

GUIDELINES
ADVANCED OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-WHITewater
2015-2016

The purpose of the Advanced Opportunity Program (AOP) is to expand the number of minority/disadvantaged students who receive graduate degrees from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. Individuals who are residents of the State of Wisconsin and members of an ethnic minority group which traditionally have been under-represented in the advanced levels of major fields of study offered at UW-Whitewater are given highest priority for receiving AOP awards. The University is committed to recruitment, support, retention and graduation of AOP recipients. AOP awards are offered subject to availability of funds.

A. ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must be:

1. U.S. Citizen or permanent resident at the time of application.
2. Members of traditionally under-represented minority groups (African American, Hispanic, American Indian/Alaskan Native or statutorily designated Southeast Asian) or non-minority/disadvantaged students.

Students are considered disadvantaged if they meet any of the criteria including but not limited to one or more of the following:

- a) Have a financial need;
 - b) come from a family that receive any type of public assistance, including eligibility for school lunch program;
 - c) Are first generation college students;
 - d) Have participated in special services for disadvantaged students including TRIO programs such as Student Support Services, McNair Scholars Program, Upward Bound, Talent Search, etc.; and/or have not had the expectation and encouragement to pursue post graduate education as a viable option.
3. Admitted to a graduate degree program at UW-Whitewater.
 4. Registered for classes at UW-Whitewater

B. PROCEDURES FOR APPLYING

To apply for an award, applicants must:

1. Submit two letters of reference from faculty/staff members knowledgeable about their academic potential.
2. Submit a 1 page Personal Goal Statement.
3. Request and return a completed AOP application to the Office of the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Multicultural Affairs & Student Success.

New Applicants must also:

1. Apply for admission to a degree program by completing the Graduate Application for Admission form, submitting the \$56 fee and arranging for having their official post secondary transcripts forwarded to the Graduate Office.

C. APPLICATION DEADLINE

Completed applications are due by **March 27, 2015** for priority consideration.

D. SELECTION:

The selection of recipients among eligible applicants is based upon the following priorities:

1. Continuing UW-Whitewater students previously awarded an unconditional AOP award.
2. Students enrolling in graduate studies at UW-Whitewater for the first time who have not previously attained a master's degree.
3. Continuing UW-Whitewater graduate students not previously selected as an AOP award recipient.
4. Demonstrated Financial Need.

Among applicants within each of the three groups above, priority will be given as follows:

1. Wisconsin residents who have met the **March 27, 2015** deadline.
2. Non-residents who have met the **March 27, 2015** deadline
3. Wisconsin residents & non-residents who have not met the **March 27, 2015** deadline.

The following criteria will be used to rank applicants:

1. Application Date.
2. Admission to graduate school.

E. TERMS FOR THE ADVANCED OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM ASSISTANTSHIPS:

1. The maximum AOP award for the 2015-16 academic year is \$10,000.00 (based on graduate program). All recipients must pay the in-state fee. A non-resident fee remission is available to out-of-state AOP recipients. AOP award recipients are allowed to participate in assistantships and other department funded programs. Awards are contingent upon funds being appropriated by the Wisconsin State Legislature.
2. AOP award recipients are expected to pursue and meet the graduate academic requirements of the University. The credit load and the award may be modified pending circumstances and availability of funds.
3. All AOP recipients will be reviewed at the end of each semester by the AOP Committee. A 3.00 cumulative grade point average must be maintained and/or recipient must be meeting Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements.
4. *Summer awards are not guaranteed. Specific summer selection criteria are announced each year depending on the availability of funds.*
5. **Please be advised given the cost differential, AOP funds are not available for online courses. AOP funds will only pay the standard tuition and fees. Students are responsible for the difference.**
6. AOP is available for **tuition ONLY**.
7. AOP Recipients are expected to notify the selection committee if receiving tuition reimbursement or other sources of funding for tuition.
8. AOP funding is limited to a maximum of 8 full-time equivalent semesters.
9. **Proof of submission of Federal Application for Financial Student Aid (FAFSA) must be done to be considered for AOP funding.*

F. NOTIFICATION:

Applicants will be notified **by July 1, 2015**. (Or when tuition is set for 2015-2016).

G. CHECK LIST FOR NEW APPLICANTS:

- ___1. Graduate Application for Admission form completed and \$56 fee paid to the Graduate Office.
- ___2. Official transcripts sent directly to the Graduate Office by other institutions of higher education attended.
- ___3. AOP application completed.
- ___4. Graduate Assistantship application completed for the current year.
- ___5. Proof of submission of Federal Application for Financial Student Aid.

