GENERAL INSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

1. The University has a mission statement, formally adopted by the governing board and public, declaring that it is an institution of higher education.

   As a member of the University of Wisconsin System, the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater’s mission statement has been adopted by the Board of Regents and is published in the University Bulletin. The University has three missions: The mission of the University of Wisconsin System, the mission of the Comprehensive Universities, and its select mission as the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. The missions appear on page 4 of the University Bulletin.

2. The University is a degree-granting institution.

   The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater is a degree granting institution and is authorized to grant undergraduate and graduate degrees. A listing of the undergraduate degrees appears on pages 52-54 of the University Undergraduate Bulletin. A listing of graduate degrees appears on page 14 of the University Graduate Bulletin.

3. The University has legal authorization to grant its degrees and it meets all the legal requirements to operate as an institution of higher education wherever it conducts its activities.

   UW-W was founded in 1868. Authorized by the state of Wisconsin and the Board of Regents to grant degrees, the University meets all legal requirements to operate as an institution of higher education.

4. The University has legal documents to confirm its status as a public institution.

   Documents confirming the public status of the University can be found in the Documents Room.

5. The University has a governing board that possesses and exercises necessary legal power to establish and review basic policies that govern the institution.

   The University is governed by the Wisconsin Board of Regents which possesses and exercises necessary legal power to establish and review basic policies that govern the institution. Minutes of the Board of Regents meetings can be found in the Documents Room.
6. The University has a governing board that includes public members and is sufficiently autonomous from the administration to assure the integrity of the institution.

The Board of Regents is composed of 17 members who are appointed by the Governor and approved by the Senate for seven-year terms. The Board of Regents includes public members who are autonomous from the University of Wisconsin System and UW-Whitewater Administration.

7. The University has an executive officer designated by the governing board to provide administrative leadership for the institution.

The Chief Executive Officer of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater is Dr. H. Gaylon Greenhill. Dr. Greenhill is authorized to provide leadership for the University.

8. The governing board authorizes the University’s affiliation with the Commission.

The Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin System recognizes the role of regional accreditation and authorizes the University of Wisconsin Whitewater to maintain its long standing affiliation with NCA.

9. The University employs a faculty which has earned from accredited institutions the degrees appropriate to the level of instruction offered by the institution.

The University is proud of its outstanding faculty who hold degrees from over 380 different institutions with terminal degrees from 141 different institutions. Except in rare instances, all individuals holding faculty status have terminal degrees. Instructional academic staff frequently hold a terminal degree; all hold at least a masters degree. All faculty teaching graduate courses hold a terminal degree.

10. A sufficient number of the faculty are full-time employees of the institution.

Of the 390 FTE faculty and instructional academic staff, 84% are full time.

11. The faculty has a significant role in developing and evaluating all of the institution’s educational programs.
Faculty are actively involved in developing and evaluating the educational programs. In addition to the University Curriculum Committee, each college and many departments have Curriculum Committees that develop and review curricular proposals. In addition, Audit and Review Committees for undergraduate and graduate programs review at least 20% of all academic programs each year. The Faculty Senate or Graduate Council reviews all curricular proposals prior to forwarding them to the Provost. The University Assessment Committee, composed of faculty, conduct peer reviews of departmental assessment programs and curricular changes.

12. The University confers degrees.

The University of Wisconsin-Whitewater holds two commencements each year (Fall and Spring). In 1994-95, 1,472 undergraduate and 388 graduate degrees were conferred.

13. The University has degree programs in operation, with students enrolled in them.

The University has 42 undergraduate majors and 13 graduate programs. The number of students in each program appears in the Fact Book available in the Documents Room.

14. The University has degree programs that are compatible with the institution’s mission and are based on recognized fields of study at the higher education level.

All degree programs are consistent with the comprehensive and select missions of the University. The programs are based on recognized fields of study.

15. The University has degrees that are appropriately named, following practices common to institutions of higher education in terms of both length and content of the programs.

All undergraduate degrees require a minimum of 120 credit hours. Many professional programs and several liberal/fine arts programs hold accreditation from their respective professional bodies. As part of the assessment program, all undergraduate and graduate programs have defined proficiencies expected of graduates.

16. The University’s undergraduate degree programs include a coherent general education requirement consistent with the institution’s mission and
designed to ensure breadth of knowledge and to promote intellectual inquiry.

The General Education program has been redesigned and was implemented in Fall 1994. The 50 hour program includes 12 hours of proficiency courses (English, Math, and Speech), 18 hours of core courses, and 20 hours of breadth electives in Arts, Humanities, Natural Sciences/Mathematics, Social Sciences, Personal Health and Fitness, Ethnic or Women’s Studies, and Interdisciplinary. The revised program appears on pages 47-51 in the University Bulletin.

17. The University has admission policies and practices that are consistent with the institution’s mission and appropriate to its educational programs.

Admission policies and practices have been determined by UW System in consultation with the campus. System policies appear on page 25 of the Introduction to the University of Wisconsin System bulletin. UW-Whitewater policies appear on page 35 of this document.

18. The University provides its students access to those learning resources and support services requisite for its degree programs.

The University provides an array of support services to meet the needs of students. In addition to a comprehensive academic support services program, the University offers career planning, testing, and counseling services, a University Life course, child care, personal counseling and guidance services, and extensive computing, library, and learning resources.

19. The University has an external financial audit by a certified public accountant or a public audit agency at least every two years.

The Wisconsin Legislative Audit Bureau conducts a financial audit of the University every two years.

20. The University has financial documents that demonstrate the appropriate allocation and use of resources to support its educational programs.

The University has engaged in a comprehensive review of resource allocation as part of Strategic Planning, Quality Reinvestment, and most recently, budget reductions. Documents demonstrating resource allocation are available in the Office of the Budget Director.

21. The University has financial practices, records, and reports that demonstrate fiscal viability.
The University follows standard financial practices for a public institution. Consistent with the tenets of accountability, fund controllers are given authority to expend funds to meet the goals of their unit and the University. Decentralized management of the budget encourages sound fiscal practices. The University consistently has a carry over balance and has been authorized to expend that amount in the next fiscal year. Evidence of fiscal viability is available in documents in the Office of the Budget Director.

22. The University has an official document that includes its mission statement along with accurate description related to public information.

The University Undergraduate Bulletin addresses each of the issues as indicated below:

Mission . . . . page 4
Academic Program Array . . . . pages 52-55
Degree Requirements . . . . page 46
  Arts and Communication . . . . page 62
  Business and Economics . . . . page 101
  Letters and Sciences . . . . page 165
  Education . . . . page 125
Learning Resources . . . . page 39
Administrative policies/practices . . . . pages 8-11
Academic/nonacademic policies and practices . . . . pages 11-21
Charges and Refunds . . . . pages 37-38
Academic Credentials . . . . pages 254-272

23. The University discloses its standing with accrediting bodies with which it is affiliated.

The University’s affiliation with NCA and other accrediting bodies is disclosed on page 1 of the University Bulletin.

24. The University makes available upon request information that accurately describes its financial condition.

Financial Reports are available through the Assistant Chancellor for Administrative Services.