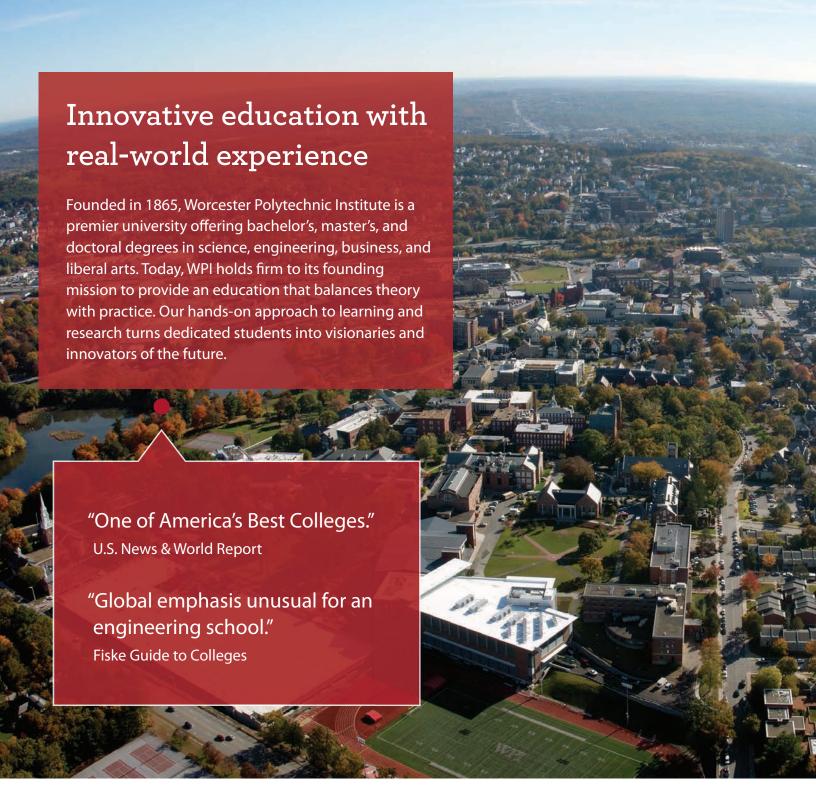


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# A GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



# WELCOME TO WPI A Global University



Laurie A. Leshin, President

"A WPI education provides students with an opportunity to apply science and technology to real problems, on campus and around the globe. Our students take their education into the real world and emerge ready to work anywhere. They gain an expanded world view, an appreciation for different cultures, and a global perspective that serves as a foundation for something much more profound than a degree to hang on the wall. We offer our graduates the world."

students

population is international students

represented on campus

global project center locations across **6** continents off-campus location.

60%+ of students complete at least one project at an

WPI's project-based academic program puts every student to work as part of a team, challenging each to solve important problems. Yes, they gain technical skills, but, just as critically, WPI students learn to achieve collaboratively, think creatively, and better communicate their ideas. This is what distinguishes WPI graduates.

### Great Problems Seminar (GPS) - first year

Students who participate in this two-course introduction to research and project work are immediately immersed in problem solving that seems too daunting – but that's the point. They learn what is achievable by first learning to dissect complex, open-ended problems into doable tasks. Then, by collaborating with classmates, peer mentors, and faculty advisors, students tackle pieces of the world's great challenges, including health, food sustainability, energy, water, and ecology.

### Humanities and Arts – second year

The humanities and arts requirement gives students a chance to explore the breadth, diversity, and creativity of the human experience. Students choose five courses and a culminating seminar or practicum to develop an in-depth understanding in such areas as music, drama, art, literature, writing, or religion.

### Interactive Project (IQP) – third year

Through the Interactive Project, small teams of students from different majors work on a specific problem for a sponsoring agency. The problem connects science or technology with social issues and human need. Each team must deliver findings and recommendations that can be feasibly implemented. Every student emerges as a stronger scientist, engineer, or manager.

### Major Project (MQP) - fourth year

Through this capstone research experience, students prove their ability to translate theory into practice in their major field. They define a problem, immerse themselves in understanding every aspect, aim for a novel solution, and create a written and oral report. Often these projects are part of a WPI research initiative or are sponsored by industry partners and can lead to employment.

Learn more at wpi.edu/+projects

### **4 SEVEN-WEEK TERMS**

The fast pace keeps students engaged and teaches time management.

