

GUIDELINES
ADVANCED OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-WHITewater
2018-2019

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 who are considered disadvantaged must have a financial need and meet one of the following criteria:
 - a) Come from a family that receive any type of public assistance, including eligibility for school lunch program;
 - b) Are first generation college students;
 - c) 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. **Must be admitted into a graduate degree program and enrolled in graduate level courses at UW-Whitewater. *Non-Candidates for degree who applied and were denied Admission to a graduate program due to GPA issues are NOT Eligible for AOP.**
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 30, 2018** for priority consideration.

D. SELECTION:

The selection of recipients among eligible applicants is prioritized by:

1. Continuing UW-Whitewater students previously awarded 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. Demonstrates financial needs as determined by Federal and State guidelines
4. UW-Whitewater does not provide funding for Ph.D

The following criteria will be used to rank applicants:

1. *Application Date Stamp*
2. *Admission to graduate school.*
3. *FAFSA completion*

E. TERMS FOR THE ADVANCED OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM GRANT:

1. 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 and Winter awards not available.*
5. **Please be advised AOP funds will only pay the standard tuition and fees. Students who take online courses are responsible for the difference.**
6. AOP Recipients are expected to notify the selection committee if receiving tuition reimbursement or other sources of funding for tuition.
7. AOP funding is limited to a maximum of 8 full-time equivalent semesters contingent upon funding.
8. **Proof of submission of Federal Application for Financial Student Aid (FAFSA) must be done to be considered for AOP funding.*

F. NOTIFICATION:

Applicants should be notified by ending of August 2018. Financial Aid disbursement of funds should occur first week of September. This will be posted on your Student Accounts.

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. 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 30, 2018

FOR APPLICATIONS AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

To receive the Graduate application for Admissions contact:

School of Graduate Studies, Dean Graduate Studies
2015 Roseman Hall
800 W. Main Street
Whitewater, Wisconsin 53190
(262) 472-1006

To receive an AOP application contact:

Student Diversity, Engagement & Success
226 McCutchan Hall
800 W. Main Street
Whitewater, Wisconsin 53190
(262) 472-4985
(262)472-1659 (fax)

**APPLICATION
ADVANCED OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-WHITewater
2018-2019**

Application Information

- A. Admission to Graduate School: Each applicant for a scholarship or grant 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 30, 2018**
- D. **Notification of AOP Awards:** Applicants will be notified concerning the award by **Aug. 2018**

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 30, 2018**. Call (262) 472-4985 if you have questions or need additional information.

1. I am applying for ____ Academic Year 2018-19 ____ 1st Semester Only ____ 2nd Semester Only
2. Name _____ ID# _____ Date _____
3. Permanent Address _____
Street and Number, Box #
City
State
Zip
4. Telephone Number _____ Date of Birth _____
5. Place 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. Extra-Curricular Participation in College _____

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

16. Whitewater Address/Email: _____ Phone _____

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

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

19. References:
Name _____ Phone _____
Name _____ Phone _____
Name _____ Phone _____

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

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

22. I plan to do graduate work in:
- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| ____ Accounting (M.P.A.) | ____ Environmental Safety & Health (M.S.) |
| ____ Business Administration (M.B.A.) | ____ Professional Development (M.S.E.) |
| ____ Business and Marketing Education (MS) | ____ School Business Management (M.S.E.) |
| ____ Communication (M.S.) | ____ School Psychology (M.S.E.)/Education Specialist (Ed.S.) |
| ____ Communication Sciences and Disorders (MS) | ____ Social Work (M.S.W.) |
| ____ Computer Science (M.S.) | ____ Special Education (M.S.E.) |
| ____ Counseling (M.S.) | |
| ____ Educational Leadership & Policy Analysis(M.S.) | |
- (This is a degree awarded by Madison, but students can take courses on Whitewater's campus as a non-candidate for degree student)

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

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

25. **ETHNICITY:** (please check one) _____ Southeast Asian (Cambodian, Laotian, Vietnamese)
____ African American ____ Latino ____ Native American/Alaskan Native ____ Other