

*FALL 2010*

*Arrival Booklet*



*Welcome*

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# Fall Semester Academic Calendar

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| <b>August 20</b>      | <b>Arrival Date</b>   |
| <b>August 20-22</b>   | <b>Host Friend Program</b><br><i>Students stay with an American host friend. Don't miss this unique experience!</i>                                     |
| <b>August 23</b>      | <b>Residence Halls open at 8 a.m.</b><br><i>Move into the dorms in the morning. Hosts &amp; Peer Guides will help you move into the residence hall.</i> |
| <b>August 23-27</b>   | <b>Orientation Week</b><br><i>Attendance is required for the entire orientation week.</i>   |
| <b>August 30-31</b>   | <b>New Student Activities</b><br><i>Phase II Orientation</i>  |
| <b>September 2</b>    | <b>Classes Begin</b>  |
| <b>November 24</b>    | <b>Thanksgiving Recess</b><br><i>Begins at 5 pm</i>   |
| <b>November 29</b>    | <b>Classes Resume</b>   |
| <b>December 13-17</b> | <b>Final Exam Week</b>  |

# Welcome to Eau Claire!

Dear Student,

Welcome to UW-Eau Claire! We are excited to meet you at **International Student Orientation. Orientation begins on Monday, August 23 in the Davies Center at UW-Eau Claire. You are required to attend the entire Orientation Week.** You will also have the opportunity to meet students, register for classes, learn about immigration regulations, employment, health insurance, banking, housing, campus facilities, and student life at UW-Eau Claire (see page 17).

During orientation, you will have student guides, called Peer Guides, to assist you. The Peer Guides have a great deal of expertise and experience at UW-Eau Claire (see page 17).

We strongly encourage you to participate in the **Host Friend Program**, which is from August 20-22. The deadline to apply is August 1, 2010. You will stay with an American friend for few days before orientation. Most students find this time with their hosts very pleasant and relaxing. Hosts introduce you to American life, the city of Eau Claire, and serve as excellent resources for you throughout your time at UW-Eau Claire (see page 9).

**You will move into your residence hall on Monday, August 23 at 8:00am. As soon as you know your arrival day and time, please email your arrival information to [hostfriend@uwec.edu](mailto:hostfriend@uwec.edu).** We do not pick up students in Minneapolis/St. Paul. Therefore, you should arrange your own transportation to Eau Claire (see page 11). If you arrive between August 20-22, your host friend will meet you either at the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport or Chippewa Valley Airport Service in Eau Claire.

We look forward to welcoming you to UW-Eau Claire soon!

Sincerely,  
The Center for International Education Staff

# The Center for International Education (CIE)

**Address:** Schofield Hall 3, Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004

**Hours:** 7:45 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday

**Telephone:** 1-715-836-4411

**Fax:** 1-715-836-4948

**Email:** [inted@uwec.edu](mailto:inted@uwec.edu)

**Web:** [www.uwec.edu/cie](http://www.uwec.edu/cie)

## CIE Staff

**Dr. Karl Markgraf**

Director

[markgraf@uwec.edu](mailto:markgraf@uwec.edu)

**Ms. Shu-Chuan Cheng**

Chinese Program Coordinator

[chengshu@uwec.edu](mailto:chengshu@uwec.edu)

**Ms. Jodi B. Simek**

International Student Adviser

[jbsimek@uwec.edu](mailto:jbsimek@uwec.edu)

**Ms. Catherine Thompson**

Host Friend Coordinator

[thompssc@uwec.edu](mailto:thompssc@uwec.edu)

**Ms. Krista Brown**

International Student Adviser

[brownkri@uwec.edu](mailto:brownkri@uwec.edu)

## Services of the CIE

UW-Eau Claire recognizes that international students have needs different from those of other students. Our International Student Advisers are responsible for a wide variety of services to international students. Services include visa advising, orientation, and culture adjustment. Students are encouraged to take advantage of these services and meet with the advisers about any concerns they may have.

The CIE also offers cultural programs for international students to get involved with the community and other UW-Eau Claire students. Visit “Programs and Activities” for more information at:  
[www.uwec.edu/cie/fsa/Programs/index.htm](http://www.uwec.edu/cie/fsa/Programs/index.htm)

# Preparation Checklist

Below is a list of important tasks that you need to complete before you arrive in Eau Claire.

