

WESTERN OREGON UNIVERSITY

2012-13 diversity commitment scholarship application

The Diversity Commitment Scholarship is \$3,500 per year and is renewable as long as the recipient is enrolled as a full-time student, shows satisfactory academic progress and maintains good academic standing. For new freshmen, the scholarship is renewable for up to 12 terms (four years).

For transfer students, the scholarship is renewable for up to six terms (two years).

Continuing WOU students are not eligible to apply for this scholarship. Continuing WOU students should apply for scholarships using the WOU General Scholarship Application available at wou.edu/scholarships.

At WOU, we believe a diverse campus community will improve the overall quality of education our students receive by offering a mix of experiences, opinions and viewpoints. We are committed to recognizing and supporting outstanding students from all ethnic, cultural, educational and economic backgrounds.

Complete applications must be submitted on or before 5 p.m. (postmarks do not count) to:

Diversity Commitment
Scholarship Program
Financial Aid Office
Western Oregon University
345 N. Monmouth Ave.
Monmouth, OR 97361

Incoming **freshmen** students:
February 1, 2012

New **transfer** students:
April 16, 2012

wou.edu/scholarships

Diversity Commitment Scholarship information

Eligibility requirements

To be eligible for this scholarship, you must meet the following minimum requirements:

- U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- New freshmen only: meet freshman admission requirements
- Transfer students only: meet transfer admission requirements

Note: Students admitted through the special admissions process will not be eligible for this scholarship.

Selection criteria

Scholarship recipients will be selected by an institutional committee on a competitive basis. The following information will be considered when selecting recipients:

- Evidence of sustained and significant effort and commitment to activities that have either increased the diversity of the applicant's school or community, or have fostered a stronger and more supportive school or community climate for persons of diverse backgrounds
- First-generation status (neither parent graduated from college)
- Financial need as defined by federal low-income guidelines and determined by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Educational background, including GPA, test scores and previous coursework
- Community service, leadership, activities and commitment to social activism
- Quality of application, including personal essays, activities resume and recommendation forms

Application procedure

To apply:

- Apply for admission to WOU.
- Fill out the entire application form and answer all questions completely.
- Submit two recommendation forms (included in application packet); at least one must be from a school official or academic instructor. **Letters of recommendation may not be substituted for the recommendation forms;** however, a letter of recommendation may be submitted in addition to the recommendation form, if desired.
- Send transcripts. The transcript you send to the Office of Admissions is used for admission purposes only and will not be matched with your scholarship application. Freshmen students - send your most recent high school transcript (unofficial is acceptable). Transfer students - send a college transcript (unofficial is acceptable) from all colleges previously attended.
- Complete and submit the 2012-13 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to the federal processor no later than Feb. 1, 2012. List WOU as one of your school choices. WOU's school code is 003209.

Additional information

If you have questions or need additional assistance, please contact the Financial Aid Office at 503-838-8475 or Multicultural Student Services and Programs Office at 503-838-8737.

Additional copies of this application and/or recommendation forms may be obtained from: wou.edu/scholarships

All applicants must submit the required scholarship application materials to the Financial Aid Office on or before the deadline. All other materials must be submitted to the appropriate office. Use this checklist to assist you in completing your application:

Sent Item

- Applied for admission to WOU
- Diversity Commitment Scholarship Application form
- Personal essays
- Activities résumé
- High school/college transcripts
- Recommendation form (1)
- Recommendation form (2)
- Filed your 2012-13 Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). WOU's school code is 003209. Submit your FAFSA as early in January as possible. Your FAFSA must be received by the federal processor by WOU's FAFSA priority date of Feb. 1.

Personal essays

Answer the following three questions on separate paper. Limit your response to no more than **400** words for each question. Please answer each question completely and submit responses in order.

1. Tell us about yourself, your family and your community.
2. What unique personal qualities or life experiences make you diverse?
3. Give us one example of how the diversity you described has helped you to promote or support diversity in your school or community.

Activities résumé

Please attach a one-page activities résumé highlighting your activities, leadership, work experience, awards, and any special talents, skills or abilities. Please use the following format for your activities résumé:

Examples:

Activity	Position held	Hours per week	School year
Student Government: Responsible for \$1,000 budget, attended weekly meetings and provided quarterly reports.	Treasurer	3	2010-2011

Awards	Special recognition (if applicable)	School year
Poetry Competition	First Place	2011-2012

Recommendation forms

Applicants must submit two completed recommendation forms, using the forms provided with this application. At least one form must be completed by a school official or academic instructor. Letters of recommendation may not be substituted for the recommendation forms; however, a letter of recommendation may be submitted in addition to the recommendation form, if desired.

Transcripts

The transcript that you send to the Office of Admissions is used for admission purposes only and will not be matched with your scholarship application.

Freshmen students: Send your most recent high school transcript (unofficial is acceptable).

Transfer students: Send a college transcript (unofficial is acceptable) from all colleges previously attended.

