

FEBRUARY ONE-LINER 2025

News You Can Use

Graduation Items

Jostens will be here on February 25, 2025, to distribute cap, gown and other graduation orders.

Graduation (cap & gown) pictures are on March 5, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.

UW Campus Updates:

UW-Madison Early Action Release

UW-Madison released their Early Action decisions on January 29, 2025. Applicants who received a defer decision are neither admitted nor denied, however, if you were deferred, you must update your application by self-reporting your mid-year grades no later than Wednesday, February 15, 2025. You should do this through your MyUW portal.

Campus Housing – Freshman who have been accepted for admission are prompted to pay the enrollment deposit. Upon receipt of that, campus housing will be sent. Residence halls at the UW Colleges have been at or near capacity for the past several years and 2025-26 will be no exception. Students are encouraged to apply now.

Postponed Acceptance/Wait List – Students whose applications were postponed are encouraged to provide updated transcripts, ACT scores, and letters of recommendation. If students on the wait list have done nothing, this will be noted.

Scholarship Applications – Scholarship applications are typically available online. The deadline to apply for freshman scholarships is anywhere from December 1 to February 1. Check the deadlines at your college of choice.

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLACEMENT TESTING PROGRAM

Which math, English, and foreign language courses can you take your first year of college? For most UW System schools, you'll need to take placement tests to find out. Incoming freshmen typically take them through the [Regional Testing Program](#) a few months before starting college.

You'll need to [register](#) for your placement test dates ahead of time. **Registration opens in February**, and tests take place in spring and summer. If you're unable to take them during the times offered, contact the campus you plan to attend. Your admissions letter should state who to contact in this situation and list which tests you need to take.

You can find information on the Regional Placement website: testing.wisc.edu/centerpages/regionaltesting.html. You will see which sites are open & get immediate confirmation that can be printed on the spot. No confirmation letters will be mailed to you so be sure to print the confirmation information when you register.

UW Videos on You Tube: UW HELP presentations on Budgeting & Financial Aide as well as Application demos are available to watch on UW HELP You Tube channel. www.youtube.com/user/uwHelp



VISITING SCHOOL CAMPUSES

Four-Year Campus Preview Days – Check online for specialty preview days at all campuses.

SOUTHWEST TECH'S CAMPUS VISIT OPTIONS

Tour & Swag – A one-hour personalized visit with a SWTC staff member. Shadow your program of interest, information session & free t-shirt. Registration is required.

Tour & Lunch – A two-hour personalized visit with a SWTC staff member. Shadow your program of interest, information session & free lunch. Registration is required.

One on One Personal Visit – Shadow your program for a longer period of time; attend one or more classes. Registration is required.



Free ACT Test Prep:

1. Free ACT Prep Workshop – River Ridge High School – 8:00-3:00
2. ACT Academy – go to act.org
3. Preparing for the ACT – This is a booklet that summarizes general test-taking strategies, describes content of each of the tests and informs you of what to expect on test day. It includes an ACT practice test, a sample answer document and scoring instructions.
4. Other Online Options: www.act.org/standard/index.html
www.knowhow2gowisconsin.org



NICC: Ag & Animal Science Preview Day – February 27, 2025

NICC: John Deer TECH Preview Day – March 20, 2025

NICC: Health Sciences Preview Day – April 3, 2025

NICC: Information Technology Preview Day – April 30, 2025

WI American Legion Law Enforcement Career Academy

Are you a junior or senior and interested in a career in law enforcement or related career? This academy is the perfect experience for you. This program is a 5-day camp that offers physical fitness training, classroom instruction & hands on experience.

The academy is scheduled for July 23-27, 2025 at the Wisconsin State Patrol Training Academy at Fort McCoy. There is NO COST for this event. All meals & supplies are furnished.

Applications are due by March 31, 2025

<https://wilegion.org/walleca>



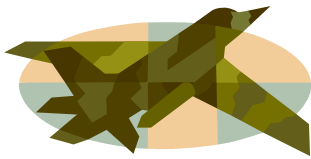
Go to Job Center of Wisconsin - <https://jobcenterofwisconsin.com/>

Cabela's – Hiring part time & seasonal shifts. Starting wage \$15.50 & earn up to \$17.00 per hour. Apply at basspro.com/careers or stop in Ms. Townsend's office for QR code.

Pattison Sand Company – Positions available: Maintenance, Rail Loadout Operators, Mine Laborers, Sand Crushing Line Operators, Entry Level Electricians, Entry Level Heavy Equipment Diesel Mechanics.

Starting wage \$19.50 + an additional \$3.00/hr on night shift. Educational & apprenticeship programs are available.

Apply Online: <http://www.pattisonsand.com/pattison-careers/>



MILITARY INTERESTS

There are many opportunities for training and education through military service. If you are interested in this direction, contact a recruiter in our area and schedule to take the ASVAB (entrance exam for the military).

Prairie du Chien High School is offering the ASVAB on **February 5, 2025.**

Please register with Ms. Townsend.



Financial Aid



Finish up Financial Aid Applications

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

The preferred FAFSA filing date for multiple campuses is approaching. I encourage you to review the deadlines for your specific campus. To review deadlines for all UW campuses, please visit <https://uwhelp.wisconsin.edu/pay-for-college/about-financial-aid/>.

