



## UW Academy for Young Scholars

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# UW Academy Application Guide

*Dear UW Academy Applicant,  
We know that the Academy application can seem daunting. This guide is an effort to clarify the process. Please read it closely, and feel free to contact us with questions.*

*Sincerely,  
The UW Academy Admissions Team*

## UW Academy Contact Information

### Mailing Address

Robinson Center for Young Scholars  
UW Box 351630, Guthrie Annex 2  
Seattle, WA, 98195

*Please send application materials ATTN: UW Academy Application*

**Website:** [depts.washington.edu/cscy](https://depts.washington.edu/cscy)

**Email:** [uwacad@u.washington.edu](mailto:uwacad@u.washington.edu)

**Phone:** (206) 543-4160

## The Application

### Submitting Your Application

Visit the UW Academy section of the Robinson Center website for current application deadlines and announcements. The UW Academy has a different application timeline than the UW and the Honors Program. Note that there is currently no online submission infrastructure for the UW Academy. As such, all application components must be submitted in hard copy to the UW Academy at the Robinson Center for Young Scholars. Please do not submit your application directly to UW Admissions.

### Application Checklist

1. UW Freshman Application (3 copies total)
2. Application Fee



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3. Official High School Transcript
4. Student Score report from the ACT with Writing OR SAT Reasoning Test  
*Please have your ACT or SAT scores sent to the Washington Search for Young Scholars [school code 9899 for both the ACT and SAT] and the UW [4484 for the ACT and 4854 for the SAT].*
5. Two Teacher Recommendations
6. Honors Program Essay (3 copies total)
7. Personal Statement (3 copies total)
8. Activities Log (3 copies total)
9. Applicant Information Form

### UW Freshman Application

Download the UW Freshman Application and Application Instructions from the UW Admissions website ([admit.washington.edu/Apply/Freshman/Apply/PDF](http://admit.washington.edu/Apply/Freshman/Apply/PDF)). **Do not submit your application online to UW Admissions or create an account.** Instead, choose the "download a pdf" option, print the application form, and fill it out in pen or with a typewriter. Photocopy your complete application, and include three copies total (including the original) in your UW Academy application. The UW Freshman Application and Instructions are meant for graduating seniors, making some parts tricky for UW Academy applicants. Here are instructions for application fields that have troubled our applicants in the past.

#### ***Educational Objectives Section***

- EO-1: Mark "First-time Freshman"
- EO-2: Mark "Autumn 2009"
- Majors/Minors questions: This information is non-binding for students. The UW uses it for research purposes and for early admission to certain majors.

#### ***Educational Background Section***

- DC-2: Even if you are currently in an IB Diploma program, mark "No".
- DC-3 & 4: Check the options you would pursue junior and senior years if you do not join the UW Academy.



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### ***Schools & Colleges Attended Section***

- SC-1: Mark "No" and for highest grade completed put "10<sup>th</sup> grade"

### ***Core Subject Course Work Section***

- Fill out only the 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, & 10<sup>th</sup> grade years. Total through 10<sup>th</sup> grade.

### ***Applying to the UW Honors Program***

- See page 5 of the UW Freshman Application Instructions for information about applying to Honors.
- UW Academy applicants complete the Honors Program essay; they do not submit the Honors Program teacher letter of recommendation.
- Please remember that Academy applicants follow a different application timeline than traditional Honors applicants. Academy applicants are considered for merit-based Honors Program scholarships.

### ***Writing Section***

- See page 12 of the UW Freshman Application Instructions for information about the Writing Section.
- UW Academy applicants complete only the personal statement (Part A) and activities log (Part C).

## **Application Fee**

Please include with your application a \$50 check or money order payable to the University of Washington. The application fee is nonrefundable. Fee waivers are available for students with demonstrated financial need. Email the UW Academy to request a fee waiver.

## **Official High School Transcript**

Your official high school transcript must include your final grades for the first semester of your 10<sup>th</sup> grade year. Only official transcripts in sealed envelopes will be accepted. If you have attended more than one high school or community colleges during 9th and 10th grade, please submit official transcripts from each institution.



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### **Teacher Recommendations**

Please submit two recommendations from teachers of your core academic subjects: English, math, history, science, or foreign language. Your recommenders must represent different core academic subjects. We are looking for recommendations from instructors who can speak to your academic accomplishments, practices, and potential. We will not consider more than two recommendations. Download the academic recommendation form from our website. Only sealed and signed recommendations will be considered.

