IRAP Glossary

Glossary Term	Definition
Academic staff	A university employee with professional and administrative personnel with duties and appointment types that are primarily associated with higher education institutions or their administration, but does not include faculty or university staff.
Academic term	The part of the academic year during which classes are held. UW-Whitewater offers four terms (Fall, Winterim, Spring, and Summer).
Academic year	The academic year for official enrollment reporting is defined as Summer, Fall, and Spring. This method aligns with the schedule for reporting data to UW System Administration.
Achievement gap	Refers to the ways in which factors such as gender, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, familial situations, and more contribute to lower educational attainment for certain groups of students.
Admit rate	Percentage of applicants who are admitted to UW-Whitewater (calculated as number of students offered admission divided by the number of applicants).
Associate degree	A degree primarily intended to provide a basic liberal arts (AA) or liberal arts and sciences (AAS) background to be the foundation for most baccalaureate degree programs and satisfy general education requirements. Students may earn an associate degree by successfully completing a minimum of 60 credits with a minimum 2.00 cumulative University of Wisconsin Whitewater GPA. Fifteen of the 60 credits must be University of Wisconsin Whitewater coursework. Application for the associate must be made no later than two years after the last term of attendance. An associate degree cannot be received at the same time as a baccalaureate degree or subsequent to the awarding of a baccalaureate degree.
Bachelor's degree	Students may earn a Bachelor's degree by satisfactorily completing a minimum of 120 undergraduate units in courses numbered 100 through 400, including all university requirements, degree requirements, and departmental requirements. A minimum GPA of 2.0 or better on a 4.0 system, both overall and in the major and minor fields (if applicable) is required (certain programs require GPAs higher than 2.0).
Carnegie classification	A framework for classifying colleges and universities in the United States. The framework primarily serves educational and research purposes, where it is often important to identify groups of roughly comparable institutions. UW-Whitewater is currently classified as *Master's Colleges and Universities: Larger programs;* larger programs are those that awarded at least 200 masters-level degrees. UW-W is not classified as a Doctoral University due to currently awarding fewer than 20 doctorates.
Census date	The State of Wisconsin's official enrollment census date is the 10th day of classes.
Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes	A taxonomic coding scheme for secondary and postsecondary instructional programs intended to facilitate the organization, collection, and reporting of program data using classifications that capture the majority of reportable data. The CIP is the accepted federal government statistical standard on instructional program classifications and is used in a variety of education information surveys and databases.

IRAP Glossary

Glossary Term	Definition
Cohort	A group of students who share a common characteristic or experience within a defined time period. For IRAP reports, cohorts consist of full-time first-year or full-time transfer students who begin college in a given term.
Combination re-entry/transfer student	An undergraduate student who previously enrolled at UW-Whitewater, left for one or more terms (other than Summer term), earned transferable credits from another institution of higher education, and has re-enrolled at UW-Whitewater. See *Entrance status* .
Common data set (CDS)	A set of clearly-defined data items developed through a collaboration between publishers and higher education. These items are used to share standard information about a college or university, with emphasis on undergraduate education. The CDS includes data on admissions, enrollment, retention, classes, activities, policies and costs.
Continuing student	A student who is continuing from a previous term at the same program level. See *Entrance status* .
Cost Center	The lowest level, where financial transactions are recorded. This level is typically the smallest financial or operational unit in a hierarchy, generally identifies a university department. Typically, a cost center has a budget, employees and on-going expenses assigned to it.
Cost Center Hierarchy	A group of cost centers in a tree structure that represent specific areas of cost incurrence from a controlling perspective.
Courseload	Refers to the full-time or part-time status of an enrolled student based on the total number of course credits for which he or she is enrolled. Full-time status is 12 or more credits for undergraduates and 9 or more credits for graduates.
Degrees awarded	The number of degrees awarded during the 12-month time period beginning July 1 of the previous calendar year and ending June 30 of the current calendar year.
Degree seeking	A student enrolled in courses for credit and who are recognized by the institution as seeking a degree or other formal award.
DFW(I)	Final course grades of D, F, withdrawn (W), or incomplete (I).
Direct Admit	An initiative by the Universities of Wisconsin to proactively offer admission to qualifying high school students in between their junior and senior years of high school. Direct admission removes the traditional application process and instead uses data provided by the high school to admit students to universities.
Doctoral degree (DBA)	UW-Whitewater offers a Doctorate of Business Administration (DBA) degree which is a 60 credit program offered using a cohort model where students attend classes one weekend each month for two years, followed by a year of dissertation work.
Education Specialist (EdS)	A School Psychology post-baccalaureate degree program composed of approved units beyond the Master's degree consisting of 700-level coursework in school psychology and education.