Admission application

Apply for admission to WOU. For admission information, contact the Admissions Office toll-free at 1-877-877-1593, option 1, or online at wou.edu.

Financial Aid application

Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) online at fafsa.gov before the WOU February 1 priority deadline.

Western Oregon University is committed to providing equal opportunity in its recruitment, admissions, educational programs, activities and employment without discrimination on the basis of age, color, disability, national origin, race, marital status, religion, sex, or sexual orientation. Inquiries may be directed to: Affirmative Action Officer, 345 N. Monmouth Ave., Monmouth, OR 97361 or www.wou.edu.

This publication can be made available in alternative formats to assist persons with disabilities. Please give reasonable notice to the Financial Aid Office, 503-838-8475 or e-mail to finaid@wou.edu.



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2012-13 Diversity Commitment Scholarship application

Please complete this application, answering all the questions accurately and to the best of your ability.

Name _____ WOU ID# _____
Last First MI

E-mail address _____ Home telephone _____
(include area code)

Mailing address _____
Street/P.O. Box City State ZIP

Cell phone _____ Birth date _____ Gender: Male Female
(include area code) mm/dd/yyyy

Citizenship: U.S. citizen Permanent resident

Permanent resident: Card No. _____ Date issued: _____

Did your parents graduate from college? Yes No

School status

In fall term 2012, I will be a:

Freshman (I am currently a high school senior or I am coming to WOU with less than 36 college credits.)

Complete only if you are currently a high school senior.

High school: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Transfer student (I am not currently in high school and I am coming to WOU with 36 or more college credits.)

Complete only if you are currently a college student.

College(s) you have previously attended:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Anticipated major: _____

Signature required

I authorize Western Oregon University to provide copies of my academic record, this application, recommendation forms, and FAFSA record to the Diversity Commitment Scholarship Committee to review in considering my application. I authorize Western Oregon University to release my name to the media for publication if I receive this award. I certify that all statements are complete and true and that the work in this application is my own. Furthermore, if any of the information I have provided is determined to be inaccurate, I understand that this may result in a loss of the scholarship.

Applicant's signature _____ Date _____

Make sure your name and WOU student ID# are clearly printed at the top of all additional pages submitted with this application. Please **do not** use report covers. Such information will not be included in the review of your application. Please **do not** staple materials together.

2012-13 Diversity Commitment Scholarship recommendation form

Instructions to applicant

Complete Part 1 of this form and give it to your recommender. You should allow your recommender at least two weeks to complete this form. Recommenders may send the form directly to the scholarship committee or a student can submit them with their application materials. Letters of recommendation may not be substituted instead of this recommendation form; however, a letter of recommendation may be submitted in addition to this recommendation form, if desired.

Part 1: Applicant information (please print or type)

Name: _____
Last First MI

WOU ID #: _____

School status

In fall term 2012, I will be a:

- Freshman (I am currently a high school senior or I am coming to WOU with less than 36 college credits.)
 Transfer student (I am not currently in high school and I am coming to WOU with 36 or more college credits.)

Instructions to recommender

Please complete Parts 2 and 3 of this form below and sign. Recommenders may send the form directly to the scholarship committee or return it to the student to submit with their application. Additional copies of this application are available at **wou.edu/scholarships**. Letters of recommendation may not be substituted instead of this recommendation form; however, a letter of recommendation may be submitted in addition to this recommendation form, if desired.

Part 2: Recommender information (please print or type)

Name: _____

Professional title: _____

Institution/company: _____

E-mail: _____ Telephone _____
(include area code)

How do you know the applicant? _____

Part 3: Evaluation (please print or type)

Your evaluation of the above-named student is a critical component in our decision regarding scholarships. For each category we ask that you: a) describe specific instances of abilities, skills and attributes and b) include any limitations as well as strengths.

How long have you known the applicant? Less than one year One year or more

How well do you know the applicant? Casually Fairly well Very well

Curriculum rigor and academic habits

Extraordinary Above average Average Below average Unable to comment

Supportive evidence:

Motivation and long-term goal setting

Extraordinary Above average Average Below average Unable to comment

Supportive evidence:

Commitment to diversity

Extraordinary Above average Average Below average Unable to comment

Supportive evidence:

Leadership

Extraordinary Above average Average Below average Unable to comment

Supportive evidence:

Community involvement and extra-curricular activities

Extraordinary Above average Average Below average Unable to comment

Supportive evidence:

Overall impression

If you were making the decision to award this applicant, which of the following would it be?

- Seek out:** Will be a truly outstanding student and later professional
- Definitely accept:** Will complete his/her college degree at a superior level
- Accept:** Will complete his/her college degree at a satisfactory level
- Accept with reservation:** Concerned about student's ability or motivation (please explain below)

Please comment on anything else that makes this applicant qualified for the Diversity Commitment Scholarship that has not been revealed thus far on this form. Add extra pages if needed.

Comments:

Recommender's signature: _____ Date: _____

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