### **3 COURSES PER TERM**

Students complete entire courses, the equivalent of semester-long courses at other universities, but study fewer topics at once, allowing complete immersion in chosen subjects.

### NO FAILING GRADES

Grades are limited to A,B,C or NR (no credit), allowing students to focus on teamwork, collaboration, and learning instead of competing for top grades.

### **MAJORS AND MINORS**

### **MAJORS**

**Actuarial Mathematics** 

Aerospace Engineering

Applied Physics

Architectural Engineering

Biochemistry

Bioinformatics & Computational Biology

Biology & Biotechnology

Biomedical Engineering

Business

Chemical Engineering

Chemistry

Civil Engineering

Computer Science

**Economic Science** 

Electrical & Computer Engineering

**Environmental & Sustainability Studies** 

Environmental Engineering

**Humanities & Arts** 

Industrial Engineering

Interactive Media & Game Development

International & Global Studie:

Liberal Arts & Engineering

Management Engineering

Management Information System

Mathematical Sciences

Mechanical Engineering

**Physics** 

**Professional Writing** 

Psychological Science

**Robotics Engineering** 

Society, Technology, & Policy

### BS/MS PROGRAMS

Special 5-year BS/MS Programs for entering students:

Financial Mathematics

Fire Protection Engineering

Industrial Mathematics

WPI offers combined BS/MS programs in 19 different engineering, science, and business disciplines. WPI students apply for admission disciplines.

**MINORS** 

Aerospace Engineering

Architectural Engineering

Astrophysic

Biochemistry

Bioinformatics & Computational Biology

Biolog

Business

Chemistry

Computer Science

Data Science

Drama/Theatre

Economic

Electrical & Computer Engineering

Enalish

Entrepreneurship

**Environmental & Sustainability Studies** 

Foreign Language

Global Health

History

Industrial Engineering

Interactive Media & Game Developmen

International & Global Studies

Law & Technology

Management Informatio

System

Manufacturing Engineering

Materials

Mathematics 4 1 1 1

Mechanical Engineering

Music

Nanoscience

Physic

Psycholog

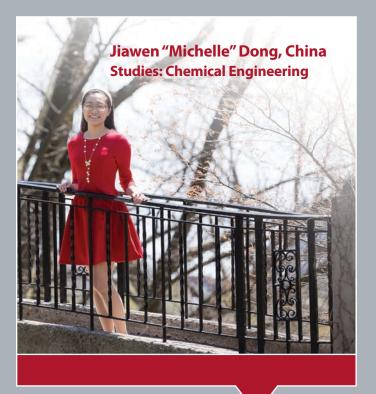
Robotics Engineering

Social Entrepreneurship

Statistics

System Dynamics

Writing & Rhetoria



"I'm really a hands-on person, always experimenting on my own. I was attracted to WPI because of the interactive project work. I want to give myself a chance to make an impact around the world, like I'll be doing when I go to Morocco to help develop a more sustainable compositing plan for the city of Ifrane."



Students thrive in the WPI academic environment. 96% of first year students return for their second year. At any given time, students are working on team-based projects that focus on solving real-world problems. Students can choose to stay on campus for their projects or travel to one of more than 40 project center locations across six continents. All projects are selected, designed, and completed with the guidance and support of faculty advisors and mentors.





ROJECT 1

### Solatrium—advancing the art of sustainable living

Students from several WPI engineering disciplines, including the Architectural Engineering program, recently completed an ambitious, two-year-long project—designing, constructing, and shipping an entire house to Datong, China, for the Solar Decathlon China. To make it happen, WPI organized an interdisciplinary, international group of more than 40 students and professors from Ghent University (Belgium), Polytechnic Institute of New York University, and WPI.

The team's entry, Solatrium, is a net-zero energy home in which an atrium plays a major role in the building's passive heating and cooling strategy. The structure incorporates advanced materials and construction techniques that make sustainable living comfortable and affordable. Solatrium competed against 22 teams from 13 countries and placed 8th overall.

### Pandora: From senior project to game development studio

With \$93 billion in annual sales worldwide, the video game industry is a fast-paced, entrepreneurial business where innovation and collaboration are integral to success. Employers need experienced problem solvers with outstanding project-team skills—a hallmark of WPI graduates.