### **ACT or SAT Student Score Report**

Academy applicants may take either the ACT plus Writing exam or the SAT Reasoning Test. Check the ACT website ([actstudent.org](http://actstudent.org)) or the SAT portion of the College Board website ([collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/about.html](http://collegeboard.com/student/testing/sat/about.html)) for testing schedules and registration information. Please have your ACT or SAT scores sent to the Washington Search for Young Scholars school code (9899 for both the ACT and the SAT) and the UW (4484 for the ACT and 4854 for the SAT). Please include with your application a copy of your student score report; you may access your score report from the ACT or SAT websites a few weeks after you take the test.

### **Honors Program Essay**

For this year's Honors Program essay prompts and guidelines for writing the essay, see the "Applying to the Honors Program" section of the UW Freshman Application Instructions. For tips on writing the Honors essay, see the UW Honors Program website (<http://depts.washington.edu/uwhonors/apply/>). Please submit three copies. Your full name should be in the header of each page.

### **Personal Statement**

See the "Writing Section" in the UW Freshman Application Handbook for instructions and prompts. The personal statement is an opportunity for you to tell us about yourself, your experiences, and your goals. Please submit three copies. Your full name should be in the header of each page.

### **Activities Log**

For instructions, see the "Writing Section" in the UW Freshman Application Handbook. Please submit three copies. Your full name should be in the header of each page.



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### **Applicant Information Form**

Download the information form from our website. We will use this information to contact you throughout the admission process. We expect applicants to check email DAILY as it is be our primary form of communication with them. Personal information is used to individualize programming for admitted applicants; it has no bearing on admission decisions.

### **After You Apply**

#### **Academy Admission Decisions**

Within one week of the application deadline applicants will be notified by email that their complete application has been received. Decision letters will be mailed approximately one month after the application deadline; check our website for this year's mailing date. Please note that due to the volume of applications, we are unable to speak with applicants about the standing of applications during the admissions process.

Up to thirty-five students are accepted into the UW Academy annually. Several applicants are offered a spot on a waitlist. Before making their decision about whether to join the UW Academy, accepted students attend Academy Experience events. During this time, accepted students spend a partial day with current UW Academy students touring the Robinson Center and Honors Program, speaking with UW Academy staff, and visiting a UW class. Accepted students and families also attend an information meeting with Academy staff. The UW Academy cohort is usually set by the end of May.

#### **Summer & Fall Programming**

New UW Academy students have their first advising appointment with the Robinson Center's Academic Counselor in June. They attend a UW Advising & Orientation session in late June or early July where they register for classes and learn more about the UW Honors Program requirements. At the conclusion of tenth grade, UW Academy students withdraw from high school, enrolling as fulltime freshmen in the UW Honors Program.

In September, typically one-two weeks before UW classes begin, Academy students begin Academy Bridge. Academy Bridge is comprised of Academy Camp and workshops on campus with Academy staff and students covering topics such



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as: study strategies and campus resources; making connections on campus; being a minor on campus; computing; and building relationships with professors.

During fall quarter, students take two required courses with their Academy peers. Academy courses include a seminar and a linked writing course. Both courses were developed specifically for Academy students and are taught by professors who understand Academy students' unique characteristics and needs.

All Academy advising and summer - fall programming is mandatory for incoming UW Academy students.

### **Living in the Residence Halls**

Each year, a handful of first year UW Academy students choose to live in the residence halls. Students are eligible to apply once they have accepted the UW Academy's offer of admission and filed the necessary paperwork with the UW. See the UW Housing and Food Services website for info about on-campus living ([hfs.washington.edu/student\\_housing/residence\\_halls.aspx](https://hfs.washington.edu/student_housing/residence_halls.aspx)).

### **Paying for University**

With a few exceptions, UW Academy students pay in-state tuition. We encourage students to submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). The FAFSA is used to determine students' eligibility for federal, state, and UW need-based scholarships, including the UW's Husky Promise award. Please check the FAFSA website for deadlines, forms, and instructions ([fafsa.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov)). Along with other incoming UW students, UW Academy students are considered for a small number of UW merit-based scholarships; a separate application is not necessary for these awards. We encourage students to apply for local and national scholarships (e.g. NASA Space Grant and National Merit). Applying for these awards necessitates advance planning as the deadlines are often in the winter. We supply a letter explaining the Academy and its application process for students to submit along with their applications for local and national scholarships. Email us at [uwacad@u.washington.edu](mailto:uwacad@u.washington.edu) to request a letter.

See the UW Admissions website ([admit.washington.edu/Paying/Freshman](https://admit.washington.edu/Paying/Freshman)) and Undergraduate Scholarship Office website for more information about financing your education ([washington.edu/students/ugrad/scholar/students/index.shtml](https://washington.edu/students/ugrad/scholar/students/index.shtml)).



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### **Continued Involvement in High School Activities**

During freshman year, some UW Academy students continue to participate in extracurricular activities at their high schools, including sports and music. Students may not enroll in high school courses, and their university schedules must take priority over extracurricular activities.