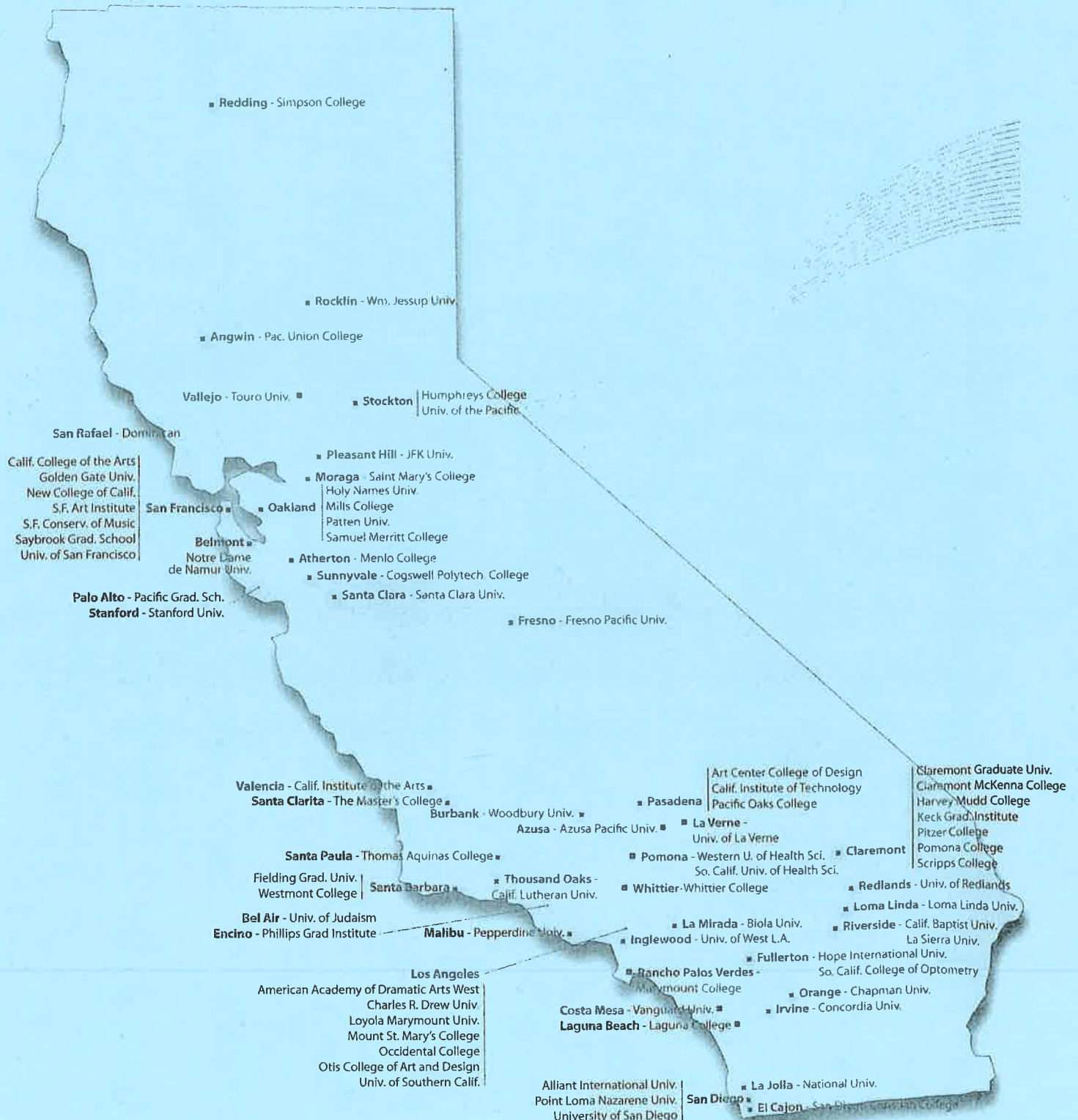


# CALIFORNIA INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

[www.aiccu.edu](http://www.aiccu.edu)



## INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AND OUT-OF-STATE PUBLIC COLLEGES

In addition to the many fine community colleges and universities in California, there are hundreds of independent or private colleges and universities from which to choose. There are seventy-six independent colleges and universities serving over 290,000 students throughout California alone (see map on page 44 for locations and Web site information on page 47). Private colleges and universities are quite diverse in nature, including major research universities, comprehensive universities, small liberal arts colleges, faith-based colleges and universities, and specialized colleges (for example, the arts).

