Willamette Alumni Recruitment Program

Dear Volunteer,

On behalf of the Willamette University Alumni Association and the Office of Admission, our warmest thanks for your willingness to support Willamette in extending our recruitment efforts. We value and appreciate your commitment to the university. The stories about our campus and your experiences at Willamette will be a truly outstanding addition for students and parents alike.

Students today have so many options when trying to select a college to attend. This is made even more daunting with the hundreds of television channels, an ever-growing web of online social networks, and thousands of four-year institutions bombarding them with information and pleas to attend. By sharing your personal experiences with students and their parents, you can provide a much-needed personal touch to our work in building relationships with these students.

Your support to the recruitment effort will be an invaluable tool for Willamette. Your hard work and dedication will further aid us in strengthening and growing the already solid reputation of Willamette across the country. You will act as a voice in your region for the many great opportunities provided for our students with a Willamette education.

As you read this handbook, you will find that there are a variety of ways for you to become involved with the recruitment of prospective students. We hope this handbook and your involvement with the Willamette Alumni Recruitment Program will provide you the necessary resources for you to learn and communicate effectively what is going on at Willamette today.

Willamette is a special and unique institution. It is a true residential community of students, faculty, and staff committed to the efforts laid forth in our motto- Not unto ourselves alone are we born-to leave the world a better place than we found it. By reconnecting with this spirit and collaborating with the Office of Admission you will be able to be a lasting part of the Willamette legacy in helping engage future generations of bright, focused Willamette students.

Go BEARCATS!

I will sign here maybe? Or the VP?
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Introduction

JOIN US: Reconnect with the university. Become a part of building the future. Live the motto.
“Non Nobis Solum Nati Sumus” – Not Unto Ourselves Alone are we Born

What is the Willamette Alumni Recruitment Program?

Thank you for becoming a part of the Willamette Alumni Recruitment Program (WARP). The time and energy you put in will be an important link for prospective students in your area and across the country. WARP is a voluntary program directed for Willamette alumni to join in the recruitment of prospective students. The Office of Admission in partnership with the Alumni Association supports the alumni recruitment effort and its volunteers.

We are very excited to have developed this program which will allow Willamette alumni to develop a more tangible relationship with the university. This opportunity presents an exciting way for alumni to partner with the Office of Admission and reengage with the university by becoming an active part of the recruitment process. From working college fairs, to attending regional receptions, or contacting prospective students, alumni will be engaged in helping to enrich the experience for prospective students and their families.

As an alumna/us of Willamette your personal relationship with the university will be an invaluable tool in developing a connection with the students you meet. The combination of institutional knowledge we will arm you with and your own individual experiences will be a vital contribution in adding that personal touch to the college admission process.

This training manual is just the first step in your admission training. We ask that you take time to review the manual, along with any publications sent to you, and to consistently check information posted on our website to stay up to date with the current culture at Willamette University. Please keep this handbook for future reference to assist you in your recruitment efforts. The goals of this manual are to:

- Familiarize you with the goals and activities of the WU Alumni Recruitment Program
- Communicate key talking points about Willamette University
- Provide a resource to help you answer prospective students’ questions

We hope that you enjoy your volunteer experience and find the activities to be rewarding. We are very grateful for your service and continued presence within the Willamette community!
Admissions at Willamette University

Our Mission

The Office of Admission aims to recruit and enroll multifaceted students who are intellectually curious, community-minded, and academically engaged. We seek diverse applicants who will contribute to Willamette University’s inclusive community, embrace our practice of transforming knowledge into action, and uphold the university’s long tradition of academic and co-curricular excellence while simultaneously fulfilling our responsibility to meet institutional net revenue targets. Through our outreach efforts and conscientious communications, we aspire to assemble a student body that will establish our institution’s standing as the leading liberal arts college in the Northwest.

Acquiring Institution-specific Knowledge

One of the primary responsibilities within the Office of Admission is to provide information to students who express an interest in Willamette. Students and their families are seeking to learn about the potential opportunities they may experience during college and specifically what opportunities are available at Willamette University. Don’t fret however, as an alumni volunteer you will not be expected to know everything about the university. Your energy and willingness to represent your alma mater will be well-received by students and their families.