H. CHECK LIST FOR CONTINUING STUDENTS:

- ___1. ***Applicants must submit a Federal Application for Financial Student Aid.**

Deadline: March 27, 2015

FOR APPLICATIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

To receive the Graduate application for Admissions write to:
School of Graduate Studies, Dean Graduate Studies
2015 Roseman Hall
University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
Whitewater, Wisconsin 53190
(262) 472-1006

To receive AOP applications write to:
Advanced Opportunity Program
Office of Assistant Vice Chancellor
for Multicultural Affairs & Student Success
University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
226 McCutchan Hall
Whitewater, Wisconsin 53190
(262) 472-4985
(262)472-1659 (fax)

**APPLICATION
ADVANCED OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-WHITEWATER
2015-2016**

Application Information

- A. Admission to Graduate School: Each applicant for a scholarship or assistantship must first have been admitted to the Graduate School. Transcripts for admission to the Graduate School will be evaluated for all applicants. Transcripts must be in the hands of the Dean of Graduate Studies before the applicant is considered.
- B. Graduates of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater will be expected to submit only transcripts of credits earned elsewhere.
- C. All application materials must be received by **March 27, 2015**.
- D. **Notification of AOP Awards:** Applicants will be notified concerning the award by **July 1, 2015** Or when tuition is set for 2015-2016.

Instructions: Please complete items 1-24 below. Return this form to the Office of Assistant Vice Chancellor, 226 McCutchan Hall, UW-Whitewater, Whitewater, WI 53190 by **March 27, 2015**. Call (262) 472-4985 if you have questions or need additional information.

1. I am applying for ____ Academic Year 2015-15 ____ 1st Semester Only ____ 2nd Semester Only
2. Name _____ ID# _____ Date _____
3. Permanent Address _____
Street and Number, Box #
City
State
Zip
4. Telephone Number _____ 5. Date of Birth _____
6. Single _____ Married _____ No. of Dependents _____
7. Are you a first generation student? ____ Yes ____ No
8. Military Service? ____ Yes ____ No Date _____
9. Will you be using veteran's benefits? ____ Yes ____ No
10. Will your employer reimburse you for tuition? ____ Yes ____ No
11. High School and Graduation Date _____
City
State
Zip
Grad Date
12. Wisconsin Resident? ____ Yes ____ No How long have you lived in Wisconsin? ____ Years
13. List in Chronological order colleges and/or universities attended: _____
Date
Date
Attended
Graduated/Degree

14. Undergraduate Major(s) _____ Minor(s) _____

15. Extra-Curricular Participation in College _____

16. Please list previous participation in Programs for disadvantaged students: _____

17. Whitewater Address: (if known) _____ Phone _____

18. Work Experience Date(s)	Name and Location of School or Company	Exact Nature of Position (if teacher, subject, grades, admin/superv)

19. Notable Contributions to Society in Teaching/Business-Hobbies, etc. _____

20. References:
Name _____ Phone _____
Name _____ Phone _____
Name _____ Phone _____

21. I plan to complete graduate study at this University? _____ Yes _____ No

22. I plan to begin Fall, 20____; Spring, 20____

23. I plan to do graduate work in:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Accounting (M.P.A.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Guidance & Counseling (M.S.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Administration (M.B.A.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Management Computer Systems (M.C.S.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Education (M.S.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Administration (M.P.A.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communication (M.S.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Reading (M.S.E.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communicative Disorders (M.S.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety (M.S.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Counseling (M.S.) | <input type="checkbox"/> School Business Management (M.S.E.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum & Instruction (M.S.) | <input type="checkbox"/> School Psychology (M.S.E.) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educational Administration (M.S.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Education (M.S.E.) |

24. I have submitted a Federal Application for Financial Student Aid for the current academic year. _____ Yes _____ No

25. I certify that this is my first Master's Degree (please initial) _____

26. **ETHNICITY:** (please check one) _____ Southeast Asian (Cambodian, Laotian, Vietnamese)

_____ African American _____ Latino _____ Native American/Alaskan Native _____ Other

DO NOT WRITE BELOW THIS LINE:

UC No: _____

Undergraduate overall grade point average: _____

Undergraduate grade point average: _____ (last two years; 60 or more credits)

Graduate grade point average: _____ (credits)

Eligibility status: (Remarks) _____