Since these universities do not receive state funding, their "sticker price" is higher than public colleges and universities (averaging \$36,868 per year). However, these institutions have a variety of financial aid programs. Your ability to graduate in four years at a private institution may be greater than at a public institution due to more courses being available to their students. **The average student graduates in 5.3 years at private institutions versus 6.2 years at public four-year schools.**

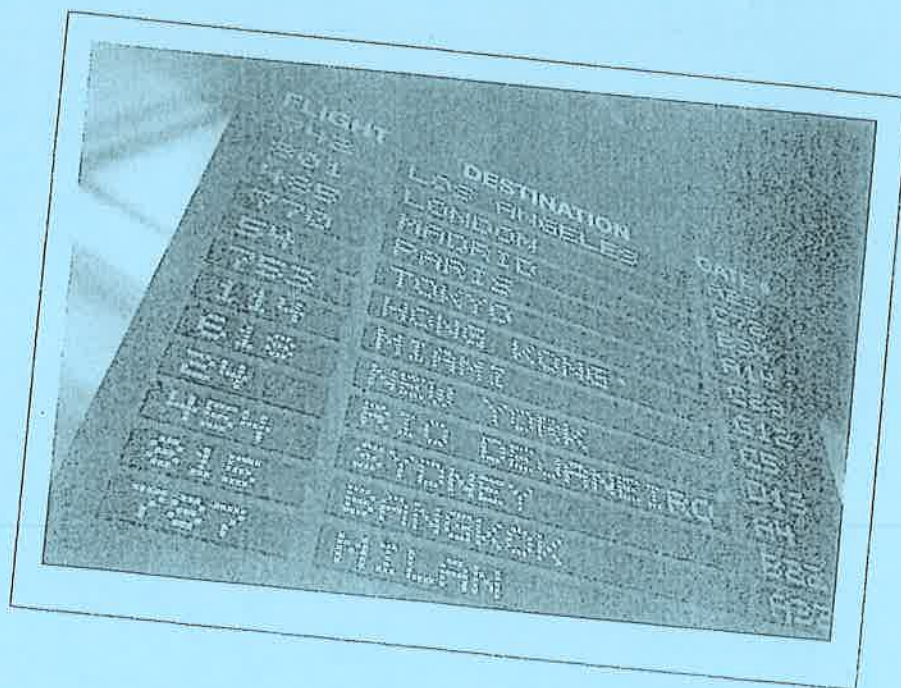
Some independent institutions, such as the Ivy League Schools, Stanford, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and California Institute of Technology, are very selective. Other universities are less selective in nature. **It is very important to research the individual college catalogs and Web sites for specific admission information.** Transfer to many independent colleges is possible after your freshman year at a community college or other institution.

If you have taken a rigorous program in high school including "a-g" requirements, Advanced Placement, honors, and international baccalaureate classes, been involved in leadership roles or athletics, have special interests or talents, solid GPA and SAT or ACT scores, and have strong letters of recommendation, you would likely be a candidate for a good private college or university.

There are also numerous out-of-state public colleges and universities. However, you will be paying out-of-state tuition. Learn more about the [Western Undergraduate Exchange](#) for out of state college options.

## STUDYING ABROAD

In this era of increased globalization, almost a quarter of a million American students study abroad each year. Many American colleges and universities offer study abroad programs. Some programs combine study with travel. Many foreign universities offer programs and courses in English. It is also possible for Americans to pursue an undergraduate degree in a foreign university instead of studying in the U.S. The Institute of International Education provides a good jumping off point to research study abroad (see Web site on page 47).



## Common App has announced the 2021–2022 essay prompts.

Below is the full set of Common App essay prompts for 2021–2022.

