

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

TW **TACOMA**

Admissions Guide





At UW Tacoma, we believe brilliance flourishes when you break free from the mold and march to the beat of your own drum. Don't mistake our laid-back vibe for slacking off—we take education seriously. We offer an incredible range of programs that will ignite your curiosity and fuel your passions.

Learning is more than textbooks and lectures. We invite you to discover Tacoma, Washington's gritty second city. Unleash your inner explorer and discover the hidden gems that make this city truly one-of-a-kind.

Your journey is all about the people you meet on the way - the dreamers, the rebels with a cause, the game-changers and everyone in-between. Our tight-knit community weaves together unique personalities, from inspiring faculty to our diverse student body. Here we encourage you to embrace your authentic self.

Now is the time to embark on a university experience that defies the ordinary and celebrates the extraordinary. Get ready for a journey like no other where the path ahead is anything but predictable.

tacoma.uw.edu/admissions

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The University of Washington Tacoma is accredited as a part of the University of Washington by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. Individual academic programs may have additional accreditations. The University of Washington reaffirms its policy of equal opportunity regardless of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, marital status, disability, or status as a disabled veteran or Vietnam era veteran in accordance with university policy and applicable federal and state statutes and regulations. To request disability accommodations, including American Sign Language interpretation, contact the **Office of Admissions** at **253-692-4742** or **uwinfo@uw.edu**. *The University of Washington Tacoma makes every effort to honor disability accommodation requests. Requests can be responded to most effectively if received as far in advance of the event as possible, preferably at least 10 days.*

YOU'LL LIKE

*THE LONGEST SHORELINE ELECTRIC
SEEN AT THE ALASKA-YUKON - P*

#1

BEST MONTHLY AVG.
STARTING SALARY
*Adjusted for cost of living
Wallethub.com, 2023*

#3

MID-SIZE CITY WITH THE
MOST JOB OPENINGS
Careerbuilder.com, 2021

#4

METRO AREA WITH
THE FASTEST-RISING
INCOME
U.S.Census Bureau, 2020



Let's dive into the story of a 250-foot long illuminated bit of awesomeness. Back in 1909, during the Alaska Yukon Pacific Exposition in Seattle, this incredible sign emerged, beckoning people to venture south from the shores of Lake Washington. Talk about some A+ trolling!

Fast forward to 2019, artist John James Nelson decided to put a modern twist on this iconic sign, setting it up on old pilings near Titlow Beach. It's a beautiful blend of old and new, just like the UW Tacoma campus.

Whether you're a fan of history or a lover of contemporary art, one thing's for sure – from its rich past to its vibrant present, Tacoma has something for everyone.



Photo: Sierra Hartman/Grit City Magazine, John James Nelson and Steve Naccarato.



Welcome to

TACOMA

DASH POINT

ʔukʷədiitəb ʔuhigʷətəb
 čəł txʷəl tiit ʔa čəł ʔal
 tə swatxʷixʷtxʷəd ʔə tiit
 ʔuyaləpəbš dxʷəstəłiils gʷəl
 ʔutxʷəlšucidəbš həlgʷəʔ.

We gratefully honor and acknowledge that we rest on the traditional lands of the Puyallup People where they make their home and speak the Twlshootseed language.

