

## News You Can Use

### **Graduation Items**

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

## UW Campus Updates:

# 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 <u>Regional Testing Program</u> a few months before starting college.

You'll need to <u>register</u> 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. <u>**UW Videos on You Tube:**</u> 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



*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.



#### **UW-Platteville - STEM Career Exploration Day**

Gives students exposure to the different career opportunities within the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics field. This is a fun, engaging event for students to learn about majors, programs, and opportunities in a variety of STEM fields.

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

UW-Madison School of Pharmacy Open House – March 15, 2025 – 1:00-4:00

**Southwest Health Tours** – An opportunity to learn more about careers in the healthcare field, including direct patient care as well as all the other careers that are needed to support the healthcare industry.

March 11	April 11
March 18	April 18
March 25	April 25
April 1	

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/



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 Terms**

**Aid Package** – a combination of aid (possibly including a scholarship, grant, loan or work) determined by a college financial aid office.

**Student Aid Index (SAI)** – an amount you and your family are expected to contribute toward your education. It is used in determining eligibility for federal student aid.

**Grants –** awards usually based on financial need, which do not require repayment. Grants are available through the federal government, state agencies and educational institutions.

### Colleges Now Required to Help You Calculate Total Costs -

Figuring out just how much college will end up costing isn't as easy as it might seem. There are often unforeseen fees & costs you might not anticipate. However, thanks to a new law, all colleges and universities must now have a net-price calculator on their websites.

The calculator gives you a better idea of the total cost for each individual college. It does so by taking into consideration tuition, fees, room & board, transportation & personal expenses. It will also figure in any aid you anticipate receiving, such as Pell Grants or scholarships.

You can usually find the calculator in the "Admissions" or "Financial Aid" sections of a school's website.

**Financial Aid Questions to Ask Colleges** – Financial aid planning can be intimidating, and you may not know where to turn for answers. Financial aid officers at colleges and universities are there to help. Below is a list of questions that the Associated Colleges of the Midwest suggest families ask:

- 1. What kind of financial assistance does the college offer: need-based, merit-based or both?
- 2. Can the college provide an early estimate of what our financial aid award might be?
- 3. What forms are needed to apply?
- 4. When are financial aid applications due?
- 5. Is there a commitment for financial assistance beyond the first year?
- 6. What if we do not qualify for need-based aid? Are there alternative financing options available?
- 7. What grants, loans and work-study opportunities does the college offer? Are there any we might be eligible for?
- 8. What happens if our family's financial situation changes substantially during the school year?
- 9. When will we be notified about the amount of assistance we can expect?
- 10. Are there payment options available, such as monthly or quarterly?



<u>COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES</u> - 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 <u>not</u> be listed in your One-Liner so you must seek these out on the internet.

## 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:

#### 2025-26 Scholarship Eligibility Requirements:

- 1. Complete or update your financial budget for the 2025-2026 school 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. Check your SWTC email REGULARLY.



Money Smart Essay Scholarship – Deadline: March 7, 2025 Community First Bank – Deadline: March 14, 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 Peoples State Bank Scholarship – Deadline: March 28, 2025 Lancaster Jaycees Regional Scholarship – Deadline: March 31, 2025 River Ridge Local Scholarships – Deadline: April 1, 2025 WI Elks Association Technical College Scholarship – Deadline: April 1, 2025 Wings Over Wisconsin – Deadline: April 1, 2025 Crossing Rivers Health 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 Full Throttle Events Scholarship – Deadline: April 14, 2025 AB Nicholas Scholarship Foundation – Deadline: April 30, 2025 Carrie Crystal Stuckert Memorial Art Scholarship – Deadline: April 30, 2025 Wisconsin Towns Association – Deadline: May 23, 2025 Grieve Law Essay Scholarships – Deadline: June 30, 2025