



## Scholarship Checklist for New Freshman Students

Western Illinois University  
[wiu.edu/scholarshipoffice](http://wiu.edu/scholarshipoffice)

- ☐ Accepted at WIU? Then you were automatically considered for the [Western Commitment Scholarship](#), which is renewable up to four years!
- ☐ **But don't forget – all other WIU scholarships require additional application.** Beginning at the end of October you can apply for our new freshman scholarship opportunities using the [WIU Scholarship Portal](#).
  - One general scholarship application for most new freshman scholarships.
  - Login using your [WIU ECOM username](#) and password.
  - 4.0+ GPA should submit by **DECEMBER 15** for President's Scholarship consideration. Separate application is required for President's Scholarship.
  - All other new freshman scholarship applications due by **MARCH 1**.
- ☐ **File your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid).** Scholarships and financial aid go hand in hand – students should complete their FAFSA as soon as possible after October 1 at [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). Have questions? Contact the WIU Financial Aid Office for assistance or to schedule an appointment!
- ☐ **Seek out local scholarship opportunities** through community organizations, employers, etc.
- ☐ **Search for private scholarship opportunities** – get started by using our [Private Scholarships](#) postings.
  - Use reputable online scholarship searches like [FastWeb](#) and [Collegellinois!](#).
  - Pay attention to deadlines and requirements!
- ☐ If you are awarded a scholarship, you will be expected to complete a scholarship recipient profile. Additional details about this profile and process will be sent to you in an email during the fall semester.

### Now That You're Enrolled...

- ☐ **After registering for classes, calculate your expected charges** using the [WIU Cost Estimator](#).
  - The first bills of the semester are sent during the first week of August and January.
  - Most scholarships will display on your first billing statement. Monitor your day-to-day university account activity on [STARS](#) by selecting *Financials > Account Detail* and clicking "Account Details".
- ☐ Complete the [Direct Deposit Authorization](#) on STARS if you anticipate a financial aid refund.
- ☐ **Need to submit a scholarship check?** Checks should be sent to or dropped off at the WIU Scholarship Office, Sherman Hall 303, 1 University Circle, Macomb, IL 61455 (M-F, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm).

Scholarship Office  
Sherman Hall 303  
Phone: (309) 298-2001  
[SC-Office@wiu.edu](mailto:SC-Office@wiu.edu)