IRAP Glossary

Glossary Term	Definition
Employee-in-training	A university employee acquiring additional training or experience in their field of specialization, in such titles as Postdoctoral Fellow and Postgraduate Trainee. All appointments in these titles are fixed-term.
Entrance status	The entrance, or continuing, status of the student when he/she entered the institution in a particular term (see individual entries for entrance status definitions of New, Re-entry, Continuing, and Transfer student).
Equity gap	See *Achievement gap.*
Ethnicity	Categories developed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) that are used to describe groups to which individuals belong, with which they identify or belong in the eyes of the community. The categories do not denote scientific definitions of anthropological origins. The designations are used to categorize U.S. citizens, resident aliens, and other eligible non-citizens. The U.S. Department of Education has provided these definitions: • Hispanic or Latino(a): A person of Cuban, Mexican, Puerto Rican, South or Central American or other Spanish culture or origin, regardless of race. • American Indian or Alaska Native: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of North and South America (including Central America) who maintains cultural identification through tribal affiliation or community attachment. • Asian: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of the Far East, Southeast Asia, or the Indian Subcontinent, including, for example, Cambodia, China, India, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, the Philippine Islands, Thailand and Vietnam. • Black or African American: A person having origins in any of the black racial groups of Africa. • Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Hawaii, Guam, Samoa or other Pacific Islands. • White: A person having origins in any of the original peoples of Europe, the Middle East, or North Africa. • Nonresident alien: A person who is not a citizen or national of the United States and who is in this country on a visa or temporary basis and does not have the right to remain indefinitely. • Unknown: The category used to report students or employees whose race and ethnicity are not known.
Faculty	A university employee who holds the rank of professor, associate professor, assistant professor, or instructor in an academic department or its functional equivalent in an institution, and such academic staff as may be designated by the chancellor and faculty of the institution.
Federal (un)subsidized loan	A loan intended for eligible students to help cover the cost of higher education. The Department of Education offers eligible students at participating schools Direct Subsidized Loans and Direct Unsubsidized Loans (also known as Stafford Loans). Subsidized loans are available to undergraduate students with financial need; the Department of Education pays the interest on a subsidized loan while a student attends school. Unsubsidized loans are available to all students, regardless of financial need.
First-generation student	An undergraduate student neither of whose parents have earned a four-year college/university degree.

