or D term).

**Financial Aid Petitions**

Students placed on Academic Probation may, in cases which involve unusual and extenuating circumstances such as documented medical problems, file a financial aid petition with the WPI Office of Financial Aid\*. The petition will be reviewed by the Financial Aid Appeals Committee which is comprised of academic administrators, not members of the Office of Financial Aid. Determination on financial aid petitions will be made on a case by case basis.

\*Financial Aid Petitions can be obtained in the WPI Office of Financial Aid (2nd floor Bartlett Center) or online at [www.wpi.edu/Admin/FA/Returning/forms.html](http://www.wpi.edu/Admin/FA/Returning/forms.html)

3. Regardless of academic progress status, eligibility for financial assistance (with the exception of the Federal Stafford Loan) is available for the shorter of the two following periods; 16 terms (4 years) of enrollment at WPI\*\*or completion of your Bachelor Degree requirements at WPI.

\*\*16 terms (4 years) of enrollment, NOT 16 terms (4 years) of receiving financial aid.

4. If students receive scholarships/grants, loans of all forms and/or federal work study, they must be registered as a full-time. Students are charged tuition and fees based upon full-time status and that serves as the basis for annual financial aid eligibility determinations.

Students are responsible for knowing their enrollment and academic status and working with an academic advisor to register and enroll for the necessary units to maintain eligibility for financial aid.

PLEASE NOTE: With the exception of the Federal Stafford Loan, financial aid is not available for enrollment during term E (Summer School) at WPI. This includes all forms of assistance including WPI Merit Scholarships. If you enroll during term E and borrow a Federal Stafford Loan, the amount you borrow will be reduced from your Federal Stafford Loan eligibility for the next academic year (terms A-D).

**GRADUATE**

The Federal Stafford Loan is the only source of need based aid administered by the WPI Office of Financial Aid to graduate students. To apply for this loan, graduate students must complete the FAFSA ([www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov)) and a Graduate Student Application which can be obtained at <http://www.wpi.edu/Admin/FA/Grad/gsa.html>.

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

International students (who do not have official documentation of Permanent Residence in the United States) are ineligible for all sources of financial aid administered by the WPI Office of Financial Aid. Limited scholarships are available for entering international students through the WPI Admissions Office.

**ALTERNATIVE FINANCIAL PROGRAMS****ALTERNATIVE FINANCIAL PROGRAMS**

Alternate financing programs are available to many families who do not apply for aid or who need additional resources beyond federal, state, and institutional financial aid offered. Several payment plans are available, which allow families to pay their annual charges over several months, rather than in two semester payments. Students and parents are encouraged to contact the WPI Accounting Office for further information about payment plan brochures and applications.

There are many long-term financing programs available to assist families in spreading their educational costs over 10 to 20 years. Many of these loans allow families to borrow the difference between the cost of attendance determined by the college and total financial aid received for the academic year. Please contact the WPI Office of Financial Aid or visit <http://www.wpi.edu/Admin/FA/First/fylinks.html> for additional information on available financing options.

**FEDERAL PLUS LOANS**

Federal PLUS Loans are available annually to parents of dependent undergraduates. Repayment begins when the funds are advanced (with the option to defer repayment until after the student graduates or falls below half time enrollment status, depending on the lender), and parents have 10 years to repay. As of July 1, 2006 the interest rate is fixed at 8.5%. Parents should apply for the PLUS loan online at American Student Assistance ([www.amsa.com](http://www.amsa.com)). The parent can choose a lender and electronically sign their Master Promissory Note. The process requires approximately four to five weeks to complete before funds are disbursed to the school for payment.

Graduate Students who need funding beyond the Federal Subsidized and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans may borrow the additional funds under the Graduate PLUS Loan Programs. While the program is very similar to the Parent PLUS Loan program outlined above, there are some differences. Graduate students borrowing under the Graduate PLUS Loan are required to complete a FAFSA and must apply for the Subsidized Stafford Loan before applying for the PLUS Loan. Principal and interest are deferred until the student graduates, withdraws or fall below half-time enrollment. Interest will accrue during the deferment period. Graduate student can apply for the Graduate PLUS Loan online at American Student Assistance (amsa.com). The student can chose a lender and electronically sign their Master Promissory Note. The process requires approximately four to five weeks to complete before funds are disbursed to the school for payment.

## RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS (ROTC) SCHOLARSHIPS

### ARMY ROTC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

For information on Army ROTC Scholarships, please contact the Army ROTC office at WPI at (508) 831-5268.

### NAVAL ROTC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

For information on Navy ROTC Scholarships, please contact the Naval ROTC Unit at Holy Cross College in Worcester, MA at (508) 832-2433.

### AIR FORCE ROTC SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

For information on Air Force ROTC Scholarships, please contact the WPI Department of Aerospace Studies at WPI at (508) 831-5747.

# HOUSING

## RESIDENCE HALLS

WPI provides its undergraduate students with a variety of housing options, both on and off campus. The WPI residence halls offer students a choice of single, double, and triple occupancy rooms as well as suites designed for four and six persons, and two- to seven- person apartments. In addition, WPI owns and staffs four houses located just a short walk from the campus. Off-campus housing alternatives include rooms in homes, apartments, fraternity/sorority living, and commuting from home.

Residence hall living at WPI offers opportunities that can be a valuable part of higher education. For this reason, on-campus housing is guaranteed to all first-year students who request it by June 1 as stated in their admission letter. First-year students admitted for Term A are guaranteed housing in the residence halls for that entire academic year.

Upperclass students may apply for those residence hall spaces not reserved for incoming first-year students. The Housing and Food Service Contract is a legally binding contract which extends from the beginning of Term A through Term D as long as the student is enrolled at WPI.