One of the best places to start acquiring the knowledge you will need is to attend an information session in the Office of Admission, if possible. We will also seek to provide monthly or quarterly news updates about events, campus updates, or news within the Office of Admission to keep alumni volunteers up to speed with what is going on.

Finally, the links below will provide you with some important general information on key topics that students and families may inquire about. The links listed below should also give you an understanding of the values and vision for the university.

- **WU Quick Facts**: [http://willamette.edu/about/facts/index.html](http://willamette.edu/about/facts/index.html)
- **WU History**: [http://willamette.edu/about/history/index.html](http://willamette.edu/about/history/index.html)
- **WU Mission & Motto**: [http://willamette.edu/about/mission_motto/index.html](http://willamette.edu/about/mission_motto/index.html)
- **Academic Majors & Minors**: [http://willamette.edu/about/academics/majors.html](http://willamette.edu/about/academics/majors.html)
- **Course Catalog**: (Be sure to review Core Themes, Graduation Requirements, & General Education) [http://www.willamette.edu/cla/catalog/overview/cla/index.php](http://www.willamette.edu/cla/catalog/overview/cla/index.php)
Volunteer Opportunities

So now the question is what do I do…?

There are several ways alumni can get involved with the admission cycle and the recruitment effort. With this in mind we have created multiple opportunities for alumni to engage in volunteering within the Office of Admission:

- College Fairs
- High School Visits
- Host an event
- Attend an on-campus or regional event/reception
- Contact prospective & admitted students
- Refer a prospective student to the Office of Admission

Through each of these experiences alumni can be a valuable resource in spreading the word about the great opportunities at Willamette University.

**College Fairs**

A college fair is an event organized and sponsored by a high school, a school district, or a professional education association. College Fairs are programs designed to introduce high school students to many different college opportunities. Students and parents browse from table to table, ask questions, and pick up literature. This may be the first opportunity for prospective students and their parents to receive information about Willamette University.

College fairs occur during spring, summer, and fall, taking place in various locations. With so many fairs being offered there are many that the Admission staff are unable to attend. By utilizing alumni volunteers we are able to further broaden the reach of the university message to a place near you.

The Office of Admission staff will coordinate college fair registration and provide all necessary information about college fair travel that you will need well in advance of the date of the event (location, start time, parking permits, etc.). An Admission staff member will contact you with any other specific directions you may need.
**Before the Fair:**

Prior to the fair, you will be sent all the necessary items to prepare your table at the event in the mail (*Please review fair material in this package prior to attending the College Fair*). These include various information pieces about the university. You will be responsible for handing materials out to prospective students. Your package contents should include the following items:

- Table Drapes (both full size and half size)
- Willamette road piece
- Willamette photo view-book
- Value road piece
- Vertical table sign
- White Information or Inquiry Cards (for prospective students to fill out)

Admission counselors have a standardized plan in place to display these items on their table to ensure the university is providing the same institutional message in all areas that Willamette University seeks to recruit students. You will be provided with a visual representation of this plan to assist you in how to display your table.

Quantities of handout materials needed for each fair will be predetermined for you prior to receiving materials in the mail. If you find that you run out of any materials, be sure to include this in your summary to the Office of Admission for future reference.

The most important part of attending college fairs is to obtain interested student information and increase WU visibility. You do this by requesting that students fill out and submit Inquiry Cards. *Note: Many fairs are switching to an electronic system of scanners and barcodes to retrieve interested student information.* However, be sure to take a backup amount of Inquiry Cards should this system fail. It is paramount to collect this information so that we can include student’s information in our system for future communication.

On the day of the fair, **please arrive 30 minutes prior to the scheduled start time** as setting up your table can take 15-30 minutes. It is your responsibility to arrive to the event at the scheduled time. Also often times, food and beverages will be provided to college representatives, but having an extra water bottle on hand is advised. Be sure to plan on arriving even earlier if you plan on taking advantage of this hospitality (*this is highly recommended*). During the fair, you are required to stand by your table answering any questions that students/parents might have about Willamette University.