IRAP Glossary

Glossary Term	Definition
First-time, first-year student	A student who has no prior postsecondary experience attending any institution for the first time at the undergraduate level. This includes students enrolled in academic or occupational programs. It also includes students enrolled in the fall term who attended college for the first time in the prior summer term, and students who entered with advanced standing (i.e. through college credits earned before graduation from high school).
Freshman	A student who has completed 0-23.9 credits.
Full-time equivalent (FTE) employee	Full-time equivalent (FTE) for employees is the amount of hours budgeted for a position. A position budgeted for 80 hours in a bi-weekly pay period would be 1 FTE; a position budgeted for 40 hours in a bi-weekly pay period would be .5 FTE.
Full-time equivalent (FTE) student	A measurement equal to one student enrolled full-time for one academic year. Total FTE enrollment includes full-time enrollment plus the calculated equivalent of the part-time enrollment. The full-time equivalent of the part-time students can be estimated using different factors, depending on the type of institution and level of student. A common definition of FTE enrollment includes all full-time students plus one-third of the total number of part-time students (IPEDS definition), but FTE calculations can also be based on credit hours taken. UW System calculates FTE as the sum of credits divided by 15 for undergraduate students and 12 for graduate students.
Full-time student	An enrollment category based on a student's credit load. Generally, this refers to an undergraduate student enrolled for 12 or more credits or a graduate student enrolled in 9 or more credits in a semester during the academic year.
Gender	UW-System indication of the gender of a student in the following categories: female, intersex, male.
Graduate assistant	A graduate student employed to assist with research, training or other academic programs or projects, holds an appointment which is intended primarily to further the education and training of the student.
Graduation rate	The percentage of students in a given cohort who graduate within a specified period of time. Four years and six years of time is the typical standard for measuring a first-time, full-time cohort’s graduation rate.
Graduate student	A student seeking a Master's degree, Education Specialist degree (EdS), or Doctorate of Business Administration (DBA) who has been admitted as a graduate student for the purpose of taking classes for enrichment.
Headcount (unduplicated)	The sum of students enrolled for credit, with each student counted only once during the reporting period, regardless of when the student enrolled.
Home institution model	Although students may take courses at both of the Whitewater and Rock County campuses, their home campus is determined by their academic program.
Instructional academic staff	Academic staff members with teaching responsibilities.

IRAP Glossary

Glossary Term	Definition
International (nonresident alien) student	See *Ethnicity.*
IPEDS	IPEDS (Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System) is a database managed by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) per congressional mandate. IPEDS gathers information from every college, university and technical and vocational institution that participates in the federal student financial aid programs. The Higher Education Act of 1965 (as amended) requires that institutions that participate in federal student aid programs report data on enrollments, program completions, graduation rates, faculty and staff, finances, institutional prices and student financial aid. These data are made available to students and parents through the College Navigator website and to researchers and others through the IPEDS Data Center.
Junior	A student who has completed 60-89.9 credits.
Limited appointment employee	A university employee who “serves at the pleasure of the authorized official who made the appointment.” Positions assigned to the following titles are required to be filled by limited appointees: President, Provost, Vice President, Associate Vice President, Assistant Vice President, Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Associate Chancellor, Assistant Chancellor, or Associate Vice Chancellor. Positions assigned to other academic staff titles may also be designated as "at will" and filled by limited appointees.
Low-income student	A student who received a Federal Pell Grant in their first year of enrollment.
Major	The subject or field of study in which a student specializes. For example, students planning to specialize in mathematics will major in that field. Students choosing to specialize in two subjects have a double major.
Master's degree	An award that requires the successful completion of a program of study of at least the full-time equivalent of one but not more than two academic years of work beyond the bachelor's degree.
Midwest Student Exchange Program (MSEP)	A program of the Midwestern Higher Education Compact. This program allows undergraduate and graduate students from participating states - including Indiana, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio and Wisconsin - to attend colleges or universities in other participating states at a tuition of no more than 150 percent of resident tuition.
Minnesota Reciprocity	An agreement that allows Minnesota and Wisconsin residents to attend higher education institutions in either state without having to pay nonresident tuition. The agreement is negotiated and administered jointly by the Minnesota Office of Higher Education (MOHE) and the Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB). In Wisconsin, the agreement is subject to legislative approval by the Joint Committee on Finance.
Minor	A field of secondary emphasis. The total number of units required in the minor field is less than that required for the major.
New First-Year Class	The incoming class of first-time students who begin their academic career in the Fall semester of a particular academic year.