PORT OF TACOMA

WRIGHT PARK

THEATRE DISTRICT

CONVENTION CENTER

TACOMA ART MUSEUM

GLASS MUSEUM

WASHINGTON STATE HISTORY MUSEUM

PUYALLUP TRIBE of INDIANS

WAREHOUSE DISTRICT

W
TACOMA

TACOMA DOME

LEMAY CAR MUSEUM

705

MCKINLEY PARK

WASHINGTON STATE FAIR

I-5

LINCOLN DISTRICT

LINCOLN PARK

75

CITY PARKS

87

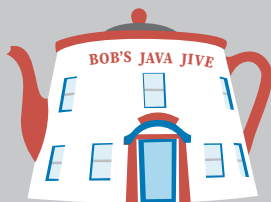
MILES OF TRAILS



#17

BEST U.S. CITY IN THE
FOR OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

NICHE.COM, 2024



BEER. BURGERS. BANDS.
ALL IN A 25-FOOT TALL
COFFEE POT BUILDING

#7

BEST CITY FOR COFFEE
RENT.COM/BLOG/BEST-CITIES-FOR-COFFEE
TACOMA HAS 180 COFFEE SHOPS



6

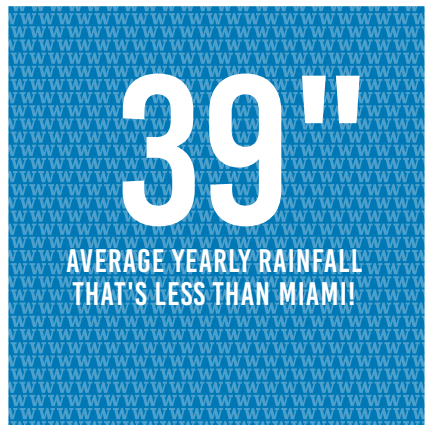
DOWNTOWN MUSEUMS
WITHIN WALKING DISTANCE
FROM CAMPUS

6



39"

AVERAGE YEARLY RAINFALL
THAT'S LESS THAN MIAMI!



59

**MILES TO MT. RAINIER
NATIONAL PARK**

THE TALLEST MOUNTAIN IN THE
CASCADE RANGE AT 14,410 FEET



UFOs

THE FIRST WELL-KNOWN UFO SIGHTING
OCCURRED IN 1947, NEAR MT. RAINIER. NINE
CRESCENT-SHAPED OBJECTS MOVED "LIKE
SAUCERS SKIPPING ON WATER," HENCE THE
TERM FLYING SAUCER WAS BORN.



#3

**TOP "BOOMING" CITY
IN THE U.S.**

NBC-THE TODAY SHOW, 2023



35

**SELFIE MURALS IN TACOMA
HOW MANY CAN YOU FIND?**



The UW degree





BOTHELL



SEATTLE



TACOMA

Picture this: one university, three awesome campuses. Sounds pretty cool, right?

But let's dive deeper into what it truly means for you. First things first, when you rock that cap and gown, your degree will proudly bear the name University of Washington. And trust us, that's a big deal. UW is a powerhouse known for groundbreaking research, academic excellence, and producing grads who are out there changing the world!

Bottom line: UW Tacoma grads are UW grads, part of an incredible legacy that stretches far and wide.



We love to brag.
UW Tacoma is



**BEST COLLEGE
IN WASHINGTON**

The Wall St. Journal/College Pulse, 2024



**TOP PERFORMER ON
SOCIAL MOBILITY IN WASHINGTON**

U.S. News & World Report, 2024



**"2023 BEST BANG FOR
THE BUCK" IN WASHINGTON**

Washington Monthly, 2023



**TOP PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES
IN THE WEST**

U.S. News & World Report, 2024

What will you study?

Whether you see yourself exploring the mysteries of science, diving deep into the wonders of humanities, sharpening your business skills, or making a positive impact through the social sciences, we've got the perfect academic pathway to ignite your curiosity and nurture your intellectual growth.



tacoma.uw.edu/majors



UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS

- Accounting ■
- Arts, Media and Culture
- Biomedical Sciences
- Business Administration ■
- Civil Engineering ■
- Communication
- Community Development & Planning
- Computer Engineering ■
- Computer Science & Systems ■
- Criminal Justice ■
- Criminal Justice - Online ■
- Economics and Policy Analysis
- Education ■
- Electrical Engineering ■
- Environmental Science
- Environmental Sustainability
- Ethnic, Gender and Labor Studies
- Finance ■
- GIS & Spatial Planning
- Global Studies
- Healthcare Leadership
- History
- Information Technology ■
- Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences
- Law and Policy
- Management ■
- Marketing ■
- Mathematics
- Mechanical Engineering ■
- Nursing (RN to BSN) ■
- Politics, Philosophy & Economics
- Psychology
- Social Welfare ■
- Spanish Language & Cultures
- Sustainable Urban Development
- Urban Design ■
- Urban Studies
- Writing Studies