When the event ends, be sure to hand in your scanner and/or collect the IQ cards and clean up your table. The IQ cards should be mailed to the Office of Admission the **NEXT BUSINESS DAY**. We will provide a postage free envelope in your mailing package for you to return these to us. Also do not forget to fill out the volunteer event summary sheet (*in the works*) which will ask
some questions about how the fair went and provide a space for you to provide any comments you may have as well. Include the summary worksheet in the envelope with your Inquiry Cards.

**High School Visits**

High School visits are another primary responsibility for the Office of Admission. These visits are utilized to make contact with students in admission counselor territories and just as importantly to develop connections with school counselors in these areas. Much like college fairs there are often high schools that counseling staff are sometimes unable to visit. As an alumni recruiter you will be able to share in this experience and assist the Office of Admission by meeting with students in your area. The counselor for your territory will contact schools directly to set up an appointment time that will fit into yours and the school counselor’s schedule. Information about the student(s) you will be meeting with will be communicated to you in advance of your scheduled meeting time *(Note: you may meet with multiple students during a high school visit)*. We will send you the following information prior to your scheduled appointment at a high school:

- Name of school
- Name and email of counselor or contact person
- Address and phone number
- Date and time of visit
- Specific parking instructions

High school visits typically consist of abridged information sessions or Q&A meetings. To assist you in your recruitment efforts, talking points will be included for meeting with groups or individual students.

Once you arrive at a high school, look for a visitor parking space unless otherwise specified. Many schools require college representatives to check-in at the main office, so this should be your first stop. Afterward, you will usually be directed to the Advising Center, Career Center, Counseling Center, or a similar space. There, someone will usually greet you and help you set up. If a given high school does things differently or expects something more from you, they should let you know.

Generally, when visiting a high school you will bring some combination of road-pieces, profiles, and business cards to hand out to students (these will be provided to you). If no students arrive for your visit, it is recommended to stay and chat with the school’s college counselor for a bit (between 15-30 minutes should suffice). In doing so you will create a resource for future potential students from that school, but also create a contact in the area that could be useful at a later time. *(Note: Usually in the spring, recommendations of counselors are considered for an*
all-expense paid trip to visit colleges in the Pacific Northwest. Any counselor you meet who would benefit from such a visit and who you believe will send us great students would be important to remember their name and reason in order to recommend the counselor for such program). Conversely, if you are overwhelmed with interested students, it is tempting to stay beyond your allotted time answering their questions. It is important to keep track of the clock if you have other appointments scheduled that day.

Host an Event or Attend a Reception

Programs:
Events are held on and off campus throughout the year. In the fall, we hold one event on campus appropriately titled, “Fall Preview.” Generally, a preview event occurs in early November, prior to the Early Action application deadline. In the winter (usually in January), we host receptions at off campus locations in our primary markets (i.e. Portland, Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Hawaii, and Alaska). These events are held at alumni or parent homes, or larger venues if needed. We invite current students to attend and share about their experience at WU. Prospective student interviews are scheduled before and after each event. Both admitted students and prospective students are invited to attend the Winter Receptions. During winter and spring, we hold admitted student Preview Days on campus. These events provide a first-hand experience of the Willamette campus that includes class visits, information sessions, and a closing reception with faculty. The focus of these events is to yield admitted students. Finally, we host Presidential Receptions during spring for our admitted students in an off campus location. Again, we typically host these events in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Hawaii, and Alaska.

Host Expectations:
When hosting a recruiting event the primary responsibility for the hosting alumnus is to provide an open space for parents and students to interact. Typically alumni will open up their home for events that can range in size. For these events alumni will often provide refreshments as well. Alumni can be reimbursed for expenses related to the event as long as The Office of Admission is given copies of receipts detailing the specific charges.

Based on the size and the experience of the alumni host with these types of events Admission staff may or may not be in attendance. For those in which admission counseling staff-members ARE available, counselors will handle any administrative tasks to ensure the event runs smoothly, leaving hosting alumni to mingle with guests freely.