1. Some students have a background, identity, interest, or talent that is so meaningful they believe their application would be incomplete without it. If this sounds like you, then please share your story.
2. The lessons we take from obstacles we encounter can be fundamental to later success. Recount a time when you faced a challenge, setback, or failure. How did it affect you, and what did you learn from the experience?
3. Reflect on a time when you questioned or challenged a belief or idea. What prompted your thinking? What was the outcome?
4. Reflect on something that someone has done for you that has made you happy or thankful in a surprising way. How has this gratitude affected or motivated you?
5. Discuss an accomplishment, event, or realization that sparked a period of personal growth and a new understanding of yourself or others.
6. Describe a topic, idea, or concept you find so engaging that it makes you lose all track of time. Why does it captivate you? What or who do you turn to when you want to learn more?
7. Share an essay on any topic of your choice. It can be one you've already written, one that responds to a different prompt, or one of your own design.

The goal of these questions is to help all applicants, regardless of background or access to counseling, to see themselves and their stories within the prompts. These questions are designed to invite unencumbered discussions of character and community, identity, and aspiration. The prompts are also designed to elicit information that will strengthen the other components of the application.

The word limit on the essay will remain at 650. ***Some colleges and universities have additional supplemental questions or essays (not listed below) that must be answered specifically for that campus.***



**California Colleges Accepting Common Application** *(list is subject to change)*

- AMDA College and Conservatory of the Performing Arts
- California College of the Arts
- California Institute of Technology (Caltech)
- California Lutheran University
- Chapman University
- Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science
- Claremont McKenna College
- Columbia College Hollywood
- Concordia University Irvine
- The Culinary Institute of America
- Dharma Realm Buddhist University
- Dominican University of California
- Harvey Mudd College
- Holy Names University
- Loyola Marymount University
- Marymount California University
- Menlo College
- Mills College
- Minerva Schools at KGI
- Mount Saint Mary's University, Los Angeles
- Notre Dame de Namur University
- Occidental College
- Otis College of Art and Design
- Pepperdine University
- Pitzer College
- Point Loma Nazarene University
- Pomona College
- Saint Mary's College of California
- Santa Clare University
- Scripps College
- Soka University of America
- Southern California Institute of Architecture
- Stanford University
- University of La Verne
- University of the Pacific
- University of Redlands
- University of San Diego
- University of San Francisco
- University of Southern California
- University of the West
- Westmont College
- Whittier College
- Woodbury University

## DEFINITIONS OF ADMISSION OPTIONS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

### STUDENTS: WHICH COLLEGE ADMISSION PROCESS BEST SUITS YOU?

#### Regular Decision

##### DEFINITION:

Students submit an application by a specified date and receive a decision in a clearly stated period of time.

##### COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

#### Rolling Admission

##### DEFINITION:

Institutions review applications as they are submitted and render admission decisions throughout the admission cycle.

##### COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

#### Early Action (EA)

##### DEFINITION:

Students apply early and receive a decision well in advance of the institution's regular response date.

##### COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

#### Early Decision (ED)

##### DEFINITION:

Students make a commitment to a first-choice institution where, if admitted they definitively will enroll and withdraw all other applications. The application deadline and decision deadline occur early.

##### COMMITMENT:

BINDING

#### Restrictive Early Action (REA)

##### DEFINITION:

Students apply to an institution of preference and receive a decision early. They may be restricted from applying ED or EA or REA to other institutions. If offered enrollment, they have until May 1 to confirm.

##### COMMITMENT:

NON-BINDING

Students are not restricted from applying to other institutions and have until May 1 to consider their options and confirm enrollment.

Students are responsible for determining and following restrictions.



# What to Know About Applying Early

If you find a college that you're sure is right for you, consider applying early. Early Decision and Early Action plans allow you to apply early (usually in November) and get an admission decision early (usually by Dec. 15).

## **Early Decision plans are binding**

You agree to attend the college if it accepts you and offers an adequate financial aid package. You can apply to only one college for Early Decision. You may also apply to other colleges through the regular admission process, but if you're accepted by your first-choice college early, you must withdraw all other applications.