- ☑ Obtain your F-1 or J-1 visa to study in the United States (see page 7).
- ☑ Complete a student profile for the Host Friend Program. Profiles can be found at [www.uwec.edu/cie/fsa/programs/studentprofile.htm](http://www.uwec.edu/cie/fsa/programs/studentprofile.htm). The deadline to apply for the program is August 1st for fall, and January 1st for spring. Your profile will be used to match you with a host friend in Eau Claire. Your host's contact information will be emailed to you. Students say having a host friend is one of the best parts of their study at UW-Eau Claire!
- ☑ Complete your On-campus Housing "Residence Information" and "Vaccine Statement". You will receive these forms via email after your acceptance to UWEC. Email completed forms as an attachment to: [housingoffice@uwec.edu](mailto:housingoffice@uwec.edu)
- ☑ Purchase an airline ticket that will allow you to arrive in Eau Claire to participate in the Host Friend Program and orientation. You must arrive in the U.S. before your program start date. Your return flight should not depart before your program end date. (Program start and end dates are listed in #5 on an I-20 and #3 on a DS-2019).
- ☑ If you do not participate in the Host Friend Program or arrive early, you should make hotel reservations (see page 12).
- ☑ If you arrive at the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport and not flying to Eau Claire, you should make a reservation on the airport shuttle service (see page 11).
- ☑ Send your arrival date, time, place, and flight number to [hostfriend@uwec.edu](mailto:hostfriend@uwec.edu)
- ☑ Notify your host friend of your arrival date, time, and place.
- ☑ If you are pursuing a degree at UW-Eau Claire, be sure to send the necessary funds (as stated in your letter of admission) to the university or bring the funds with you (see pages 13-15).
- ☑ Travel with your Host Friend's phone number and address in case your flight arrives early or is delayed.
- ☑ Bring pictures, traditional clothing, and other items of cultural significance from your country to share with your host family and new friends. We have many opportunities and events for you to share your culture (see back page).
- ☑ Visit the Center for International Education's website at: [www.uwec.edu/cie](http://www.uwec.edu/cie)

# Obtaining Your U.S. Student Visa

## **Your I-20 or DS-2019 Document**

The I-20 or DS-2019 will allow you to apply for your F-1 or J-1 student visa at a U.S. embassy or consulate. Applying for a U.S. visa can take anywhere from one day to four weeks, or longer.

## **SEVIS Fee**

The SEVIS fee is imposed by the USCIS (United States Citizenship & Immigration Services). The SEVIS fee must be paid and the I-901 Form (SEVIS fee receipt) must be fully processed before the applicant arrives at the consulate. You will not be issued an F or J visa without paying this fee. Payment may be made by credit card, debit card, check or money order.

Applicants must bring a SEVIS fee payment receipt with them for the visa interview. Having a receipt for the SEVIS fee payment will facilitate the visa application process. However, if you are unable to print a receipt from an online payment and/or do not receive your mailed receipt in time of your visa interview you can still go to your interview and attempt to obtain your visa as long as your fee has been processed by the Department of Homeland Security.

Fee payment process: <http://www.ice.gov/sevis>.

Fee payment & online I-901 Form: <http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/index.htm>

## **Entering the U.S.**

**To enter the United States, you will need your I-20 or DS 2019, passport, and visa.** Do not attempt to enter the U.S. without these documents. Please contact your local U.S. embassy or consulate to determine if there are other entry requirements specific to your country.

# Obtaining Your U.S. Student Visa

## Tips for the Visa Interview

### **1. Tell the Truth**

Be honest. Do not lie or answer questions falsely. Students have been denied visas for presenting false information.

### **2. Ties to your Home Country**

You must be able to show that you have reasons for returning to your home country that are stronger than those for remaining in the U.S.. “Ties” to your home country that bind you to your home town, region, or current place of residence such as job offer, family, further education, financial prospects that you own or will inherit, investments, etc.

### **3. Financial Support**

Bring proof that you have enough money to support yourself in the U.S.

### **4. English**

Anticipate that the interview will be conducted in English and not in your native language. One suggestion is to practice English with a native speaker before the interview, but do NOT prepare speeches! If you are coming to the U.S. to study only English, be prepared to explain how English will be useful for you in your home country.