For four WPI seniors, the Major Project was more than a graduation requirement. It was the perfect vehicle to showcase their collective talents to industry experts and potential investors. Pandora, based on the myth of Pandora's Box, mixes adventure and action and features hand-drawn art, digital imagery, animation, and adaptive difficulty. The team showcased their talents to industry experts and potential investors at the Massachusetts Digital Game Institute (MassDiGI) Game Challenge and came away with third prize in the college team competition.





PROJECT 3

### A robot showdown

For more than two years, the 23 members of WPI's Robotics Engineering C Squad (WRES) programmed WARNER, WPI's 1.9-meter, 150-kilogram Atlas robot for the DARPA Robotics Challenge (DRC). The competition was created to pave the way for humanoid robots to help respond to man-made and natural disasters.

The team took a robot that could barely walk and transformed it into a machine that can drive a car, use power tools, climb a ladder, and perform many other human-like tasks. The robots were required to perform autonomous and semi-autonomous tasks, including driving a utility vehicle, climbing a ladder and traversing an industrial walkway, and locating and closing a valve near a leaking pipe. The team took seventh place among 24 international teams at the DRC finals. WARNER now has a permanent home in WPI's Humanoid Robotics Laboratory, where it continues to provide research opportunities for students.

# **CENTRAL AMERICA NORTH AMERICA EUROPE** AND SOUTH AMERICA

- 1. Bar Harbor, Maine
- 2. Bedford, Mass.
- 3. Boston, Mass.
- 4. Cambridge, Mass.
- 5. Lexington, Mass.
- 6. Modesto, Calif.
- 7. Nantucket, Mass.
- 8. New York, N.Y.
- 9. San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 10. Santa Fe, N.M.
- 11. Silicon Valley, Calif.
- 12. Springfield, Mass.
- 13. Washington, D.C.14. Worcester, Mass.

- 15. Asuncion, Paraguay
- 16. Panama City, Panama
- 17. San José, Costa Rica
- 18. Cuenca, Ecuador

- 19. Buchs, Switzerland
- 20. Budapest, Hungary
- 21. Copenhagen, Denmark
- 22. Konstanz, Germany
- 23. London, England
- 24. Worcester, England
- 25. Moscow, Russia
- 26. Nancy, France
- 27. Tirana, Albania
- 28. Thessaloniki, Greece
- 29. Venice, Italy



38. Mandi, India39. Osaka, Japan40. Shanghai, China

## Most schools promise students personal attention. WPI guarantees it.

WPI faculty are internationally recognized leaders in their fields. Class sizes are small, students have more opportunities to join discussions, learn in teams, and interact with professors.

Professors demonstrate their commitment to student success with their actions—from special study sessions to online support resources and regular office hours. Many faculty members also serve as advisors for first year students, working to develop a student's potential and skills, inside and outside the classroom.

**15-25** 

13:1 student-to-faculty ratio

**94%** of faculty members hold the highest possible degree in their field

15 current faculty members received Fulbright scholarships

23

current faculty members have won the CAREER Award, the National Science Foundation's most prestigious award for young faculty members

#1

ranking for student-faculty interaction by the National Survey of Student Engagement

### **Groundbreaking Research**

WPI's faculty members don't just keep up on what's new in their fields, they make news. They break new ground and then integrate that cutting-edge research into the classroom and into student projects.

Learn more at wpi.edu/+research

### **Research Facilities**

**Aerospace Laboratories** 

WPI undergraduates have access to state-of-the art research centers and laboratories that support research and discovery. A few include:

Atomic Force Microscopes
Biomaterials Laboratory
Bioprocess Laboratory
Computer Music Laboratories
Fire Science Laboratory
George C. Gordon Library
IBM RS/6000 SP Supercomputer
Haas Technical Center (computer-controlled machining)
Laser Holography Laboratories
Medical Imaging Laboratories
Satellite Navigation Laboratory

### Sample Faculty Research Areas

**Artificial Intelligence** 

**Bioinformatics and Biostatistics** Biomedical Sensors and Instrumentation Biophysics Cybersecurity and Data Security Digital Art and Interactive Media **Electronic Spacecraft Propulsion** Entrepreneurship Fire Protection Engineering First Responder Safety Hydrogen Technology and Fuel Cells Materials Science and Engineering **Neurobiology and Neuroprosthetics** Regenerative Medicine Robotics and Human Robot Interaction Sustainability Visualization of Complex Information Wastewater Tracking and Treatment



### **Double Major**

When students have a passion for two different fields, WPI's flexible curriculum makes it possible for them to fulfill requirements for two separate majors.