UNDERGRADUATE MINORS

- American Indian Studies
- American Popular Cultures
- Applied Computing
- Asian Studies
- Business Administration
- Business Data Analytics
- Criminal Justice
- Economics
- Education and Community Engagement
- Environmental Studies
- Gender & Sexuality Studies
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS certificate)
- Global Engagement
- Health and Society
- History
- Innovation and Design
- Human Rights
- Latino Studies
- Law and Policy
- Mathematics
- Politics
- Religious Studies
- Restoration Ecology
- Social Science Research Methods
- Sociology
- Spanish Language & Cultures
- Sports Enterprise Management
- Sustainability
- Sustainable Urban Development
- Teaching, Learning & Justice
- Technical Communication
- Urban Studies

■ Some majors require an additional application in addition to a UW Tacoma application. Contact an Admissions Counselor for details.



EXPERIENCE-BASED PROGRAMS

GLOBAL HONORS

Research, travel, and seminar-learning are part of global learning and community innovation exchange for highly-motivated students.

tacoma.uw.edu/global-honors

STUDY ABROAD

You too can ride on a boat in another country! Participate in study abroad where the world is your classroom.

tacoma.uw.edu/global-affairs

Andrew Tsang, '24 BA Politics, Philosophy and Economics; Global Engagement minor; Barcelona, Spain. "Traveling abroad is one of those experiences I want to undertake while in college as it can further add to my experience with handling and navigating a new environment."



Learn from the best

Our faculty bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise from diverse backgrounds. Their passion for teaching and guiding students is unparalleled. Our faculty understands that to make a real impact on the world, you must start in your own backyard. This philosophy extends to the deep care faculty have for their students and to the community engaged research that focuses on issues impacting the city, state and region.

16:1

STUDENT-FACULTY RATIO

UW TACOMA, AUTUMN 2023

DR. VERN HARNER

PROFESSOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE

FROM OMAHA, NE
UW SEATTLE PH.D.
TRANS-FOCUSED RESEARCH



DR. YONN DIERWECHTER

PROFESSOR OF URBAN STUDIES

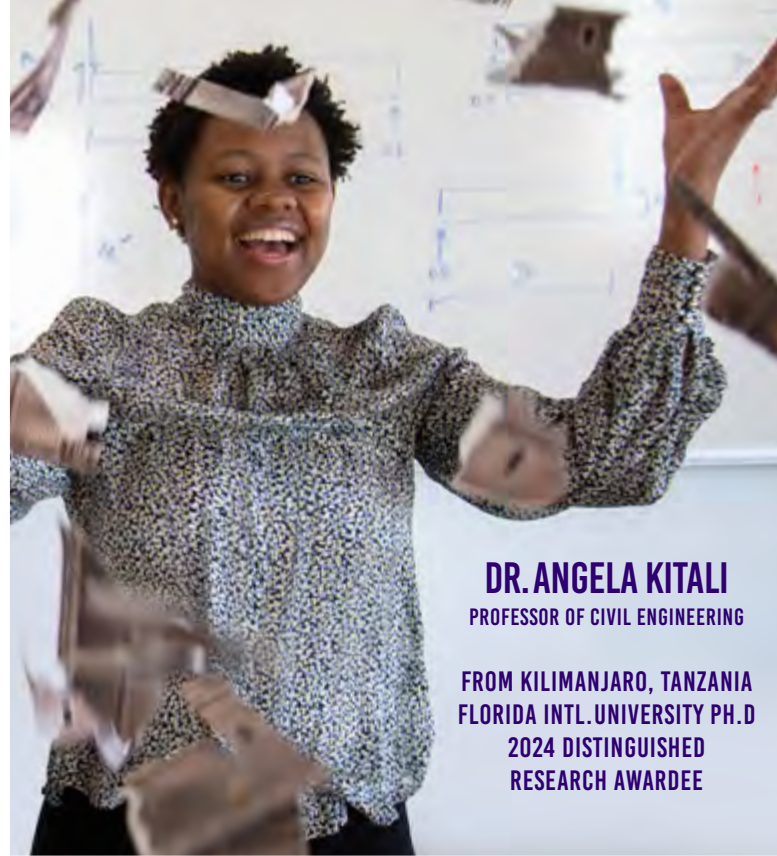
FROM STORM LAKE, IA
LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS PH.D.
FULBRIGHT RESEARCH SCHOLAR



