THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

Graduate Studies
Future Student FAQ

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Selecting a Program

Why should I choose the University of Winnipeg?

With academic excellence at its core, The University of Winnipeg is an affordable and accessible post-secondary institution with a global vision. The University of Winnipeg offers fourteen distinct graduate level programs. Many of the master's programs are multi-disciplinary and several are unique in all of Western Canada. Whether you are continuing your education in the master's level programs after completing your undergraduate degree or are contemplating a new field of study after being in the workforce, the graduate programs at the University of Winnipeg can meet your needs and exceed your expectations. You can check out the Graduate Studies Viewbook or read more about the benefits of choosing the University of Winnipeg here.

How do I find out more about a program?

The Programs page on our website will link you to each program's website. The program fact sheets also contain valuable information about admission requirements. For specific questions about a program, you should contact the program chair.

Am I qualified to apply?

If you are unsure if you meet the program's admission requirements as stated in the program factsheet, you should contact the program chair to discuss your eligibility. Most programs require a 4-year general or honours Bachelor degree to apply, with a minimum GPA of 3.0/4.5 (70%) and no grade less than C+ in the last two years of full time university study. Some programs may have additional criteria or higher standards. Some programs require higher English Language Proficiency test scores than those stated in the general University of Winnipeg English Language Proficiency Policy. A few programs, for example, the Master in Management program, may consider a combination of professional experience and education when recommending applicants for admission. For all programs, you should consult the program fact sheet and discuss any concerns about your eligibility with the program chair.

How many years does it take to complete a program?

In most cases the program website and/or factsheet will indicate the length of study. For further questions, you should contact the program chair.

What is the total cost for one year?

Information about tuition and fees can be viewed here. Applicants interested in Joint Master's Programs will need to follow the link to the University of Manitoba's fee page.

What is the start date for my program?

The only start date for almost all programs is the Fall term (September). The Master of Science in Applied Computer Science & Society also accepts applications for the Winter term (January). For the Master in Management program, you will need to select the May-August term in the online application, as the first module of the program is held in August.

Can I apply as a part-time student?

Not every program accepts part-time applicants. For further questions, you should contact the program chair.

Completing the Online Application

How do I apply?

You can apply to the University of Winnipeg program of your choice using the Online Application System. Before applying to any program you should review the Graduate Studies Application Checklist.

If you are applying to a Joint Master's Program, applications are handled at the University of Manitoba. Please contact the JMP program chair directly for information about the application process.

When is the application deadline?

The application deadline for admission to the Fall term for **most** programs is February 1st.

The application deadline for admission to the Fall term for **Joint Master's Programs** is January 15th.

For the **Master of Science in Applied Computer Science & Society** program, the deadline for admission to the Winter term is July 1st.

What documents will I need to submit?

The Graduate Studies Application Checklist should help you prepare your documents. You will need to upload the following:

- Resume or curriculum vitae
- Writing sample IF applying to Cultural Studies, Indigenous Governance, MDP: Indigenous Development, or Management programs.
- Proof of English Language Proficiency (if applicable)
- Proof of name change (if applicable)
- Transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended

You will not need to upload reference letters. You will be asked to provide the names and email addresses for your referees, and they will be contacted with instructions for submitting their recommendations directly to our office.

Can I upload an unofficial transcript to my application?

For initial assessment purposes only, copies of unofficial transcripts (uploaded to your application) are acceptable and preferred. Official transcripts will be required if you are recommended for admission. All official transcripts must be sent directly from the postsecondary institutions. If the final transcript does not show that a completed degree has been conferred, an official/notarized copy of your diploma is also required.

One of my documents exceeds the maximum size. What should I do?

For transcripts, you will need to compress the file further, as we cannot upload those for you. For other documents, please contact **graduateadmissions@uwinnipeg.ca** for instructions

Should I send my transcript to a credential assessing agency, such as World Education Services (WES), for verification before applying to a graduate program?

No, we do not require you to send your transcript for verification by WES. We accept transcripts verified by WES for initial purposes only.

Who should I ask to be my references?

Your referees should be familiar with your academic work. For further advice, you should contact the program chair.

I am applying for the course-based Applied Computer Science Program. Do I need to complete the research proposal section?

For the course-based program, you should submit a plan of study for your coursework, rather than a research proposal. For guidance, you should contact the program chair.

Do I need to provide GRE/GMAT to apply to a graduate program?

No, GRE and/or GMAT are not required to apply to a graduate program.

Can you waive the application fee?

No, we cannot waive the application fee.

I received an error message when paying the application fee and my application has already been submitted. How can I pay the fee?

General instructions to pay the application fee can be found here. If you opt to complete the Credit Card Authorization Form, you may submit it to **gradstudies@uwinnipeg.ca**.

For international students, the University of Winnipeg has partnered with Flywire to offer a streamlined way to transfer international payments. The mission is to save international students money that would otherwise be lost to bank fees and unfavorable exchange rates. Your student number is required to use Flywire. Please check your application submission confirmation email for your student number.

I paid the application fee via Flywire. Why does my application still show "Not Paid"?

Once an application is submitted online, we cannot change it. As such, payments made via Flywire are not reflected on the online application but are applied to your student account.

My referee didn't receive an email requesting their recommendation. What should I do?

The system is automated, so it is possible that you provided an incorrect email address for the referee. If this is the case, please send the correct email address and full name of your referee to **graduateadmissions@uwinnipeg.ca** and we will make the change on your behalf.