For those events where Admission staff-members ARE NOT in attendance alumni will hold complete responsibility for the event. These are often much smaller in the number of the attendees and directed by alumni with more experience hosting.
Reception & On-campus Event Expectations:
As part of the alumni recruitment team you are invited to attend any on-campus admission events. Regional events in our typical markets of Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, and Hawaii are always great opportunities to involve our alumni in meeting prospective or admitted students, and their families. Dress code for each event should be professional attire. Alumni will be notified of any particular responsibilities before the event. In most cases we would just like you to mingle and be available to answer questions about Willamette.

Contact a Prospective or Admitted Student

One of the most important ways you can assist Willamette is by personalizing the Admissions process by making interested students feel both welcome and excited about Willamette University. These talented and well-rounded students have multiple options. The encouragement, support, and personal touch that you can provide as an alumna/us will help Willamette truly stand out!

As a member of the WU Alumni Recruitment Program you will be asked to make phone calls or send emails (whichever volunteers feels most comfortable communicating) to both prospective and admitted students. When talking with prospective students you will act as a wealth of information and a tangible connection for students in your area to Willamette. You will also contact admitted students to provide congratulatory messages and welcome them to Willamette personally. You will be able to share your Willamette story and connect with another future Bearcat alumnus/a.

Phone calls or emails to these students will be conducted as a technique to increase yield, or the number of students who choose to enroll at the university. As such, these contacts will be strategically conducted to reach interested students. Volunteers will be assigned a list of prospective students to contact either by phone or email. This list will included students’ contact information as well as some key talking points.

Refer a Student

Within your community you have a special opportunity to be the “eyes and ears” for the Office of Admission. With this, you have the perspective to identify potential Bearcats in your area. These students may be a son or daughter of co-workers, or a student you’ve supervised through an employment or volunteer opportunity. They may be someone whose name you’ve seen in the local newspaper for making the honor roll, winning a sports award, or being involved with a
community organization. However you’ve heard about these students, if you believe they would be a positive addition to the Willamette community then please LET US KNOW!

More importantly if you know of these excellent students in your area talk to them about the benefits of a Willamette education. Encourage them to look us up online, do some research on Willamette, and if possible talk to them about setting up a visit to our campus. Also encourage students to sign up to receive more information on our Admissions website: http://www.willamette.edu/admission/contactus/mailing_list/index.html. This will ensure that the Office of Admission will have that student’s information to contact them and tell them more about the university.

**Student Recruiting Etiquette**

*Please keep these things in mind when interacting with prospective students*

**DO:**
- Be friendly, professional, positive, and enthusiastic! You are a representative of Willamette University.
- Read your alumni publications regularly to stay up to date on current events.
- Use this handbook and the Willamette University Office of Admission Website (http://www.willamette.edu/admission/) as a resource for answering questions.
- Encourage prospective students to visit campus. Visits can be scheduled online at www.willamette.edu/admission/visit
- Be aware of NCAA rules when speaking to students interested in playing athletics. It is best to allow the coaches to contact potential athletes. For more information on Willamette athletics go to www.willamette.edu/athletics
- Contact the WU Alumni Recruitment coordinator before attending any recruiting event. All recruiters must complete alumni recruitment training, and all events must be approved by the Office of Admission.
- Recognize that it’s okay to say, “I don’t know.” If you don’t know the answer to a student’s question, offer to get an answer and follow up with the student, or direct him/her to one of the websites listed in this manual.

**DON’T:**
- Comment on a student’s chance of being admitted. Decision-making is the domain of the admission staff and involves many different and complex criteria.
- Make financial aid evaluations. Circumstances differ, even in cases of similar family income.
- Answer questions about which you are uncertain – offer to get an answer and follow-up with the student.
• Make comparisons between schools, as this does not reflect well on the Willamette University. Instead speak of Willamette’s positive opportunities rather than emphasizing your perceptions of another institution’s negative features.

• Assume students (and especially parents) are interested in the same kind of “social scene” as you may have been as a student. Please refrain from any sharing any stories/anecdotes that would not reflect positively and professionally on Willamette University as a whole.