### **Combined BS and Master's Programs**

WPI offers students an opportunity to earn both a bachelor's and a master's degree through a variety of special programs, including:

- Financial Mathematics or Industrial Mathematics:
   Students may earn both a bachelor's and a master's degree in just five years at WPI—and the fifth year is tuition-free! Students apply directly from high school.
- Fire Protection Engineering: A five-year program that can be tailored to a student's specific career goals from engineering practice to theory and research. Students apply directly from high school.
- Other majors: WPI students who wish to continue their studies toward a master's degree at WPI may enroll in a combined, continuous program that can speed the process. Students apply during their junior year at WPI and, in many cases, are able to complete both degrees in five years.

### **Pre-Health Program**

WPI has an impressive track record of placing its graduates in the nation's top medical, veterinary, and dental schools. The Pre-Health Program introduces students to a wide range of medical professions, and enables them to gain professional-level experience in a hospital or medical school while they are still undergraduates.

Learn more at wpi.edu/+prehealth.

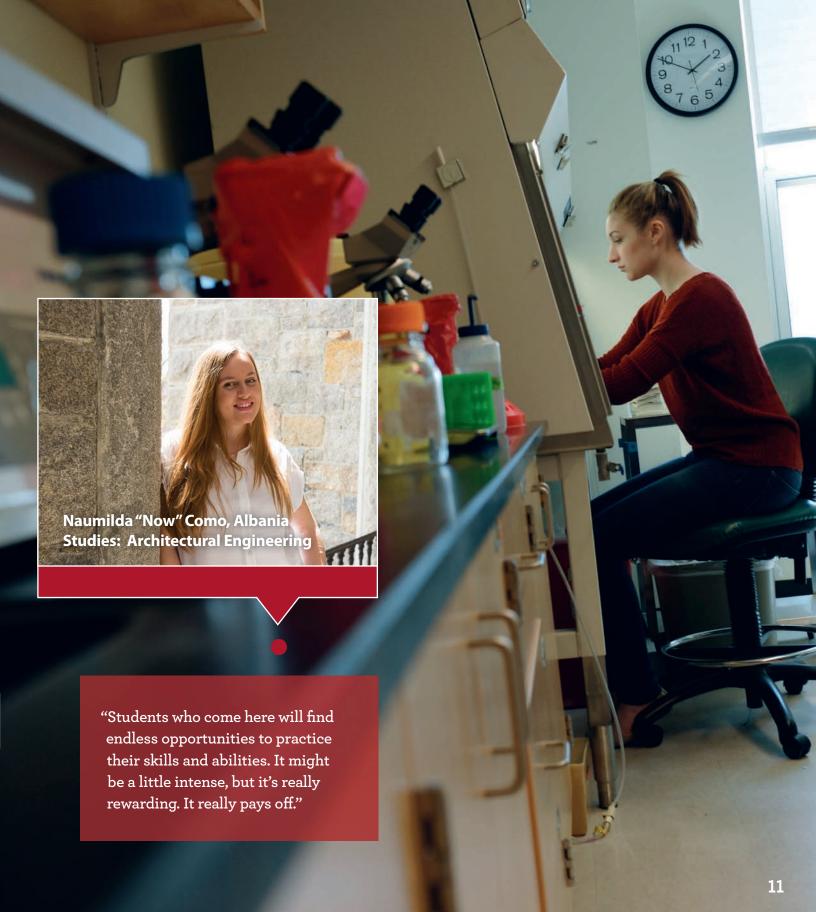
### **Pre-Law Program**

This program is designed for students who seek careers in areas such as environmental law, intellectual property law, and high technology law. This unique program creates a solid foundation in business, government, and law, as well as in technology and science, to produce a well-rounded education and give students an edge over other students when applying to law school.

Learn more at wpi.edu/+prelaw.



WPI's flexible curriculum lets students pursue their unique interests, while a variety of special programs help them prepare for specific professions and careers.



WPI's 38-hectare campus is located in a residential area of Worcester, Massachusetts, the second largest city in New England.