DR. RUBÉN CASAS

PROFESSOR OF WRITING

FROM ANAHEIM, CA
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN PH.D.
LEADS THE URBAN
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE
INITIATIVE



DR. ANGELA KITALI
PROFESSOR OF CIVIL ENGINEERING

FROM KILIMANJARO, TANZANIA
FLORIDA INTL. UNIVERSITY PH.D
2024 DISTINGUISHED
RESEARCH AWARDEE



DR. SUNNY CHENG
PROFESSOR OF NURSING &
HEALTHCARE LEADERSHIP

FROM PINGTUNG, TAIWAN
UW SEATTLE PH.D
2024 DISTINGUISHED
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
AWARDEE



\$11.8
MILLION AWARDED IN
RESEARCH GRANTS (2023)
WE DO A LOT OF RESEARCH!

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

- Associated Students of UW Tacoma
- Registered Student Organizations
- Service & Leadership
- Student Publications

CEI

THE CENTER FOR
EQUITY & INCLUSION
WORKS TO BUILD A MORE
EQUITABLE CAMPUS



Learn with the best

At UW Tacoma, brilliance knows no bounds. Many of our students have faced adversity in their lives, yet their resilience and determination shine through. Social mobility is at the heart of our mission, as over half of our students are the first in their family to pursue higher education. Their passion for learning is matched only by their commitment to creating positive change for their families and the world.

STUDENT SUPPORTS

- Advocacy & Support
- Campus Safety & Security
- Career Development
- Center for Equity & Inclusion
- Childcare & Student Parents
- Disability Resources
- First Generation Students
- International Student & Scholar Services
- Psychological And Wellness Services
- Student Health
- Student Scholarships & Fellowships
- Teaching & Learning Center
- University Academic Advising
- UW Libraries
- Veteran & Military Resource Center



SIMON NJOROGE
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING
FIRST GEN FELLOW
& HUSKY 100

FIRST-GEN FELLOWS

SUPPORT FOR STUDENTS
WHO ARE THE FIRST IN THEIR
FAMILY TO ATTEND COLLEGE



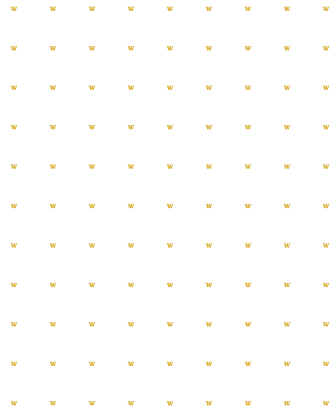
Amy Keller interned at NASA's Langley Research Center in Virginia. The mechanical engineering major is literally reaching for the stars, working on an autonomous tower to eventually generate solar power on the moon.



436
INTERNSHIPS TAKEN
2023-2024

THE POWER OF INTERNSHIPS

An academic internship is one of the most rewarding things you can do while you are a UW Tacoma student. Apply your learning in the real world, gain industry experience and make important professional connections.



8,454
COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS
DONATED BY STUDENTS
DURING 2023-24





ERIC BARONE

'11 BS COMPUTER
SCIENCE & SYSTEMS

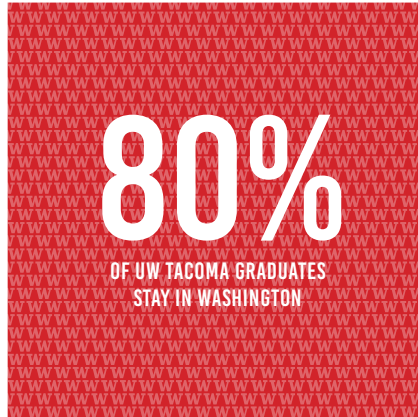
VIDEO GAME
DEVELOPER & CREATOR OF
"STARDEW VALLEY"



ANGELA SURESH

'17 BA COMMUNICATION

COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST
425 BUSINESS MAGAZINE
"30 UNDER 30"