What Makes Willamette University Unique?
Key Factors that set us apart to emphasize when speaking with prospective students.

1) The first university in the west, Willamette is blessed with a campus across the street from Oregon’s State Capitol and governing offices – in effect an extra set of Willamette classrooms that provide innumerable opportunities for enriched student learning. This intimate connection between University and State is found nowhere else in the US.

2) An unusually distinguished faculty – even by liberal arts college standards, with more Carnegie/CASE Professors of the Year (11 of the previous 24 years) than any other college in the West. A student is more likely to be taught by a Carnegie Professor of the year at Willamette than any other institution of higher education in the nation!

3) A connection to sustainability and the immediate natural environment, the Willamette Valley - one of the most fecund places on the planet, enriched by our nearby 305 acre farm and forest (Zena Farm & Forest: http://www.willamette.edu/about/sustainability/zena/).

4) A global orientation made concrete and emphatic by a 50 year partnership with Tokyo International University, which, in addition to the already present myriad of study abroad, curricular and exchange programs, brings over 120-150 students a year to enhance the Willamette community.

5) Dual degree programs with WU’s Atkinson School of Management (3/2) and College of Law (3/3) that allow students to seamlessly combine the best of a liberal arts education and professional preparation on one campus.

6) Willamette University has been named one 40 member Colleges That Change Lives (CTCL). This organization began with the book written by Loren Pope, the former education editor for the New York Times. The featured schools are all recognized for their emphasis on a student-focused undergraduate education experience. Learn more at www.willamette.edu/admission/resources/changing_lives.
Willamette University Profile (2014-15)

**Enrollment**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Enrollment</th>
<th>2,757</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>1,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Programs</td>
<td>767</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Academics**

**Academic Experience**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic programs offered</th>
<th>52</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student to faculty ratio</td>
<td>10:1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of students conducting research w/ professors</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of students completing an internship</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of students who study abroad</td>
<td>50%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Class Size**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>&lt; 20 students</th>
<th>347</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20-29 Students</td>
<td>106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-39 Students</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 40 Students</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Avg Class Size is 14 Students*
Graduation/Retention Rates

1\textsuperscript{st} year retention rate from freshman to sophomore Year: 88% 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Graduation Rate (4yr) %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Willamette</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Oregon</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Puget Sound</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of California, Davis</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis &amp; Clark College</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*comparative schools are all crossover schools for WU applicants

Demographics

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<table>
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<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multicultural Students</td>
<td>37.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pell Eligible</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Student Life**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Clubs &amp; Organizations</th>
<th>110 ('13-'14), <strong>95% student participation</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.willamette.edu/dept/osa">www.willamette.edu/dept/osa</a></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NCAA Div. 3 Sports (NW Conference)**
- Baseball
- M,W Basketball
- M, W Cross Country
- Football
- M,W Golf
- W Rowing
- Softball
- M,W Swimming
- M,W Tennis
- M,W Track & Field
- W Volleyball

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intramural Athletics</th>
<th>65% of students involved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Greek Life: 4 Fraternities, 3 Sororities</td>
<td>20-25% of students</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 12-'13’ volunteer hours       | 58,000                                       |

**Willamette Undergraduate Admission Process**

Willamette University practices what is known as a holistic admission review process. What this means is that we consider multiple factors in making admission decisions. Willamette seeks students who are bright, academically engaged and who exhibit they have prepared themselves for the academic rigor of Willamette within their academic record. We are interested in how prospective students spend their time outside of the classroom as well. We like to know about any experiences such as athletics, community service, performing arts, etc. that will allow a student to seamlessly transition into our rich campus community. While both our students and the university’s primary focus is academic success, we truly value the many talents our students bring to contribute to the world around them. As a residential campus we rely on the skills, enthusiasm, and involvement of our student body to maintain the vibrant and interesting campus culture we proudly speak of.
**Application Timetable**

Willamette University is a Common Application exclusive university. What this means is that you cannot find Willamette’s application for admission anywhere except [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org). Willamette does not require any supplemental essays or other extra requirements in our admission process. When applying to Willamette you will need the following:

- Application for Admission (Common App)
- An Official High School Transcript
- School Report (from school’s college counselor)
- SAT or ACT scores (including writing scores)
- Teacher or Other Evaluations/Letters of Recommendation are optional

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Date</th>
<th>Decision Date</th>
<th>Deposit Deadline</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>November 15 – Early Action (EA) and Early Decision (ED) I. Deadline (For EA &amp; ED applicants, application fee will be waived)</td>
<td>December 30</td>
<td>May 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1 – Early Decision II. Deadline</td>
<td>February 15</td>
<td>May 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 15 – Regular Decision Deadline</td>
<td>February 15</td>
<td>May 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Early Action deadline is non-binding application and is designed to accommodate students in our applicant pool who wish to know their admission decision sooner.

** Early Decision is a binding-agreement application. Students applying ED are expressing Willamette as a priority school that they will attend if admitted.

**Financial Aid at Willamette University**

Willamette's financial aid process is merit-driven. The quality of a student's academic record influences the amount of scholarship and grant money that is included in his or her financial aid award when the student is admitted to the university. This means that strong students will receive scholarship recognition from us whether or not they qualify for need-based financial aid. The quality of one's high school curriculum, grades in college preparatory subjects and test scores will have the greatest effect on the amount merit-based institutional dollars awarded.

Willamette provides aid to our incoming students with institutional aide in three ways:

1) Merit-based Scholarships
• Range each year from $0-$20,000. Students will receive an offer for a merit scholarship with their admission letter if they qualify.
• Recurring for 4 years as long as student is in good academic standing
• Scholarship determination is made on the strength of an applicant’s academic achievements, weighing such factors as GPA, strength of the curriculum, and test scores
• Other merit-based scholarships are awarded through university partnership with community organization or in recognition of nationally competitive scholar designations. Some of these are:
  o Willamette Scholarships for Oregon Latinos (SOL)
  o Black United Fund Partnership Scholarships (BUFO)
  o National Merit Scholarships
  o National Hispanic Scholarships
  o National Achievement Scholarships

2) Need-based Aid with information from the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

In addition to merit-based scholarships, many students are eligible for additional funds from university, federal, or state sources. These include:

• Willamette University Grant
• Federal Pell Grant
• Oregon Opportunity Grant
• And many more

We encourage **ALL** families to complete the FAFSA application by the **MARCH 1 deadline** as this is the only way Willamette can award any further institutional aid apart from merit-based scholarships.

3) Talent Scholarships

Willamette University is an NCAA-Division III institution and as such does not offer athletic scholarships to our students. However, we do offer talent scholarships for students in the Music, Theatre, and Speech/Debate programs.

These Scholarships involve a separate application directly to the specific academic department as the scholarships are awarded based on department need and the skill level presented by the student. Talent scholarships are awarded separate from the Office of Admission and Office of Financial Aid.
Talent Scholarships, in addition to the separate application, require an audition and interview process with the faculty in the specific program. Students have the chance to come on campus and perform as well as interview with faculty for an opportunity to receive a scholarship. Like merit-based scholarships, these talent awards are recurring for 4 years as long as a student maintains the pre-determined requirements for the scholarship.

Frequently Asked Questions

Below are some questions commonly asked by prospective students and their families. Don’t forget, it is okay to say “I don’t know”. It is better to say this than provide a student with incorrect information. Try to refer the student to our Website using links in your handbook or direct them to contact the Office of Admission directly at our toll free number 1-844-BEARCAT. We are always happy answer student questions or address any concerns.

What are the Goals of WARP?
The Willamette Alumni Recruitment Program presents a superb opportunity for alumni to partner with the Office of Admission and re-engage with the University by becoming an active part of the recruitment process. An alumnus(a), your personal relationship with the University is invaluable in developing connections with prospective students.

What Will WARP Volunteers Be Asked To Do?