Am I able to change one of my references after I submitted my application?

If you need to change one of your references, please send the full name and email address of both the new referee and the referee to be replaced to **graduateadmissions@uwinnipeg.ca** and we will make the change on your behalf.

When will I receive my username and password for WebAdvisor?

You will not receive a username and password for WebAdvisor until your application is verified as complete and forwarded to the department for review.

What should I do if I have trouble completing the online application?

Email **graduateadmissions@uwinnipeg.ca** if you have difficulty completing the online application.

What should I do if I have questions or concerns about my application?

Please contact **graduateadmissions@uwinnipeg.ca** with any questions or concerns about your application.

When will I be notified with a decision about my application?

Reviewing all applications can take time and we appreciate your patience after you submit your application. You will receive an email confirming that you have submitted your application. Once the application deadline passes, we review all applications for completeness. You will receive a second email confirming the completeness of your application. Once your application is verified as complete, it will be forwarded to the graduate program for review and final recommendation. For Fall admission, a final decision about your application will be usually be communicated in March or April.

Finding a Supervisor

Do I need a supervisor?

Not all programs require you to secure a supervisor before applying. Generally, research-based programs require a supervisor for your thesis project. The Master of Science in Bioscience, Tehcnology, & Public Policy and the Master of Environmental & Social Change programs require that you find a supervisor and write a research proposal before being admitted. For the Master of Science in Applied Computer Science & Society program, a supervisor is required if you are applying to the research-based program. Applicants to the Master's in Development Practice: Indigenous Development program are not obligated to consult with or secure a supervisor before applying. Upon admission to the MDP, students will be assigned an academic supervisor according to their area of interest. If you are unsure if you need to find a supervisor, you should contact the program chair.

How do I find a supervisor?

If you have been advised that you require a Graduate Supervisor, you will need to contact professors to determine if they are taking on new graduate students. The first step is often to browse the web pages of faculty members in your department to see which research projects interest you. To contact a professor, be sure to send a tailored enquiry, rather than a generic message, attach a copy of your Curriculum Vitae, and offer an opportunity for further discussion (via teleconference, video-conference, or in-person interview).

You may also consider contacting the Graduate Program Chair with a brief research proposal, asking if they could recommend anyone in the program engaging in similar work. It is always a good idea to reach out to the Graduate Program Chair before applying to any graduate program. They will be your main point of contact to answer questions about eligibility requirements, funding, or assistantship opportunities.

What is the difference between a supervisor and an advisor?

A Graduate Advisor is responsible for assisting students with planning a program of study and ensuring that students are aware of all general regulations, program requirements, and degree regulations of the graduate department. Advisors also attend all supervisory committee meetings as well as student thesis, clinical or technical practicum examinations and prepare an annual report of the progress of the graduate student.

A Graduate Supervisor is responsible for supervising and providing guidance on all aspects of a student's thesis, practicum, or research program and staying informed of the student's progress and preparing an annual report summarizing progress in research, clinical, or technical activities and ensuring that scientific research is conducted in a way that is effective and safe. Supervisors review and evaluate student theses and major research papers in draft and final form and attend all supervisory committee meetings as well as student thesis, clinical or technical practicum examinations.

Applying for Funding and Awards

What awards are available for my program?

The University of Winnipeg strives to offer each student financial support, which may include a scholarship, teaching assistantship, and/or research assistantship. Please refer to our website for more details on Graduate Student Funding. The Awards & Financial Aid Office also offers a comprehensive range of funding options. Each award has its own criteria and eligibility requirements so it is important to read the award description carefully.

Can I start applying for awards before I am admitted?

You will need a student number to apply for an award. Your student number will be sent to you in a confirmation email after you submit your online application.

When I apply to a Graduate Studies program, am I automatically considered for scholarships?

Funding packages vary from program to program and it is the student's responsibility to apply for funding, awards, or bursaries. Your program chair, supervisor, and/or advisor are good resources for information on funding and awards.

Can I apply for more than one award?

Yes, it is a good idea to apply for many awards.

How do I become a teaching/research assistant?

Your program chair, supervisor, and/or advisor will be good resources for information on teaching and research assistantships.

What should I do if I have questions about a specific award?

Any questions about the funding opportunities offered or facilitated by the Faculty of Graduage Studies can be directed to **graduateawards@uwinnipeg.ca**.

Applying as an International Student

What are the academic requirements for my country?

A list of minimum academic requirements based on international credentials can be viewed here.

Where can I get advice on study permits or post-graduate work permits?

The Graduate Studies Office is not able to advise on study or work permits. You should consult the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada website for more information. You can also consult the International, Immigrant, and Refugee Student Services website.

Do I need to submit an English Language Test score?

You should consult the English Language Requirement Policy for information on testing options, waivers, and English Exempt Countries.

Which English Language Tests are accepted and what are the minimum scores?

You should consult the English Language Requirement Policy for information on testing options. The minimum scores listed here are not applicable for all Graduate Level programs. You should refer to your program's factsheet for detailed information on the admission requirements.

Can I upload an unofficial English Language Test score to my application?

For initial assessment purposes only, copies of English language test results (uploaded to your application) are acceptable. Official test results will be required if you are recommended for admission. All official English language test results must be sent directly from the testing centre to the Graduate Studies Office.