### **4. Know the Program and How it Fits Your Career Plans**

You should be able to explain how studying in the U.S. relates to your future professional career.

### **5. Employment**

Your main purpose in coming to the U.S. should be to study, not to work in the U.S. before or after graduation. While many students do work on-campus during their studies, employment is not the main purpose of their U.S. education.

*Please visit the website of the U.S. Consulate in your home country for further information about preparing for your visa interview.*

# Host Friend Program

**Deadline to Apply: December 15th (Spring) & August 1st (Fall)**

The Host Friend Program is one of the most exciting advantages of coming to UW-Eau Claire to study.

You will stay with your American host for about three days before the beginning of orientation. During this time you will be able to relax, learn about U.S. customs, and get to know each other. Your host then helps you to move into the residence halls.

You and your host stay in touch during your time at UW-Eau Claire. Hosts may take you to events, invite you to their home for dinner, or any other activities that appeal to you and them. Hosts can introduce you to American life, Eau Claire, and Wisconsin. They are excellent guides and resources to you throughout your time at UW-Eau Claire. Hosts are excited to become acquainted with you and look forward to being one of your first friends in Eau Claire.

## **How Can I Join the Host Friend Program?**

To join, please complete the Student Profile form at: <http://www.uwec.edu/cie/fsa/Programs/studentProfile.htm>. You will be matched and the name and contact information of your host will be sent to you before you arrive in Eau Claire. Your host will meet you when you first arrive in Eau Claire. *Please remember to notify your host of your arrival date, time, place, and flight number.*

I encourage you to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity! I look forward to helping you meet your host friend and begin the adventure of living in America.

Sincerely,  
Catherine Thompson  
Community Outreach Coordinator  
[hostfriend@uwec.edu](mailto:hostfriend@uwec.edu)

# Host Friend Program

## Expectations and Responsibilities

### **What students are expected to do:**

- \* Respond to invitations/emails/phone messages from the hosts
- \* Notify hosts in advance if you must cancel an engagement
- \* Be kind and respectful towards the host
- \* Be on time for scheduled meetings with hosts
- \* Contact the CIE if the student cannot continue the relationship for any reason
- \* Contact the CIE if the host does not contact the student after a six week period

### **What students should NOT expect their Host Friend to do:**

- \* Provide transportation for the student
- \* Host their visiting family and friends
- \* Give or lend money to the student (including financial support)

### **What a Host Friend is expected to do:**

- \* Pick up the student at the Chippewa Valley Regional Airport in Eau Claire or Chippewa Valley Airport Shuttle Service, and house the student for 2-3 nights before Orientation
- \* Bring the student to UW-Eau Claire for Orientation and to move into the residence hall
- \* Contact the student by phone/email at least once a month during the semester
- \* Be kind and respectful toward the student
- \* Contact the CIE if the host can no longer continue the relationship
- \* Contact the CIE if the student does not contact the Host within a six week period

### **What a Host Friend is NOT expected to do:**

- \* Provide housing for long periods of time between semesters or during vacation periods
- \* Pick students up at the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport
- \* Loan students money
- \* Assist with immigration and visa problems, academic problems, or emotional and medical problems

# Preparing to Arrive

**Email your arrival date, time, place, shuttle arrival time and flight number to [hostfriend@uwec.edu](mailto:hostfriend@uwec.edu) and your host friend.**

**Host Friends will only pick up students in Eau Claire, so please plan your trip all the way to Eau Claire.**

Most students fly into the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport. The Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport is 145 km (90 miles) west of Eau Claire. Additional information visit: [www.mspairport.com/msp](http://www.mspairport.com/msp).

**You may arrive to Eau Claire either by:**

## **1. Shuttle service from the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport**

The Chippewa Valley Airport Service is the most convenient transportation method to get to Eau Claire from Minneapolis/St. Paul. It leaves directly from the airport. Reservations are necessary. To see the departure schedule and to make a reservation call 715-830-9400, or visit [www.chippewavalleyairportservice.com](http://www.chippewavalleyairportservice.com)

## **2. Airplane to Chippewa Valley Regional Airport**

You may fly directly to Eau Claire. The Chippewa Valley Regional Airport is the airport in Eau Claire. The airport code is EAU. For more information call 715-839-6241, or visit [www.cvrairport.com](http://www.cvrairport.com).

# Local Hotels in Eau Claire

Students can not move into the residence halls before orientation.