MARK GLENN

'96 BA LIBERAL STUDIES

FOUNDER
MARK GLENN TECHNOLOGY
SOLUTIONS



DEE SONNTAG

'13 BA POLITICS, PHILOSOPHY AND
ECONOMICS; HUMAN RIGHTS

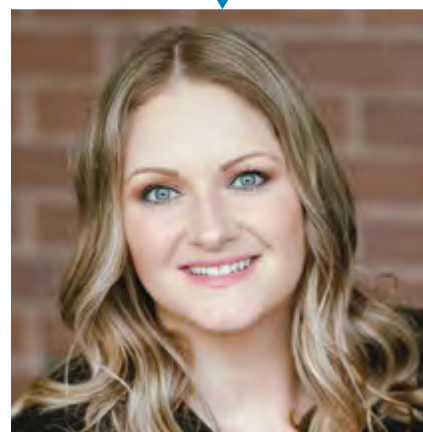
TACOMA MUNICIPAL
COURT JUDGE



MONIKA ANONUEVO

'14 BA PSYCHOLOGY

UNIVERSITY RECRUITER
MICROSOFT





CHRIS ERB
 '95 BA BUSINESS
 MARKETING & MANAGEMENT
 FOUNDER
 TRIPLECLIX STRATEGIC
 MARKETING AGENCY

WHERE HUSKIES WORK



Be the best

Our alumni are game changers. They've got big hearts and even bigger minds that they use in their respective fields and communities. They came to campus with dreams and we helped make them reality.

This place is more than 46 acres of brick, it's a culture, a mindset, one that cares about transformation and lifting people up so they can lift up others.





You are more than a checkbox.

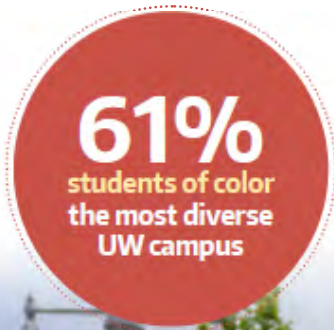
At UW Tacoma, we believe in celebrating the richness of human diversity. Our inclusive community embraces students from all walks of life, backgrounds, and experiences. We don't just talk about diversity, we live it. Your unique perspectives, lived experiences, and cultural identities are not only respected but valued here. Together, we will break down barriers, foster understanding, and build bridges of empathy that transcend differences. Your voice matters, and we are committed to empowering you to thrive academically, personally and socially.

UW Tacoma student population

4,790

Don't let the term "small classroom" mislead you into picturing miniature desks. At UW Tacoma, small means a personalized learning experience where you engage one-on-one with professors who know your name and are genuinely invested in your success. You'll build lasting friendships here with classmates that extend well beyond the academic term.

Information shown is current as of Autumn quarter 2023.



Live here

Oops! Overslept again? Don't worry, you've got this! Good thing you live on campus. Quick, freshen up with a splash of water, throw on some decent clothes, and off to class you go. Living on campus offers countless perks—like making lifelong friends, diving into exciting events, and living in the heart of the city. Plus, why not join a themed Living Learning Community that aligns perfectly with your interests? The best of urban and campus living is right at your doorstep.

AMENITIES

SPACIOUS STUDIO, 1- AND 2- BR UNITS (SHARED)	PRIVATE BATHROOMS	UTILITIES AND WIFI	FURNITURE ESSENTIALS PROVIDED	FULL KITCHEN
WASHER/DRYER IN UNIT	COMMUNITY ROOM	SECURED GARAGE WITH PAID PERMIT	LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITIES	NEARBY TO BUS, TRAIN AND LIGHTRAIL

CHECK OUT FLOOR PLANS AND PRICING.

tacoma.uw.edu/housing





4,400

monthly student
visits to the
University Y

62

registered student
organizations

627

campus events
2023-24

Play here

Get ready to unleash the fun at the Y-M-C-A! Our campus is home to our very own YMCA. Step inside and explore our cutting-edge gym, equipped with top-of-the-line cardio gear, weights, and an adrenaline-pumping rock-climbing wall. The University Y Student Center is more than a fitness center, it's the vibrant heartbeat of our campus. Engage in intramural sports, student government, and clubs that ignite your passions. And here's the best part: as a UW Tacoma student, you enjoy exclusive access to YMCA facilities nationwide.