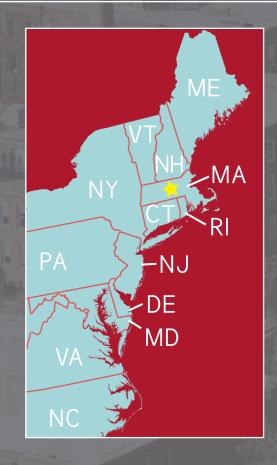
### Worcester: In the Heart of New England

- 38,000+ college students attend 9 universities
- 14,800 seats at the DCU Center for arena concerts and sporting events
- 5,000 years of art in 36 galleries at the Worcester Art Museum
- 53 parks, including the largest urban nature sanctuary in New England
- 50+ music and theatre productions at Hanover Theatre annually, one of the world's top 50 venues
- 22 ski trails at Wachusett Mountain just a 20-minute drive from WPI

### Location, Location

- 65 km from the city of Boston
- 280 km from New York City
- Daily train and bus connections to Boston and New York City

New England has four seasons: fall, winter, spring, and summer. The weather varies considerably throughout the year. Summer temperatures range from  $20^{\circ}$  to  $30^{\circ}$ C ( $68^{\circ}$  to  $86^{\circ}$ F), and winter temperatures from  $-5^{\circ}$  to  $10^{\circ}$ C ( $23^{\circ}$  to  $50^{\circ}$ F).





 $\Theta$ 

Worcester ranks No. 9 on Forbes list of "America's Most Livable Cities."

### Housing and the First Year Experience

WPI residence halls range from modern, green buildings to renovated historical structures. Each hall is unique. There's a variety of living options to match each student's interests and preferences. All first year students are guaranteed on-campus housing.

At New Student Orientation, students join an Insight Team of about 20 freshmen from their residence hall floor. The team is linked for the first year and often provides the foundation for lifelong friendships. The team also includes three key mentors:

- Peer Community Advisor: plans and leads social events and educational programs
- Peer Resident Advisor: assists with personal concerns and promotes policy awareness
- Faculty Advisor: meets regularly with the group in a social gathering to share formal and informal academic guidance

Students may also live off-campus. Those choosing this option should consider arriving during the summer to allow time to make living arrangements before the beginning of classes.

Learn more at wpi.edu/+RSO.

### **Dining for All Tastes**

Students living on campus can select from four meal plans. Each plan offers the flexibility to dine at the Pulse on Dining Marketplace (located at Morgan Hall) and a variety of other venues. There is an option for every taste and dietary need, from healthy alternatives to ethnic cuisine. For students who prefer to prepare their own food, many of the upper class residences are equipped with kitchens.

Learn more at wpi.edu/+RSO.

### Fitness + Health

At WPI, students can get involved in varsity sports, club sports, or play just for fun with teams on campus. Our Sports & Recreation Center provides a variety of ways to keep fit, including:

- Fitness center
- Dance and yoga studios
- Racquetball and squash courts
- Four-court gymnasium
- Aquatic center with 12-lane pool
- Indoor running track
- Rowing tanks

Learn more at wpi.edu/+athletics.

The Student Health Center offers professional medical care for students who are ill or injured. Health insurance that is compatible with local health services is available for purchase to all WPI students.

Learn more at wpi.edu/+health.

### **Campus Activities**

University life is about more than classroom and field study. WPI offers more than 200 clubs and organizations to explore and enjoy.

- 6 publication, literature, and media groups
- 27 cultural and religious organizations
- 22 societal awareness and community service clubs
- 17 governance and programming organizations
- 19 music and performing arts ensembles
- 37 club sports
- 20 varsity teams
- 16 science, technology, and gaming groups
- 19 fraternities and sororities
- 49 professional, career development, and honor societies

It's easy to get involved and quickly become a part of WPI's diverse community by joining one of the many student-run organizations. Also, the International Student Council sponsors activities from trips to Boston and shopping outlets to international food festivals throughout the year.

Learn more at wpi.edu/+SAO.



At WPI, you'll plan your own academic path to your final goal, but you'll have a lot of help along the way—from caring faculty to a host of support services.

### **Advising and Academic Support**

Upon arrival at WPI, each student is assigned an academic advisor, who serves at the primary resource for academic advising. Additional support is provided through the Office of Academic Advising and the Academic Resources Center. Various programs are offered to enrich and enhance the overall learning experience, including:

- Counseling on topics such as learning styles, effective study strategies, and time management
- One-on-one and small group tutoring sessions
- Individualized assistance in a variety of subjects
- Comprehensive peer tutoring program

Learn more at wpi.edu/+oaa.