If you will be arriving in Eau Claire before the start of orientation and/or the Host Friend Program, you may consider the following hotels in Eau Claire. These hotels are near UW-Eau Claire and range in cost from \$70- \$100 per night.

## **Ramada Inn**

[www.ramada.com](http://www.ramada.com)

A 20 minute walk from UW-Eau Claire.

This is a stop for the Chippewa Valley Airport Service.

## **AmericInn**

[www.americinn.com](http://www.americinn.com)

15 minute drive from UW-Eau Claire.

This is a stop for the Chippewa Valley Airport Service.

## **Days Inn**

[www.daysinn.com](http://www.daysinn.com)

A 20 minute walk from UW-Eau Claire.

## **Holiday Inn Campus Area**

[www.holiday-inn.com](http://www.holiday-inn.com)

A 20 minute walk from UW-Eau Claire.

## **The Plaza**

[www.plazaeauclaire.com](http://www.plazaeauclaire.com)

A 20 minute walk from UW-Eau Claire.

# Money Matters

## Estimated Cost for One Year at UW-Eau Claire

|                               |          |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Non-Resident Tuition and Fees | \$15,550 |
| Residence Hall Room and Meals | \$ 6,076 |
| Accident/Sickness Insurance   | \$ 1,000 |
| Textbook Rental and Supplies  | \$ 450   |
| Personal Expenses             | \$ 1,800 |

**TOTAL ESTIMATE FOR ONE YEAR      \$24,876**

## University Bills & Payment Schedule

Information concerning bills, fees, payment schedule, visit the Business Office website at: <http://www.uwec.edu/bussvs/busoff/index.htm>

## \$600 Down Payment

All students must pay a \$600.00 down payment before the first day of orientation. This \$600.00 will pay for insurance and the required tuition deposit. Exchange and grant students pay this down payment prior to arrival. UW-Eau Claire does not accept debit or credit cards. Accepted forms of payment include: cash, checks, money orders, or wire transfers. Information on wire transfers can be found on the following page.

## Additional Cost Considerations

\* Exchange students must pay orientation fees, book rental fees, and special course fees (if applicable).

\* Personal expenses vary per student. This is only an estimate.

\* Some courses have special course fees not included in the above cost estimate.

# Paying Bills at UW-Eau Claire

## UW-Eau Claire does accept:

- \* **Wire Transfer**
- \* **International Money Order**
- \* **Bank Check**

## UW-Eau Claire Does NOT accept:

- \* **Credit card payments**
- \* **Debit card payments**

### 1. Wire Transfer

One of the safest ways to pay your tuition and health insurance fees is by wire transfer. Before sending a wire transfer, it is important for you to know that:

- \* A wire transfer must be in U.S. dollars.
- \* Any charges to UW-Eau Claire for receiving the wire transfer will be deducted from your account.
- \* You are responsible for all bank charges incurred for sending and receiving the wire transfer.

### 2. International Money Order

An international money order is a form of cash bought in your home country (usually at a post office or bank) for a specific amount of money and signed over by the purchaser to the person or firm named on the money order (in this case, UW-Eau Claire.) The money order must be made in U.S. dollars and made payable to “University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.”

### 3. Bank Check or Bank Draft

The bank check/draft must be made in U.S. dollars and made payable to “University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.”

### Money Order & Bank Check Clearance Periods

UW-Eau Claire will require a period of 60 days to clear and receive funds from a money order or bank check. If you are using a money order or a bank check to send a large sum of money to UW-Eau Claire to cover student expenses, please be sure to send the money order or bank check at least 60 days before the start of the semester. If you bring a money order or a bank check with you when you first arrive at UW-Eau Claire to pay your first semester’s fees, be aware that it will take at least 60 days before you will receive a refund from the money order or bank check if you are entitled to one.