## **Early Action plans are nonbinding**

While the college will tell you whether or not you're accepted by early January, you have the right to wait until May 1 before responding. This gives you time to compare colleges, including their financial aid offers, before making a decision. You can also apply Early Action to more than one college.

Get advice from your school counselor before applying Early Decision. While it may seem appealing to get the process over with early, it might be too soon to know that you've made the right college choice.

## **Single-choice Early Action is another option offered by a few colleges**

This plan works the same way as other Early Action plans, but candidates may not apply early (either Early Action or Early Decision) to any other school. You can still apply for regular admission to other schools and are not required to give your final answer of acceptance until the regular decision deadline.

## **If you need financial aid, Early Decision might not be a good idea**

You shouldn't apply under an Early Decision plan if you think you'll be better off weighing financial aid packages from several colleges later in the spring. While you can turn down an early acceptance if the college is unable to meet your need for financial aid, "need" in this context is determined by formulas, not by your family.

## **Not every college offers an early plan**

More than 400 colleges offer an Early Decision plan, an Early Action plan, or both; but that is less than 20 percent of all colleges.





# 1 CALIFORNIA 85 POSSIBILITIES

---

AICCU COLLEGES &  
UNIVERSITIES OFFER:

Affordable Access  
Regional Locations  
Wide Range of Majors  
Diverse Environments  
Student Centered Supports  
Student Success

---

Visit: [aiccu.edu/ourcolleges](http://aiccu.edu/ourcolleges)  
for a complete list of  
independent, nonprofit  
colleges and universities in  
California!



1121 L Street, Suite 802 | Sacramento, CA 95814  
[aiccu.edu](http://aiccu.edu)



## Northern California

Simpson University .....	Redding
William Jessup University .....	Rocklin

## San Francisco Bay Area

California College of the Arts .....	San Francisco
California Institute of Integral Studies .....	San Francisco
Dominican University of California .....	San Rafael
Golden Gate University .....	San Francisco
Holy Names University .....	Oakland
International Technological University .....	San Jose
Menlo College .....	Atherton
Mills College .....	Oakland
Notre Dame de Namur University .....	Belmont
Pacific Union College .....	Napa
Palo Alto University .....	Palo Alto
Saint Mary's College of California .....	Moraga
Samuel Merritt University .....	Oakland
San Francisco Art Institute .....	San Francisco
San Francisco Conservatory of Music .....	San Francisco
Santa Clara University .....	Santa Clara
Saybrook University .....	Oakland
Stanford University .....	Stanford
Touro University California .....	Vallejo
University of San Francisco .....	San Francisco
Zaytuna College .....	Berkeley

## Central Valley

Fresno Pacific University .....	Fresno
Humphreys University .....	Stockton
University of the Pacific .....	Stockton

## Central Coast

California Lutheran University .....	Thousand Oaks
Fielding Graduate University .....	Santa Barbara
Thomas Aquinas College .....	Santa Paula
Westmont College .....	Santa Barbara

## Los Angeles

American Jewish University .....	Bel Air
Antioch University Los Angeles .....	Los Angeles
ArtCenter .....	Pasadena
Azusa Pacific University .....	Azusa
Biola University .....	La Mirada
California Institute of Technology .....	Pasadena
California Institute of the Arts .....	Valencia
Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science .....	Los Angeles
Chicago School of Professional Psychology, The .....	Los Angeles
Claremont Graduate University .....	Claremont

## Los Angeles (continued)

Claremont McKenna College .....	Claremont
Columbia College Hollywood .....	Tarzana
Harvey Mudd College .....	Claremont
Keck Graduate Institute .....	Claremont
Life Pacific University .....	San Dimas
Los Angeles Pacific University .....	San Dimas
Loyola Marymount University .....	Los Angeles
Marymount California University .....	Rancho Palos Verdes
Master's University, The .....	Santa Clarita
Mount Saint Mary's University .....	Los Angeles
Occidental College .....	Los Angeles
Otis College of Art and Design .....	Los Angeles
Pacific Oaks College .....	Pasadena
Pepperdine University .....	Malibu
Providence Christian College .....	Pasadena
Pitzer College .....	Claremont
Pomona College .....	Claremont
Scripps College .....	Claremont
Southern California Institute of Architecture .....	Los Angeles
Southern California University of Health Sciences .....	Whittier
Touro University Worldwide .....	Los Alamitos
University of La Verne .....	La Verne
University of Southern California .....	Los Angeles
University of the West .....	Rosemead
Western University of Health Sciences .....	Pomona
Whittier College .....	Whittier
Woodbury University .....	Burbank