### RESIDENCE HALL STAFF

Resident Advisors (RAs) are the core of the residential life staff in the residence halls. RAs serve as a source of assistance in resolving students' academic, personal, and social concerns. They plan and implement social and educational programs in the halls, and enforce all WPI policies and regulations in an effort to develop an effective living-learning environment in the residence halls.

The administrative responsibility for the operation of the residence halls rests with the professional staff in Residential Services. They counsel and advise students, work with maintenance and dining hall staffs, and handle many administrative processes for students living on campus.

## OCCUPANCY

Residence halls normally open at 9:00 a.m. four days before Term A begins and close at 12:00 noon on the day following the last day of classes for Term D. Housing and food service privileges are not transferable, nor may any person take up de facto residence without paying rent. The residence halls will be closed during the December recess period.

## FURNISHINGS AND FACILITIES

Students are responsible for the neatness and cleanliness of their rooms. Residence halls are furnished with a twin-size bed, a desk and chair, closet space, and drawer space for each student. All residence halls are smoke free environments and all buildings have complete sprinkler systems in all student bedrooms and common areas. Data network services, telephone, and cable television are included in room rates. Residents provide their own pillows, linens, blankets, and other personal furnishings. Coin-operated laundry facilities are available at four locations on the campus.

The following are not permitted in the residence halls:

- Sale, use or possession of illegal drugs
- Pets, except small fish
- Refrigerators larger than 4.3 cubic feet in size
- Gambling
- Use of alcoholic beverages in violation of Massachusetts State Laws
- Firearms, weapons, explosives, incendiary or toxic chemicals, starting pistols, paint ball guns
- Cooking, except in kitchen areas provided
- Candles or other flame-emitting devices
- Smoking

Mail and express packages should be addressed to the student by name, and box number, WPI, 100 Institute Road, Worcester, MA 01609-2280.

**ROOMMATES**

One of the most memorable aspects of campus life can be the relationship you will build with your roommate(s). Roommates often find that a meaningful relationship is developed through the sharing of thoughts and feelings; in other words, communication. We encourage you to be as open as possible so that you and your roommate can begin early to create a relationship based on respect and understanding. This relationship can help make residence hall living one of the most enjoyable part of your college career.

**ROOM CHARGES**

Since room and board rates for 2008-2009 were not established at the time of this publication, they will be announced separately.

**Room Rates for 2007-08**

*(Note: Room rates listed are for the entire academic year)*

Standard Double, Triple, Quad . . . . .	\$ 6,104
Standard Single . . . . .	\$ 6,458

**Founders**

Double . . . . .	\$ 6,240
Single . . . . .	\$ 6,650

**Ellsworth/Fuller**

2 person . . . . .	\$ 6,402
3 person . . . . .	\$ 6,070
5 person . . . . .	\$ 5,768
7 person . . . . .	\$ 5,226

Note: Each apartment is equipped with basic furnishings including stove and refrigerator.

Payment for housing and food service fees are made in two installments, one each at the beginning of Terms A and C. Reduced charges, if applicable, will be processed according to the established withdrawal policy of the college. Students entering the residence halls other than at the beginning of Term A or C will be issued a prorated billing for the period. This bill must be paid in full prior to occupancy.

As part of the room charges for the first term of residency, the student is assessed a \$150 damage deposit. Students are expected to care for the physical facilities of the residence halls. Damage to the facilities beyond the normal wear and tear shall be the financial responsibility of the residents. The security deposit, less any outstanding charges, will be credited to the students account and appear as a credit on their next bill.

First-year students can expect to receive a Housing and Food Service Contract in early May, after their \$500 tuition deposit is received by the Office of Admissions. On this contract, they will indicate their room preference for the residence halls.

All students wishing to live in the residence halls must submit a signed WPI Housing and Food Service Contract.

**MEALS**

All residence hall students (with the exception of Fuller/Ellsworth apartment residents) are required to participate in one of the four meal plans. The MEALS PLUS PLANS are a combination of traditional meal plans plus additional funds to be utilized at the students discretion.

Once a student has contracted for food service, this is a legally-binding agreement, and students are obligated to assume financial responsibility for the entire academic year.

**Board Plan Rates for the 2007-08 academic year**

*(Note: Students are required to be on a meal plan for the entire academic year)*

19 meals plus \$75 in Bonus Points . . . . .	\$ 4,564
14 meals plus \$175 in Bonus Points . . . . .	\$ 4,564
“The 190”, plus \$100 in Bonus Points . . . . .	\$ 4,306
“The VIP”, plus \$100 in Bonus Points . . . . .	\$ 5,326

Descriptions of the board plans are available in the enclosed Dining Services brochure and at the web address: <http://www.wpi.edu/Admin/Dining/>

**OFF-CAMPUS LIVING**

After the first year, on-campus housing may be at a premium; so if you decide to look for an off-campus apartment, make plans well in advance. Residential Services, located in Ellsworth 16, can be a valuable resource for you as you begin your search for off-campus housing. Residential Services maintains a listing of available housing in the Worcester area, as well as an on-line apartment finder system which can be accessed through the department's web page. In addition, information is available for you to research questions about small claims court, housing codes, leases, tenants rights, etc. The following are a few hints for you as you begin your search for off-campus housing.

**Leases:** Contract periods for off-campus housing vary in length, from twelve-month and nine-month to summer only and three-month leases. As you consider various places, find out what types of leases are available.

**Looking:** Check bulletin boards around campus for apartment ads. Also watch Tech News classifieds. In addition, the Residential Services Office maintains a listing of available off-campus housing.

**Be Prepared:** You'll want to plan realistically for expenses such as utilities, transportation, repairs, laundry, and food. Also, try to pick your roommates carefully and ahead of time.