### **International House**

The International House is WPI's hub for international students, scholars, and faculty. It serves as a center for educational resources and is a place for students to gather socially. The Office of International Students and Scholars provides information and assistance in many areas related to international student life:

- International student orientation
- Immigration and government regulations
- Social and cultural programs
- · General counseling
- Safekeeping for passports and tickets
- Summer storage facilities
- Information on travel within the United States
- Meeting and social spaces

### **English as a Second Language**

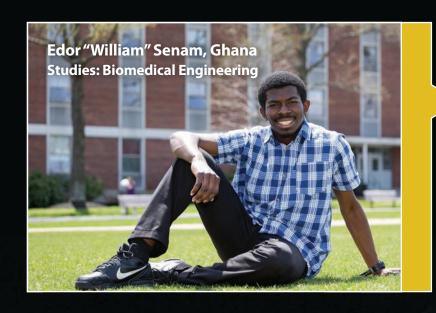
WPI offers several options for students who want to improve their English language ability. Previous study of English is required since the ESL programs at WPI focus on intermediate and advanced skills:

- ESL Summer Institute: An intensive three or five weeks
  of instruction that blends reading, writing, speaking,
  and listening skills with a focus on everyday use of
  spoken English in technological academic settings.
- ESL Seminar: Ongoing instruction and academic support to address the linguistic needs of students throughout the year. The courses also examine aspects of U.S. culture and history.
- Additional programs include ESL for teaching assistants and ESL for spouses.

### International Student Council

Devoted to promoting awareness of cultural diversity and international student life, the International Student Council (ISC) at WPI is a student-run organization representing students from more than 75 countries. Through special events, trips, and co-curricular activities, the ISC helps the international community adjust to its new environment and provides opportunities for students to share their culture with the WPI community. Everyone is welcome to join!

Learn more at wpi.edu/+international.



"What stands out at WPI is the mindset. People here want to achieve a lot, and the university gives undergraduates the opportunity to do pretty much anything they want to do. Often the level of work is equivalent to what graduate students are doing on other campuses."



WPI graduates are hired by some of the world's top companies, and are accepted by many prominent graduate and professional schools in the United States and around the globe. WPI alumni are across the globe inventing, researching, and creating in every field from biotech to business to the arts.



### **Career Development**

At WPI, preparation for life after graduation begins from a student's first day on campus. The Career Development Center offers programs that assist students with everything from selecting a major and setting career goals to resume critique, interview preparation, and applying to graduate school, and on-site interviewing. More than 400 of the world's leading companies and organizations recruit on campus each year.

### **Summer Internships and Cooperative Education**

Summer internships are an excellent opportunity for WPI students to explore career options, gain real-world experience, and earn income. WPI also offers co-op, full-time professional positions, to all students in good academic standing. The work periods are six to eight months, during which students do not attend classes or pay tuition. Both summer internships and co-op programs can be completed under student visas. The professional skills and experience developed during summer internships and co-ops may lead to permanent employment after graduation. To help students secure positions, the Career Development Center offers career counseling, resume assistance, and job search services.

Learn more at **wpi.edu/+cdc**.

### **TOP 50**

Colleges that pay you back – Princeton Review

400+

employers recruit on campus each year

92%

of graduates are in jobs or graduate school within six months of graduation





### **POST-GRADUATION DESTINATIONS**

### \$66,805

Average starting salary for 2015 bachelor's degree recipients

### **NOTABLE EMPLOYERS**

### 32%

higher starting salaries than the U.S. national average

### 17<sup>TH</sup>

in the nation for return on investment - PayScale.com

### **REPRESENTATIVE GRADUATE SCHOOLS**

# Admission and Financino

### **Minimum Scores**

### TOEFL

80 (no band less than 20)

### **IELTS**

6.5 (no band less than 6.0)

### **Pearson**

53 PTE-A (Pearson Test of English Academic)

Applicants scoring above the minimum scores typically enroll directly into a degree program. Applicants below the minimum will only be considered for conditional admission to WPI.

### **Profile Class of 2020**

Average GPA: 3.84

Average class rank: top 10%

SAT Range (middle 50%):

1220-1380 (CR + MA) 1800-2030 (CR, M<u>A, WR)</u>

TOEFL Range (middle 50%)

96-106

First year applications: 10,468

Admit rate: 48%

### **Application Deadlines**

### First Year (Fall admission only)

Early Action, Round I: November 1
Early Action, Round II: January 1
Regular Admission: February 1

### Transfer

Fall Admission: April 15

There is no financial assistance for transfer applicants.