## Orange

Brandman University .....	Irvine
Chapman University .....	Orange
Concordia University Irvine .....	Irvine
Hope International University .....	Fullerton
Laguna College of Art & Design .....	Laguna Beach
Soka University .....	Aliso Viejo
Vanguard University .....	Costa Mesa

## Riverside / San Bernardino

California Baptist University .....	Riverside
La Sierra University .....	Riverside
Loma Linda University .....	Loma Linda
University of Redlands .....	Redlands

## San Diego

John Paul the Great Catholic University .....	Escondido
National University .....	La Jolla
Point Loma Nazarene University .....	San Diego
San Diego Christian College .....	El Cajon
University of Saint Katherine .....	San Marcos
University of San Diego .....	San Diego



WICHE

ALASKA

ARIZONA

CALIFORNIA

COLORADO

HAWAII

IDAHO

MONTANA

NEVADA

NEW MEXICO

NORTH DAKOTA

OREGON

SOUTH DAKOTA

U.S. PACIFIC TERRITORIES &  
FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES

UTAH

WASHINGTON

WYOMING

www.wiche.edu/wue

WICHE

W E S T E R N  
U N D E R G R A D U A T E  
E X C H A N G E



Your ticket to  
affordable college  
of-state college  
in the West



2019-2020

## WUE Contacts in Participating States and U.S. Territories

If you're interested in applying as a WUE student, go to [www.wiche.edu/wue](http://www.wiche.edu/wue) and click on the database. The profiles of our participating institutions will give you their eligibility requirements, application deadlines, majors available at the WUE rate, and more. If you still have questions, you may want to call the people who oversee WUE applications at the institution where you want to apply – most often you will need to talk with someone in the office of admissions. We strongly encourage you to read our "ASK WICHE" WUE FAQ; it will answer most of your general questions about WUE.

WUE applicants must prove that they are a resident of one of the WICHE member states to the enrolling institution's satisfaction. If you have already worked with the institution's residency office and still need assistance verifying your home state residency status, your state office may be able to assist. State office contact information is listed below.

### Alaska

WICHE Student Exchange Program  
Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education  
Tel: 907.465.8685

### Arizona

WICHE Student Exchange Program  
Arizona Board of Regents  
Tel: 602.228.2500

### California

Office of the Chancellor  
The California State University System  
Tel: 562.951.4715

### Colorado

WICHE Student Exchange Program  
Colorado Department of Higher Education  
Tel: 303.862.3001

### Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

WICHE Student Exchange Program  
Northern Marianas College  
Tel: 670.234.5498, ext. 6831

### Hawaii

WICHE Student Exchange Program  
University of Hawaii at Manoa  
Admissions and Records Office  
Tel: 808.956.8975 or 800.823.9771

### Idaho

WICHE Student Exchange Program  
Idaho State Board of Education  
Tel: 208.332.1574

### Montana

WICHE Student Exchange Program  
Montana University System  
Office of the Commission on Higher Education  
Tel: 406.444.0322

### Nevada

WICHE Student Exchange Program  
Nevada System of Higher Education  
Tel: 775.687.0991

### New Mexico

WICHE Student Exchange Program  
New Mexico Higher Education Department  
Tel: 505.476.8412

### North Dakota

WICHE Student Exchange Program  
North Dakota University System  
Tel: 701.328.2964



10/17/2018

WICHE  
Western Interstate Commission  
for Higher Education

[www.wiche.edu/wue](http://www.wiche.edu/wue)

General questions may be addressed to [info-sep@wiche.edu](mailto:info-sep@wiche.edu)  
or call us at 303.541.0270.