ENGAGE. LEAD. PLAY.

tacoma.uw.edu/student-life

Freshmen admission

tacoma.uw.edu/freshman

We believe in your unique potential. While grades play a part in our application review, they are just one piece of the puzzle. We're interested in the full story—the challenges you've overcome, the passions that drive you, and the leadership qualities you possess. Share your journey with us, from extracurricular activities to personal growth. We take everything into account, ensuring we recognize the individual you are.

GUARANTEED ADMISSION

Did you know you could have guaranteed admissions to UW Tacoma? See if you qualify:



[tacoma.uw.edu/
guaranteed-admission-
freshmen](https://tacoma.uw.edu/guaranteed-admission-freshmen)

REQUIRED HIGH SCHOOL CLASSES

- English (4 years)
- Math (3 years)
Algebra, Geometry, Algebra II
- Social Sciences (3 years)
- Science (3 years)
Including 2 years of labs
and 1 algebra-based
- World Language (2 years)
- Sr. Quantitative Course (1 year)
Intermediate algebra or higher, stats,
chemistry or physics
- Fine, Visual or Performing Arts
(1/2 year)
- Academic Elective (1/2 year)

COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION

- Create a Common App account
- Self-reported transcripts and a personal statement
- \$60 application fee (waivers are available)

RUNNING START STUDENTS

- Apply as a freshman student
- Send your **official** community college transcripts after completion of your Running Start experience. A complete evaluation will be done upon receipt.

START YOUR UW TACOMA APPLICATION TODAY!

tacoma.uw.edu/apply



**IMPORTANT
FRESHMAN
APPLICATION
DEADLINES**

**EARLY ACTION
DEADLINE**

11/15

**RECEIVE A DECISION
BY JANUARY**

**AUTUMN QUARTER
DEADLINE**

1/15

**FOR PRIORITY ADMISSION AND
SCHOLARSHIP CONSIDERATION**

**WINTER QUARTER
DEADLINE**

10/15

**FOR PRIORITY ADMISSION AND
SCHOLARSHIP CONSIDERATION**

IT'S A BLOCK PARTY!

When the sun comes out, so does the neighborhood. UW Tacoma students celebrate spring with a big block party. Paint your face, collect swag, karaoke and enjoy all student's favorite: FREE FOOD.

IMPORTANT TRANSFER APPLICATION DEADLINES

FOR PRIORITY ADMISSION AND SCHOLARSHIP CONSIDERATION

WINTER QUARTER
DEADLINE

10/15

SPRING QUARTER
DEADLINE

1/15

AUTUMN QUARTER
DEADLINE

3/15



Transfer admission

tacoma.uw.edu/transfer

Ooh, looks like you're out of high school and have some college credits under your belt. Now you're ready to take the next step! Check out the transfer admission criteria below and be sure to check out those helpful links on the right-hand side of the page.

MORE THAN >40 TRANSFERABLE CREDITS

- Minimum 2.0 GPA in transferable courses
- Official college transcripts
Official high school transcripts may be needed
- \$60 application fee (waivers available)

LESS THAN <40 TRANSFERABLE CREDITS

- Minimum 2.0 GPA in transferable courses
- Completed required high school classes
- Official college AND high school transcripts
- (Optional) SAT or ACT test score, submitted directly from the testing agency. Use school code: 4445 (SAT) or 4493 (ACT)
- Submit official AP, IB, or CLEP scores (if applicable)
- \$60 application fee (waivers available)

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

tacoma.uw.edu/admissions/international-transfer-students

- Submit transcripts. Foreign college transcripts must be submitted WITH official English translations.
- Proof of English proficiency. Can be fulfilled through accepted coursework at a U.S. college or by submitting official test scores directly from the testing agencies:
tacoma.uw.edu/admissions/english-language-proficiency
- \$75 international application fee

QUESTIONS?

tacoma.uw.edu/meet-your-counselor

OR START YOUR TRANSFER

tacoma.uw.edu/apply

TRANSFER GUARANTEED ADMISSION

Washington residents who have completed an approved transfer degree (DTA) at a Washington community college with a minimum cumulative 2.75 GPA, and have applied by the due date are guaranteed general admission to UW Tacoma.

