

University of Wisconsin-River Falls

Exchange program

Nomination Process

To nominate students, please:

- Refer to the signed active agreement concerning the number of students that can be nominated per semester/academic year. Letting us know if you have any questions.
- Students to be nominated should be in good academic standing at your institution.
- Students to be nominated must meet all the admission requirements, including the English proficiency requirements, established by the University of Wisconsin-River Falls (UWRF).
- The deadlines for nominations are as follows:

Exchange Semester	Partner institution Nomination deadline	Student Application Deadline
Fall semester	April 15 th	May 15 th
Spring semester	October 15 th	November 1 st

- If you require more time to complete the nominations, please contact us as soon as possible.
- An email with the nominations should be sent to:

Vanessa Luther

vanessa.luther@uwrf.edu

Office of International Education
Exchange Programs

- On your email, please include the following information about each student you are nominating:

First/Given Name

Middle Name (if applicable)

Last/Surname

Gender

Date of birth

Email address

Exchange period/semester

Current academic level (example second year, etc.)

Current Program or Major field of study at home university

Intended Major field of study at UWRF

- UWRF will review nominations, notify partners concerning accepted nominations, and contact students with instructions concerning the application for admission.
- Only students whose nominations have been accepted should proceed with the application for admission process.

Student Application for Admission

- After the nomination has been accepted by the University of Wisconsin-River Falls, the student will need to prepare the application for admission.
- A complete application for admission should include:
 - The **UW System application**
 - Passport copy (page with picture, name, and date of birth)
 - Evidence of English language proficiency. **See approved scores and ESL programs.**
 - Academic records from home university
 - Certification of Finance Form (CFF) with supporting bank statement. *Our admissions team will send you the appropriate CFF that aligns with your exchange program.*
- Completed applications should be submitted by the student application deadline, this should allow time for the admission process and the DS-2019 (Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor Status) form to be finalized.
- For more information about the admission process, visit: <https://www.uwrf.edu/admissions/international>

Academic Calendar

Fall semester:

- Early September to late December
- Required in-person orientation for new international students takes place in late August, the week prior to the start of classes.

ACTUAL DATES FOR FALL 2025:

- Arrival Day: August 26, 2025
- International Student Orientation: August 27-28, 2025
- First Day of Classes Fall 2025: September 2, 2025.
- End of the Fall 2025 semester (*last day of final examinations*): December 18, 2025.

Spring semester:

- Late January to mid-May
- Required in-person orientation for new international students takes place in late-January, the week prior to the start of classes.

SPRING 2026:

- Arrival Day and International Student Orientation dates: to be announced
- First Day of Classes Spring 2026: January 26, 2026.
- End of the Spring 2026 semester (*last day of final examinations*): May 14, 2026.

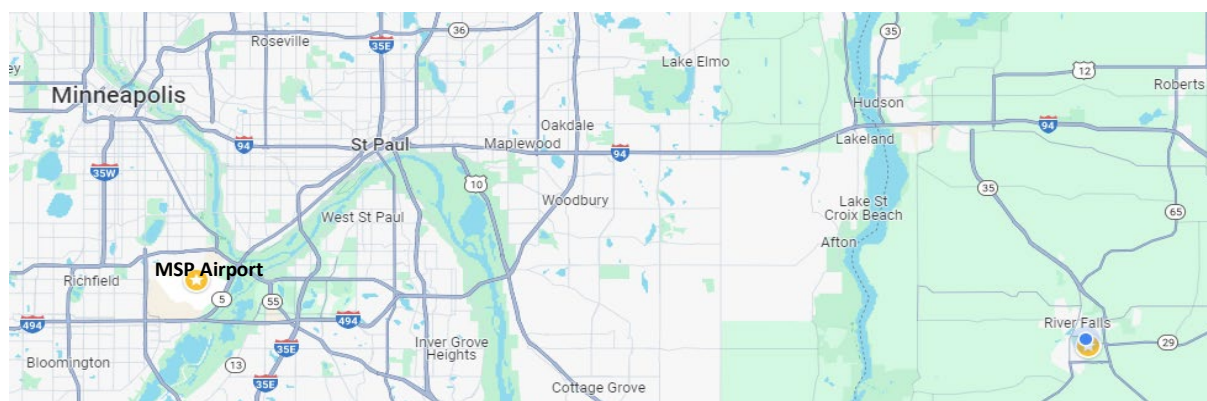
Pre-Arrival Steps

Students who have been admitted to the University of Wisconsin-River Falls will receive communications from International Student Services concerning the form DS-2019 and steps that will need to be completed prior to arrival. The students will be enrolled in the online *Pre-Arrival International Orientation* course, which contains instructions and further information about the pre-arrival steps (visa application, SEVIS fee payment, housing contract, class enrollment, etc.).