IRAP Glossary

Glossary Term	Definition
New Freshman Class	See *New First-Year Class*
New student	A student who has no coursework in higher education acceptable for transfer (other than credits earned in summer session or high school). The student is considered a new student if s/he is new to higher education, not just new to the Extended Degree Program (EDP). Prior learning credits do not qualify as acceptable for transfer course work and therefore do not alter a student's entrance status (i.e., a student can have prior learning credits and can still be considered a new student). See *Entrance status.*
Non-Degree Seeking	A student enrolled in courses for credit who is not recognized by the institution as seeking a degree or formal award.
Non-Domestic	A student with a permanent address outside the United States. This includes international students and US citizens living abroad.
Nonresident	The determination of in-state versus out-of-state residency for the purposes of assessing tuition and fees. A nonresident is a student who does not meet eligibility requirements for residency in Wisconsin for tuition purposes, outlined in Wisconsin Statute 36.27.
Nontraditional student	An undergraduate student who is 25 years of age or older.
Non-Underrepresented Minority (Non-URM)	See *Underrepresented Minority (URM).*
Office of Policy Analysis and Research (OPAR)	Universities of Wisconsin Administration's Office of Policy Analysis and Research.
Part-time student	An enrollment category based on a student's credit load. Generally, this refers to an undergraduate student enrolled for less than 12 credits or a graduate student enrolled for less than 9 credits in a particular semester during the academic year.
Pell Grant	A federal grant awarded to undergraduate students based on financial need.
Persistence rate	The percentage of students who remain enrolled in a given time period. IRAP's reporting demonstrates the percentage of students who remain enrolled Term-to-Term (Fall-to-Spring or Spring-to-Fall).
Race/ethnicity	See *Ethnicity.*
Re-entry student	A student who was enrolled at UW-Whitewater, left for one or more terms (other than Summer session), and returned. In the case of undergraduates, a student who did not earn transferable credits from another institution (other than Summer session) while away from UW-Whitewater, and has re-enrolled at UW-Whitewater. See *Entrance status* .

IRAP Glossary

Glossary Term	Definition
Remedial	The UW System requires students who have been identified as being under-prepared in the areas of Math or English to take remedial coursework. The individual UW institutions determine how those required remedial classes are offered and oversee the specific curriculum, standards, and method of instruction, associated with them.
Resident status	The determination of in-state versus out-of-state residency for the purposes of assessing tuition and fees. A student who graduated from a Wisconsin high school or has one or both parents living continuously as bona fide residents in Wisconsin for at least twelve months prior to the beginning in which the student is enrolled is classified as a resident of Wisconsin.
Retention rate	The percentage of students who remain enrolled in a given time period. IRAP's retention reports demonstrate the percentage of students who remain enrolled Year-to-Year (Fall-to-Fall or Spring-to-Spring).
Return to Wisconsin program	A program that offers non-residents a 25% discount on out-of-state tuition, provided a parent, guardian, or grandparent had previously graduated from UW-Whitewater.
Rock County Campus	In 2018, the University of Wisconsin System restructured the state's 13 two-year campuses formerly known as UW Colleges to be joined as branch campuses with seven of the four-year campuses. As a result, UW-Rock County became University of Wisconsin - Whitewater at Rock County. Rock County Campus is used to differentiate between the Rock County and Whitewater Campuses.
Segregated fees	Charges, in addition to instructional fees, assessed to all students for student services, activities, programs and facilities that support the mission of University of Wisconsin System institutions.
Senior	A student who has completed 90 or more credits.
Sophomore	A student who has completed 24-59.9 credits.
STEM	An acronym that refers to the academic disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. At UW-Whitewater, the following majors qualify as STEM disciplines: biology (CIP code 26), chemistry (CIP code 40), computer science (CIP code 11), environmental science (CIP code 03), mathematics (CIP code 27), and physics (CIP code 40). This selection corresponds to the CIP code areas considered by UW System to comprise the STEM fields: Agricultural Sciences (01.0308, 01.09, 01.10, 01.11, 01.12), Natural Resources and Conservation (03), Computer Science and Info Systems (11), Engineering (14), Engineering Technology (15), Life/Biological Science (26), Mathematics and Statistics (27), Physical Science (40), Multi/Interdisciplinary Studies (30.27) and Health (51).