### APPLYING TO WPI

Visit **admissions.wpi.edu/apply** for submission instructions and to begin an application. All applicants must submit the following:

- 1. **Completed application form**, including a personal statement or essay. The Common Application is the only way to apply to WPI.
- 2. Application fee of \$65 USD.
- 3. **Transcripts** (records) of all courses and grades (marks) in secondary (post-elementary) and post-secondary (higher) education.
  - A minimum of three years of secondary school records/results is required.
  - Photocopies are acceptable but they should be stamped or validated.
  - Records must be in the original language, and include a word-for-word English translation by the school or other official agency (if original language is not English).
  - Applicants are considered for admission prior to completion of their final semester or half-year of current education and final exams, but must provide WPI with a final transcript within one month after the end of the school year.
  - Applicants whose records include at least one year
    of post-secondary education completed at the
    time of the application would be considered
    transfer applicants and need only submit the final
    year record of secondary education examination results,
    along with records of all post-secondary education.
- 4. **Proof of English language proficiency.** Students must demonstrate command of the English language by submitting TOEFL, IELTS, or PTE scores.
- 5. **SAT or ACT scores or alternative materials** through WPI's Flex Path. Learn more at **wpi.edu/+flexpath**.
- 6. **Two letters of recommendation**, one from a teacher (preferably math or science) and one from a guidance counselor, college counselor, or other administrator at the school most recently attended.
- 7. **Financial Documentation:** Applicants should submit either the **WPI certification of finances** document with appropriate signatures and bank verification (bank statement) demonstrating ability to pay the full cost of attendance, OR the **International CSS PROFILE** indicating expected annual family contribution. Access these forms at **wpi.edu/+financing**.

### FINANCING YOUR EDUCATION

### **Merit (Academic) Scholarships**

All accepted students are automatically considered for these highly competitive awards, and financial need has no bearing. Award amounts vary—up to full tuition—and are renewable each year if the student remains in good academic standing. Valedictorians, salutatorians, and IB Diploma graduates with a score of 40 or greater are guaranteed an academic merit scholarship package of a minimum of \$20,000 per year, if admitted.

### **International Scholarships**

WPI awards a small number of need-based scholarships to international students ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000. These scholarships are renewed each year, provided the student remains in good standing. International scholarships are awarded based on financial need, academic profile, and any special talents or experiences. Families should expect to contribute a minimum of \$19,000, plus travel expenses, to the total annual cost of attendance at WPI. Due to very limited funding, families with the financial resources to fund the entire cost of attendance should not apply for financial aid. (*Please note that the combined awards never exceed the cost of tuition.*)

To apply, complete the International CSS PROFILE at wpi.edu/+financing.

### **Working on Campus**

WPI allows international students to work part-time on campus in a variety of offices and services to help with their expenses.

### **Loan Programs**

Loan options are available through several lenders. In most cases, the lender requires a U.S. citizen or permanent resident as a co-applicant and a processed I-20 form from the student. Visit **wpi.edu/+financing** for more information.

### **Payment/Installment Options**

An interest-free installment payment plan is offered in conjunction with Tuition Management Services. Visit **afford.com** for more information.

### **Other Options**

Many students participate in Cooperative Education and Summer Internship programs. Refer to page 20 for more details. For additional options, links, and information, visit **wpi.edu/+financing**.

### **Accreditations**

New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC)

Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)

Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)

### **Admissions Office**

### **Andrew Palumbo**

Dean of Admissions & Financial Aid

### Jennifer Cluett

**Director of Admissions** 

### Julie Loveless

Associate Director, International Admissions

Tel: 508-831-5286 Fax: 508-831-5875

Email: intl\_admissions@wpi.edu

### International House

### **ESL Program**

### Billy D. McGowan

Director of ESL Program Tel: 508-831-6033 Email: esl@wpi.edu

### **International Student Services**

### **Tom Hartvig Thomsen**

Director of International Students and Scholars

Tel: 508-831-6030 Email: hartvig@wpi.edu





Worcester Polytechnic Institute 100 Institute Road Worcester, Massachusetts 01609-2280 USA Office of Admissions

Bartlett Center 508-831-5286 admissions@wpi.edu admissions.wpi,.edu