The students will need to apply for the exchange visitor **J-1 visa** at a U.S. Embassy or Consulate.

Exchange students under the J-1 visa must maintain full-time enrollment with a *minimum* of 12 credit hours/semester.

General Information about UWRF



Location:

- The University of Wisconsin-River Falls (UWRF) is located 40 miles/65 kilometers from Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport (MSP), about 45 minutes' drive.
- At UWRF, students can enjoy the best of both worlds - the advantages of living in a beautiful small rural community in western Wisconsin and the proximity (30 minutes away) to one of the largest metropolitan areas in the U.S., the Twin Cities of Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota

Academics:

- UWRF offers 70+ areas of study under three colleges, the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, and College of Education, Business and Allied Health.
- Explore academic programs here: <https://www.uwrf.edu/academics/undergraduate-programs>
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- Small classes with a 19:1 student-faculty ratio.
- J-1 visa holder students will be able to enroll in classes after the visa process has been completed.
- Students will be advised on course selection and guidance will be provided on how to enroll in classes.
- Students will need to enroll full-time; this means a minimum of 12 credit hours in order to maintain visa status.

Housing:

- There are 11 residence halls on campus, ensuring on-campus housing for those who have completed the housing contract.

- There are traditional double rooms and single rooms available.
- Residence Hall rates can be found here: <https://students.uwrf.edu/residence-life/contract-and-rates>
- Explore the different hall options here: <https://students.uwrf.edu/residence-life/residence-halls>

Meals:

- There are different meal plans available: <https://students.uwrf.edu/dining/meal-plans>.
- Students have access to different dining options, both at the main dining facility, Riverside Commons, or at one of the different venues, <https://students.uwrf.edu/dining/when-and-where-eat>.

Student Organizations and Campus Recreation:

- There are over 120 active student clubs and organizations, which provide ample opportunities for students to get involved in the campus community and to make connections (<https://www.uwrf.edu/student-life/student-organizations>).
- Campus Recreation (<https://students.uwrf.edu/recreation>), provides students with free access to the Falcon Center (<https://www.uwrf.edu/student-life/falcon-center>), which includes the fitness center, indoor climbing wall, ice arena, gyms, track, courts, rental center, and more.
- Within Campus Recreation, there are also Sports Clubs, Intramural Sports, the Falcon Outdoor Adventures, and more! All with the goal to keep students physically active and engaged!

Medical Insurance and Student Health:

- All international students are required to carry the medical insurance selected by the Universities of Wisconsin. This medical insurance plan meets J-1 visa federal requirements.
- We will enroll all incoming international students in the insurance plan and the premium cost will be charged to the student's billing account.
- Student Health and Counseling Services provides free professional mental health counseling support to students (<https://students.uwrf.edu/student-health-counseling>).
- Medical services can be provided through the contracted local M Health Fairview Clinic-River Falls, which is located within walking distance of campus.
- The city of River Falls also has the Allina Health Medical Clinic and the River Falls Area Hospital where students can receive medical attention.
- There are three pharmacies in the city of River Falls, where students can have their prescription medication filled using their health insurance plan. Two of them located within walking distance of campus
- Dental and Vision coverage is **not** provided through the medical insurance plan. We recommend exchange students to visit their dental and vision providers, if needed, before departing to the United States.
- UWRF is a tobacco free campus. This means that the use of tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and vaping products, are not permitted in any facility nor grounds within campus boundaries. Students who use tobacco products would need to do so outside of the campus boundaries.
- The minimum legal drinking age in the United States is 21.

Want to learn more about UWRF? Watch the College Tour episode:

<https://www.uwrf.edu/admissions/the-college-tour>.

Virtually explore campus here:

<https://www.uwrf.edu/admissions/visit>.