FAFSA Application is Open

Financial Aid offices will email students as soon as their financial aid offer is available. This will be sent to their college email account so it's a great reminder to set that up & check it regularly.

TIPS FOR PARENTS: GETTING FINANCIAL AID FOR COLLEGE

Set up your FSA ID now. Students and parents both need an FSA ID. This is the best thing you can do to be ready to submit as soon as possible.

Know your SAI. SAI stands for Student Aid Index and is the number that drives the need-based financial aid system. You are only eligible for aid (grants, subsidized student loans, work study) if your SAI is less than the cost of attendance. Now is the time to make this calculation so you can decide if you should apply. Unless your SAI is considerably more than the highest cost college on your list, plan to apply for aid. Regardless of the SAI result, if you feel you need assistance, apply and let the college aid office decide if you will receive money.

Use the calculators. Many parents wonder, "How do I figure out my SAI?" SAI calculators are available at www.collegeboard.com and www.finaid.org.

Reach out to the college financial aid counselor. The awarding of aid is a local issue. The SAI you come up with is a good starting point to get a rough idea of need eligibility, but college aid policies can change the calculator SAI by thousands of dollars. On top of this, an aid officer has the authority to use professional judgment to make further changes. Given all that takes place in the campus aid office to affect your SAI, if you have questions or concerns about how much money you will get, contact the college aid counselor.

Don't count yourself out. There is no income cutoff for financial aid. SAI is derived from four main factors: family size, total income, assets, and number of children in college. Moreover, the more expensive a college is, the higher the SAI can be and still qualify for aid. To give you an idea, a family earning \$150,000 with a child attending an in-state public university will probably not qualify for aid. A family earning \$250,000 with two children attending private colleges probably will.

Complete the FAFSA. Believe it or not, completing the FAFSA—is not as bad as it looks. It is done online (www.fafsa.ed.gov) and I would recommend you complete the worksheet before entering your numbers.

Meet the deadlines. Nearly every college has a limited aid budget, and when the dollars run out, they stop giving aid. Late applications stand a good chance of showing up when there is no money left. But here's the good news: There are billions of dollars out there ready to go to students. If you become an educated aid consumer and complete the forms accurately and on time, there is a good chance that you will receive the aid you are eligible for



COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES - All colleges and Universities have a number of scholarship opportunities for new freshman. The applications can be found online at their individual foundation office websites. These scholarships will **not** be listed in your One-Liner so you must seek these out on the internet. Deadlines range from December 1 to February 1.

Southwest Tech Scholarship Information:

There will be no general application process starting this year. They will be working on awarding scholarships based on these guidelines:

2025-2026 Foundation Scholarships Information

To be considered for scholarships for the 2025-2026 academic year, all students must complete a *Student Success Plan*, which includes creating a financial budget. This budget will help you assess your personal income and expenses, including the cost of college, to identify any financial gaps. By doing this, you'll be able to understand what additional support you might need for both personal and educational expenses.

Scholarship Eligibility Requirements:

1. Complete or update your financial budget for the 2025-2026 year with your financial aid advisor.
2. Complete the 2025-2026 FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) or have an approved FAFSA exemption.

Some scholarships have specific eligibility criteria. If you qualify for these scholarships, you will receive an email at your Southwest Tech student email address with details on how to apply for additional funds.

The first round of Student Success Plan reviews start mid-December. SWTC STRONGLY recommends that students check their email regularly as all communication will be via your SWTC email.



Wisconsin Professional Police Association – Deadline: Feb. 3, 2025

Marine Credit Union Scholarship – Deadline: Feb. 9, 2025

Elks Lodge Constitution Contest – Deadline: Feb. 14, 2025

WI State Telecommunications Foundation – Deadline: Feb. 17, 2025

Driven at Heart – Deadline: Feb. 28, 2025

Grant County Emergency Services – Deadline: March 1, 2025

Dubuque Area Society of Women Engineers – Deadline: March 1, 2025

Money Smart Essay Scholarship – Deadline: March 7, 2025

Community First Bank – Deadline: March 14, 2025

Aiden Hoffman & William Neises – Deadline: March 1, 2025

Note: This is a local scholarship for River Ridge graduates

Wisconsin Security Association – Deadline: March 1, 2025

Grant Regional Health Center Foundation – Deadline: March 15, 2025

Grant Regional Health Center Auxiliary – Deadline: March 15, 2025

Gundersen Boscobel Scholarship – Deadline: March 15, 2025

Slaman Family Memorial Nursing Scholarship – Deadline: March 15, 2025

Lancaster Jaycees Regional Scholarship – Deadline: March 31, 2025

WI Elks Association Technical College Scholarship– Deadline: April 1, 2025

Scenic Rivers Energy Cooperative – Deadline: April 7, 2025

New Horizons Supply Cooperative – Deadline: April 11, 2025

Dental Associates of Prairie du Chien – Deadline: April 11, 2025

AB Nicholas Scholarship Foundation – Deadline: April 30, 2025

Wisconsin Towns Association – Deadline: May 23, 2025