# Wire Transfer Procedure

## How to send a wire transfer from outside the U.S. to UW-Eau Claire

### **Step #1**

**When you send the wire transfer, use the following bank routing information exactly as it is written below:**

Beneficiary Name – University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire

Beneficiary Account – 912009745

Bank Routing Number – 0750-0002-2

Bank Name – US Bank

Bank Address – 777 E. Wisconsin Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53202

Swift Code – USBKUS44IMT

### **Step #2**

**Send an email to Ann Statz at the Business Office ([lebakka@uwec.edu](mailto:lebakka@uwec.edu)) to confirm that your wire transfer was received. You must include the following information:**

- \*Your Name
- \*U.S. dollar amount wired to UW-Eau Claire
- \*Approximate date of the wire transfer
- \*Academic year/term that you will attend UW-Eau Claire
- \*Purpose of the wire transfer (tuition and/or health insurance fee)

### **Step #3**

**Send a fax to the Center for International Education. You must include the following information:**

- \*Your Name
- \*U.S. dollar amount wired to UW-Eau Claire
- \*Approximate date of the wire transfer
- \*Academic year/term that you will attend UW-Eau Claire
- \*Purpose of the wire transfer (tuition and/or health insurance fee)

# Accident & Sickness Insurance Policy

UW-Eau Claire requires all international students to purchase the Accident and Sickness Insurance policy. This policy is through Rust International Associates. The approximate cost of the policy is \$1,000 per year or \$500 per semester. The insurance requirement cannot be waived. **Do not plan to be covered by your own policy.** Additional information, visit: [www.uwec.edu/cie/fsa/CurrentStudents/health%20insurance.htm](http://www.uwec.edu/cie/fsa/CurrentStudents/health%20insurance.htm)

**NOTE: You will be expected to pay for the health insurance policy before you register for classes each semester.**

## **Policy Coverage\***

*\*Policy information may change without notice.*

**Total Benefit:** \$250,000

**Medical Evacuation:** Reasonable and Customary Expenses up to \$100,000

**Repatriation:** Reasonable and Customary Expenses up to \$20,000

**Deductible:** \$25. If you go to Health Services on-campus first and then get a referral to an off-campus facility, the deductible is \$0.

**Pre-existing Condition:** \$5,000

## **Prescription Medicine**

The Accident & Sickness Health Insurance helps to cover part of the cost of prescription medicine. You must use your Drug Card when you purchase your prescription medicine at a pharmacy. The Drug Card is very simple to use.

You will go to a participating pharmacy and show your card to the pharmacist. The pharmacist will charge your prescription directly to the insurance company. You will only pay the co-pay, instead of the full amount of the prescription. The co-pay costs for generic brand prescriptions are \$10, brand names are \$20, and multi-source is \$30. You do not need to submit an Insurance Claim Form.

## **Vaccines**

Wisconsin State Statute 36.25(46) requires that all students who will be residing in a campus residence hall to **receive information** regarding the risks associated with Hepatitis B and Meningococcal disease and the effectiveness of the vaccines available to prevent these diseases. You are NOT required to have vaccinations for these diseases. If you wish to receive vaccinations for these diseases, you may receive them at UW-Eau Claire's Health Services on campus.

# Orientation Week

Attendance for the entire week is **REQUIRED** for all international students

## **The Peer Guide Program**

Peer Guides (student guides) have been selected to assist you during your orientation to UW-Eau Claire. They come from a variety of backgrounds, countries, and majors. You will be introduced to your Peer Guide on the first day of orientation. New international students are placed in small groups ranging from 5 to 10 students and assigned to a Peer Guide. Please ask them questions and get to know them. Your Peer Guide will:

- \* Introduce you to other students
- \* Provide a campus tour
- \* Provide essential information on social customs in the U.S.
- \* Advise you regarding course selection
- \* Assist you in the class registration process
- \* Answer your individual questions

## **Transfer Students**

Students transferring from another college or university will receive an official transfer credit evaluation from UW-Eau Claire. In some cases, this evaluation will be included in the acceptance package. In other cases, it will be provided when the student arrives at UW-Eau Claire for orientation. If you have questions about how your credits will transfer, or if you have courses listed as “consult” or “defer,” you should plan to meet with Ms. Heather Pearson, the Associate Director of Admissions, during orientation.

International students who transfer from institutions within the United States must complete transfer procedures with the United States Citizenship & Immigration Services (USCIS). Notify your present university that you are transferring, so your International Student Adviser can help you with the immigration transfer procedure. Your present university must release you from SEVIS (Student Exchange Visitor Information System) before your new university (UW-Eau Claire) can issue you a 1-20 or DS-2019.

# English & Math Placement Testing

## **English Placement Test**

The purpose of this test is to determine whether each non-native speaking student's language proficiency is sufficient for active involvement in UW-Eau Claire coursework.