Transfer Tuesday Sessions include information on the transfer admissions process, degrees and majors offered, and general campus information. Some sessions will host academic programs. Register on-line: tacoma.uw.edu/transfertuesdays

TRANSFER TOOLS

Transfer Planning Worksheets include major prerequisites, application details, UW Areas of Inquiry and transfer equivalency tools.

tacoma.uw.edu/admissions/planning-your-transfer

MyPlan is the UW's online academic planning tool, enabling you to search courses, check course equivalencies, create academic plans, build multi-quarter schedules and share your plans with your admissions counselor. You do not have to be enrolled to use MyPlan. myplan.uw.edu

Check the UW Equivalency Guide for Washington state community and technical colleges:

admit.washington.edu/apply/transfer/equivalency-guide



**SUBMIT YOUR
FAFSA/WASFA
BY FEBRUARY 28
UW TACOMA CODE
003798**



Paying for college

UW Tacoma's Office of Student Financial Aid & Scholarships provides education, guidance, and support to individuals and families in the financial aid process. Here are some resources to start:

studentaid.gov

Complete the FAFSA to be eligible for federal and state grants, loans and/or work study. UW Tacoma code: 003798

wsac.wa.gov/wasfa

Complete the WASFA if you're a DREAMer or undocumented resident. UW Tacoma code: 003798

tacoma.uw.edu/netpricecalculator

Our online tool is designed to help you and your family's estimated financial aid and cost to attend UW Tacoma.

tacoma.uw.edu/scholarships

We offer a variety of scholarships for students. Some are based on merit; others require applicants to demonstrate financial need.

UW HUSKY PROMISE

It's our promise to Washington residents that we will not let financial challenges stand in the way. Full tuition and standard fees will be covered by grants or scholarship support for eligible students. *Guaranteed.*

huskypromise.uw.edu

ESTIMATED DIRECT COSTS 2024-2025

IN-STATE RESIDENTS

Tuition + fees: \$13,168

NON-RESIDENTS

Tuition + fees: \$43,404

Housing* \$16,371

ESTIMATED INDIRECT COSTS

Housing* \$16,371

Living with family \$5,844

Personal: \$2,508

Transportation: \$1,074

Books and supplies: \$900

* On-campus housing is optional and rates vary per room type and length of stay.

QUESTIONS? THE ANSWERS YOU SEEK ARE HERE.

**tacoma.uw.edu/
finaid/getting-started**



\$59.0

million
in financial aid
was disbursed
2022-23

66%

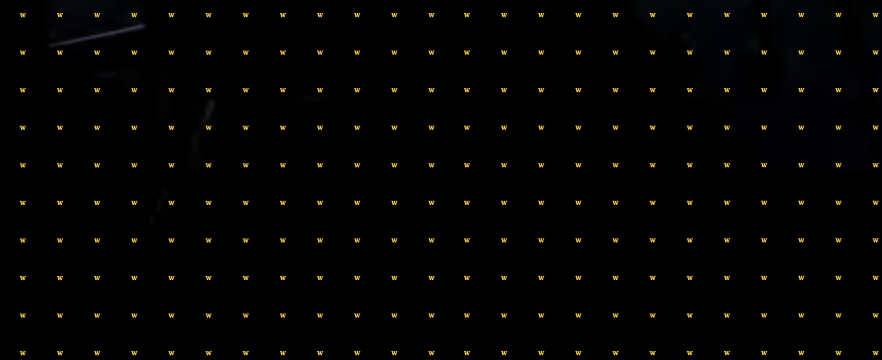
students received
aid in 2022-23

32%

students
qualified for the
Husky Promise
2022-23



W



Plan a visit

Like what you see? Well, there's a lot more we can show you. Stop by our new Welcome Center on campus or connect with our office to plan the visit experience that works best for you: tacoma.uw.edu/visit

CONTACT YOUR ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR

We are available for one-on-one consultations to answer your questions and help you navigate the admissions process. Call, email or live chat.

tacoma.uw.edu/meet-your-counselor

253-692-4742 or 800-736-7750 or uwinfo@uw.edu



W TACOMA

1900 COMMERCE STREET
TACOMA WA 98402-3100
TACOMA.UW.EDU