IRAP Glossary

Glossary Term	Definition
Student assistant employee	A student who receives a wage for providing part-time and/or temporary administrative, clerical, laborer, technical, or other general support to administrators, faculty, and staff of UW-Whitewater. This employment category within the University Personnel System is comprised of both graduate and undergraduate students. Graduate student assistant employees may: • hold a fellowship, scholarship, or traineeship; • hold an appointment which is intended primarily to further the education and training of the student; • are employed to assist with research, training, or other academic programs or projects; and/or • have been assigned teaching responsibilities in an instructional department under the supervision of a faculty member. Undergraduate student assistant employees are only employed when: • no qualified graduate student is available to perform a function that would normally be assigned to graduate student assistants and/or the terms of a supporting grant or contract preclude the use of other normally appropriate titles.
Student help	See *Student assistant employee* .
Student-to-faculty ratio	A ratio calculated using a formula provided by the Common Data Set (CDS), which takes into account both full-time and part-time student counts, both full-time and part-time faculty counts, and the percentage of faculty who have predominately instructional responsibilities.
Study abroad	See *Study away.*
Study away	A student studying in another country and/or through a cooperative agreement with another institution in the United States. These students are often excluded from total enrollment counts.
Summer term	A twelve-week session between Spring and Fall Semesters that include courses in three, six, nine, or 12-week increments.
Tenure	A permanent job contract, granted to faculty after a probationary period of several years. A faculty member who is eligible for tenure, but has not yet been granted tenure status, is considered to be in a tenure-track appointment.
Transfer/Re-entry	See *Combination re-entry/transfer student.*
Transfer student	An undergraduate student transferring credits from another institution of higher education (other than credits earned during Summer term or while enrolled in high school) who has not previously enrolled at UW-Whitewater. See *Entrance status* .
Tuition	The price of instruction at UW-Whitewater, which varies according to a student's resident status. See *Resident status.* Tuition does not include segregated fees, or the cost of room and board, textbooks, or other expenses associated with attending university.
University staff project appointment (USPA)	A university staff appointment of up to four years; the need is project-based and there is an established probable date of termination.

IRAP Glossary

Glossary Term	Definition
University staff temporary appointment (USTA)	A university staff appointment of less than 1,040 hours within a twelve-month period; the need for the position/duties is temporary in nature.
Undergraduate student	A student seeking an Associate or Bachelor's degree or who has been admitted as an undergraduate student for the purpose of taking classes.
Underrepresented Minority (URM)	URM status refers to students with a Race/Ethnicity of African American/Black, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Hispanic/Latino(a), and Southeast Asian, either alone or as one of 'Two or More Race/Ethnicities'. Non-URM status refers to students with a Race/Ethnicity of Other Asian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, White/Caucasian, Unknown, and students who have identified as 'Two or More Race/Ethnicities' (none of which are on the URM list).
University staff	University employee positions are quite varied and duties include, but are not limited to, administrative support, information technology, accounting, engineering, in addition to custodial, food service, and crafts workers. University staff appointments may also be made on a temporary or project basis (see *University staff temporary appointment* and *University staff project appointment*).
UWA	Universities of Wisconsin Administration.
UWSA	See *UWA* .
Veteran	A current member of the U.S. military or former member who was honorably discharged. There is no requirement for active duty or a minimum number of days that the student must have served to be considered a veteran.
Veteran Choice Act	Requires that certain eligible non-resident U.S. veterans and other eligible benefit recipients be charged the same tuition as Wisconsin residents pursuing the same course or program.
Whitewater Campus	In 2018, the University of Wisconsin System restructured the state's 13 two-year campuses formerly known as UW Colleges to be joined as branch campuses with seven of the four-year campuses. As a result, UW-Rock County became University of Wisconsin - Whitewater at Rock County. Whitewater Campus is used to differentiate between the Rock County and Whitewater Campuses.
Winterim term	A three-week session held between the Fall and Spring terms designed to help students keep on track for graduation. It features sections of courses that tend to fill up quickly during the academic year.
Wisconsin Resident Special Student (OASDI)	A student classification that applies to Wisconsin resident students receiving federal old age, survivors, and/or disability insurance benefits (OASDI) who are exclusively auditing courses.
Wisconsin Resident Special Student (Age 60 and over)	A student classification that applies to Wisconsin resident students age 60 or over who are exclusively auditing courses.

IRAP Glossary

Glossary Term	Definition
Yield rate	The percentage of students that have applied to and been accepted by UW-Whitewater, who then choose to enroll at UW-Whitewater (calculated as the number of students matriculated divided by the number of students offered admission).