International students who do not submit a TOEFL score of 79 IBT (550 PBT) or greater will take an English as a Second Language placement test during orientation.

If you have a TOEFL score of 79 IBT (550 PBT) or greater, you do not need to take the placement test. However, you must provide proof of the TOEFL with your application.

## **Math Placement Test**

The math placement test is required of ALL students who are seeking an undergraduate degree at the university, unless math credits have been transferred to UW-Eau Claire. Transfer students may be required to take the test. The test serves as an advising tool so that students are placed in the appropriate math classes.

You may learn more about the test at: [www.uwec.edu/advising/Testing/mathPlacementTesting.htm](http://www.uwec.edu/advising/Testing/mathPlacementTesting.htm)

If you believe that you may have transfer credit which satisfies UWEC's math requirement, please contact Ms. Heather Pearson at [pearsonh@uwec.edu](mailto:pearsonh@uwec.edu) in the Admissions Office.

# On-Campus Housing

UW-Eau Claire has twelve residence halls, and guarantees rooms for new intentional students. Almost all students are assigned a roommate. Housing assignments are made through the Housing Office. Prior to your arrival, you'll receive an email from the Center for International Education indicating which residence hall you will be living and your roommate's contact information. We encourage you to contact your roommate before you arrive.

Each residence hall is different, with varying room configurations. All rooms have two beds, two desks, book shelves, closets, and dressers. Toilet and shower facilities are in a common area shared by other students on that floor. Bedding and linens are provided to all new international students at no cost.

You can take a look at pictures and find out specific information about each of the residence halls on the Housing and Residence Life website at: <http://www.uwec.edu/housing/index.htm>

There are no phones in your residence hall room. You will have access to public phones. Many students arrange to bring their own calling cards from home. You may also decide to purchase a cell phone, and/or communicate by email. Computer access is readily available on campus.

The Residence Halls and the CIE **do not** have the storage space to receive your personal packages before your arrival. Please have packages sent to your residence hall **after** you have arrived in Eau Claire.

# On-Campus Housing

You have received a Housing Residence Information form via email from the Center for International Education. Complete and send the form to Housing and Residence Life at [housingoffice@uwec.edu](mailto:housingoffice@uwec.edu) as soon as possible. The Residence Information form is used to match you with a roommate.

## **Living with your American Roommate**

You and your roommate come from different cultures so you are likely to have different values and behaviors. It is important to recognize and talk about these differences. Here are some differences that you should discuss with your roommate to avoid conflicts:

- Noise level in the room—what is too loud? Should the TV and music be turned off by a certain time each night?
- Sleeping habits—what time do each of you wake up in the morning and go to bed at night?
- Privacy and different attitudes toward modesty.
- Attitudes about members of the opposite gender visit the room.

Be aware of differences in eye contact, touching, and personal space. Some cultures feel that it is disrespectful to look a person in the eye during a conversation. Your roommate may have different comfort levels with the use of space and may prefer being closer or further away from you during conversation. Some cultures also have a different sense of time than Americans (being prompt may not be a large concern to an international student whereas in America it is). It is important to be aware of such differences so that you are not interpreting your roommate's body language as disrespectful or rude, but understanding that it is a part of his or her culture.

# Scholarships & Employment

## Scholarships

Additional information: <http://www.uwec.edu/cie/fsa/forms.htm>

### Incoming International Student Scholarship

Degree-seeking students may apply upon acceptance. The award for this scholarship varies from \$1,000-\$5,000 per year. Continuing students may apply for renewal.

Additional information at: [www.uwec.edu/admissions/scholarships/intlscholar.htm](http://www.uwec.edu/admissions/scholarships/intlscholar.htm)

*Once you have been at Eau Claire for two semesters, you may apply for the following:*

### Haas Scholarship

Degree-seeking international students with a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0, involved in community and campus activities, and show financial need may apply for this scholarship. You may only win this award once.

### Foundation Scholarship

Degree-seeking international students with a grade point average (GPA) of at least 2.25, involved in community and campus activities, and show financial need may apply for this scholarship. You may re-apply for this award every year.

### Dolly Rounds Scholarship

Degree-seeking international students accepted to UW-Eau Claire will be considered for grants. Freshman through graduate student can apply. Minimum 3.0 GPA; no geographic preference; open to all academic fields. Scholarship based on academic merit, exceptional talent, unique personal characteristics or future potential. Financial need is not a requirement; open pool annually. Prior recipient can reapply with possible for continuity to same recipient.