Oregon  
Academic and Student Affairs Policy Specialist  
Oregon Higher Education Coordinating  
Commission  
Tel: 503.947.5925

### South Dakota

WICHE Student Exchange Program  
South Dakota Board of Regents  
Tel: 605.773.3455

### Utah

WICHE Student Exchange Program  
Utah Board of Regents  
Tel: 801.321.7104

### Washington

WICHE Student Exchange Program  
Washington Student Achievement Council  
Tel: 360.753.7846

### Wyoming

WICHE Student Exchange Program  
University of Wyoming  
Tel: 307.766.3459

## What Is WUE?

WUE is the Western Undergraduate Exchange, a program coordinated by the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE). Through WUE, students in Western states may enroll in participating two-year and four-year public college programs at a reduced tuition level: up to 150 percent of the institution's regular resident tuition. In all cases, WUE tuition is considerably less than nonresident tuition. For answers to many of the commonly asked questions about WUE, visit [wiche.edu/askwiche](http://wiche.edu/askwiche).

## Which States and U.S. Territories Participate?

Resident students from the following states and U.S. Territories may participate, if they meet eligibility requirements:

Alaska	Oregon
Arizona	South Dakota
California	Utah
Colorado	Nevada
CNM <sup>*</sup>	New Mexico
Guam	North Dakota

## Eligibility

Many institutions require evidence of academic performance, such as ACT/SAT test scores or high school GPA, or place other conditions on WUE enrollment. Consult the WUE website for details.

## Programs Available

Virtually all undergraduate fields are available to WUE students at one or more of the participating colleges and universities. Some institutions have opened their entire curriculum on a space-available or first-come, first-served basis. Others offer only designated programs at the discounted WUE rate. To learn about the wide array of programs available, consult the WUE Savings Finder at [wuesavingsfinder.wiche.edu](http://wuesavingsfinder.wiche.edu). For additional details, follow the links to the enrolling institutions' websites.

## Application and Admission

Apply directly to the institution(s) of your choice for admission and WUE tuition status. Mark prominently on the institution's application form that you seek admission as a WUE student.

## More Information

Information about specific programs offered through WUE can be obtained from the admissions office of participating institutions. Information about student eligibility and the operation of the program in any state may be obtained from the state contact offices listed on page four of this handout.

<sup>\*</sup> Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

## COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

### TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Northern Marianas College

### HAWAII

#### FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

University of Hawai'i at Hilo  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa  
University of Hawai'i Maui College  
University of Hawai'i - West Oahu

### IDAHO

#### TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

College of Southern Idaho  
North Idaho College

#### FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Boise State University  
Idaho State University  
Lewis-Clark State College  
University of Idaho

### MONTANA

#### TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Dawson Community College  
Flathead Valley Community College  
Great Falls College Montana State University  
Helena College University of Montana  
Highlands College of Montana Tech  
Miles Community College

#### FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Montana State University - Billings  
Montana State University - Bozeman  
Montana State University - Northern  
Montana Tech of the University of Montana  
The University of Montana  
The University of Montana - Western

### NEVADA

#### TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

College of Southern Nevada  
Great Basin College  
Truckee Meadows Community College  
Western Nevada Community College

#### FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Nevada State College  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
University of Nevada, Reno

## SOUTH DAKOTA

Associate degree programs, available at most South Dakota universities, are open to WUE students, as are baccalaureate programs.

### FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Black Hills State University  
Dakota State University  
Northern State University  
South Dakota School of Mines & Technology  
South Dakota State University  
University of South Dakota

## UTAH

### TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Salt Lake Community College  
Snow College  
Utah State University Eastern

### FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Dixie State University  
Southern Utah University  
The University of Utah  
Utah State University  
Utah Valley University  
Weber State University

## WASHINGTON

### TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Grays Harbor College  
Spokane Community College  
Spokane Falls Community College

### FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Central Washington University  
Eastern Washington University  
The Evergreen State College  
Washington State University, Pullman  
Washington State University, Tri-Cities  
Washington State University, Vancouver  
Western Washington University

## WYOMING

### TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS

Casper College  
Central Wyoming College  
Eastern Wyoming College  
Gillette College

Laramie County Community College  
Northwest College  
Sheridan College  
Western Wyoming Community College

### FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTION

University of Wyoming