A wide variety of opportunities exist for WARP volunteers, and you may choose the one or ones that speak to your strengths and interests. These opportunities include:

- Represent the University at college fairs
- Visit high schools for pre-scheduled visitations
- Attend an on-campus or regional event or reception
- Refer prospective students to the Office of Admission

Is There Any Training?

Yes! Even if you have recently graduated, the University has probably changed since you were a student. WARP volunteers will receive:

- A comprehensive training manual with tips for student recruiting etiquette, key factors that set Willamette apart from other institutions, information about financial aid and the undergraduate admissions process, and an updated University profile with key facts and figures about enrollment, majors, demographics, etc.
- Monthly or quarterly news updates from the Office of Admission
- Links to helpful resources

A point of contact in the Office of Admission

**What does Willamette University look for in a student?**

Willamette University utilizes a holistic admission review process encompassing a students’ academic record, leadership and activity involvement, written Personal Statement, and any outside evaluative pieces. This is done utilizing the following components:

1) Common Application
2) High School Transcript
3) Counselor School Report
4) SAT/ACT Scores
5) Teacher Evaluations or other Letters of Recommendation

With these pieces the university looks for “students who will have a positive impact on campus because they are bright, intellectually curious and well-prepared for a challenging academic program. We seek engaged students who will contribute to our rich campus experience through their athletic, musical, artistic, and leadership abilities. Finally, we seek students who will both benefit from, and contribute to, the rich fabric of our community, and who will leave campus prepared to succeed in their professional, personal and civic lives”

For more information visit our admission website at [http://www.willamette.edu/admission/apply/tips/](http://www.willamette.edu/admission/apply/tips/).

**What is your (blank program) like?**

If you are unfamiliar with the specific program the student is inquiring about again, it is okay to say “I don’t know”. You may want to refer the student to the online College of Liberal Arts catalog ([http://www.willamette.edu/cla/catalog/](http://www.willamette.edu/cla/catalog/)). The catalog provides details for each of the academic programs offered at Willamette. You can also direct the student to contact the Office of Admission for further information.

**Do you have study abroad opportunities?**

YES! Willamette University has a very rich history of encouraging our students towards cultural experiences both on campus and abroad. 50% of Willamette students spend a semester or more studying in a foreign country.
Willamette offers around 40 university sponsored programs in over 40 countries, as well as opportunities for students outside of these programs. Students typically study abroad during their junior year and will spend a semester studying in another country. However, there are students who spend a year abroad and some sophomores and seniors who will choose to study in another country as well.

Is the campus safe?

While we are a downtown, urban campus we seek to provide a safe atmosphere for students. The primary resource for this is Willamette University’s Office of Campus Safety (http://www.willamette.edu/dept/safety/) which provides 24/7 monitoring of the campus as well as other services including providing safety escorts for students both on campus and up to two blocks off campus during the night hours. The university also has developed a SafeRide Program with Yellow Cab Taxi in Salem. With this service students are able to charge a Yellow Cab taxi ride to their student account via the student’s Willamette University identification card. More information about services offered by campus safety can be found at the above website.

What are your graduates doing?

- 40% go on to graduate school
- 40% go straight into a job or internship opportunity
- 20% join the Peace Corp, Teach for America, or other service-based agencies

For further information on what graduates are up to, direct students to the Willamette University website:

http://www.willamette.edu/admission/index.html
http://www.willamette.edu/about/alumni/

Do Willamette students have to live on campus?

Willamette University is a traditional four-year, residential community. As such, freshmen and sophomores are required to live on campus. Also 40-50% of juniors and seniors reside on campus as well, typically in the university’s apartment-style housing options.
Thank you once again for your assistance! This program is only as good as our alumni members. We wish you the best in your volunteer activities.

For questions please contact:

**Jamiere N. Abney**  
Admission Counselor  
Ph: (503) 370-6731  
E: jabney@willamette.edu

**Colleen Sump**  
Director for Alumni & Parent Engagement  
Ph: (503) 370-6748  
E: csump@willamette.edu

**Willamette University Office of Admission**

900 State Street, Salem, OR 97301

Ph: 1-844-BEARCAT (Toll Free)

E: bearcat@willamette.edu