## Employment

Many international students work on-campus as part of their university experience. During orientation you will learn about the employment regulations and restrictions for your visa. Students should not expect to work off-campus because all off-campus employment is restricted by your student visa. Most students are eligible to work on campus up to 20 hours per week.

Please contact an International Student Adviser if you have questions.

# Student Organizations & University Recreation

Getting involved in a student organization on campus is a good way to have fun and meet American students. UWEC offers over 200 clubs and student organizations. You can get involved in professional, ethnic, leadership, human rights & social justice, or general interest societies, services organizations, sport clubs, or religious organizations. You are bound to find a club or student organization that interests you!

For a complete list of organizations, visit: <http://www.uwec.edu/studentorgs>

## **University Recreation**

University Recreation provides a variety of programs that meet the needs and interests of students. These various programs include intramurals, bowling and billiards, a fitness center, special events, hiking, camping, canoeing, basketball & volleyball courts, softball, soccer, football, and numerous other program. The facilities on campus are among the best in the state. For more information, visit [www.uwec.edu/recreation/](http://www.uwec.edu/recreation/)

## **Intramural Sports**

Previous sports experience are not required for participation. Intramural sports promotes team, league, tournament, individual and dual sport competition. Over 40 men's, women's and co-rec activities are offered to students interested in competitive sports in a recreational atmosphere. Leagues and tournaments are organized for all skill levels. Intramural teams can advance to regional and national tournaments in certain sports. For more information, visit [www.uwec.edu/recreation/scripts/Intramurals/index.php](http://www.uwec.edu/recreation/scripts/Intramurals/index.php)

## **UW-Eau Claire Athletics**

UW-Eau Claire has athletic teams for both men and women in swimming, soccer, basketball, ice hockey, softball, golf, volleyball, and many other sports. These teams compete with other schools of similar size. For more information, visit: [www.uwecblugolds.com/](http://www.uwecblugolds.com/)

# Where is Eau Claire?

## **Eau Claire, Wisconsin and the Midwest**

Eau Claire is the heart of West Central Wisconsin at the confluence of the Chippewa and Eau Claire rivers. It is approximately 145 kilometers (90 miles) east of Minneapolis/St. Paul. With a population of approximately 62,000, the city offers numerous reasons why it is a great place to live, work, and play. Eau Claire has a perfect mix of urban and rural life.

Wisconsin is a scenic state with a population of five million people. Wisconsin is bordered by Lake Michigan, Lake Superior, Minnesota, Michigan, Illinois, and Iowa. Wisconsin is known for its nature, outdoor activities, and dairy products such as cheese and milk. The capital city is Madison, approximately 260 kilometers (160 miles) from Eau Claire.

The Midwest is known for its high quality of educational institutions. The people are friendly and willing to assist you when needed. Minneapolis/St. Paul, otherwise known as the “Twin Cities,” offers many cultural activities, museums, theatres, and sporting events. The Twin Cities is near the Mall of America, which is America’s largest shopping mall.

### **Websites of Interest**

*Eau Claire / Wisconsin:*

[\\*www.eauclairchamber.com](http://www.eauclairchamber.com)

[\\*www.ci.eau-claire.wi.us](http://www.ci.eau-claire.wi.us)

[\\*http://volumeone.org](http://volumeone.org)

[\\*www.wisconsin.gov](http://www.wisconsin.gov)

*Minneapolis/St. Paul:*

[\\*www.minneapolis.org](http://www.minneapolis.org)

[\\*www.stpaul.gov](http://www.stpaul.gov)

## Winter Weather

You can experience all four seasons in Wisconsin. The weather changes dramatically throughout the year. Summers are warm with temperatures averaging 70° F to 90° F (20° C to 32° C). Late November through March are cold and snowy. Temperatures are frequently below freezing (32° F; 0° C). January is normally the coldest month with an average temperature of 17.5° F (-8° C).

You should buy a warm jacket or coat. Gloves, mittens, hats, scarves, and long underwear are essentials at this time of the year. You will also need boots to keep your feet warm. Plan to dress in layers to keep warm while you are walking to class. During the winter season in Eau Claire there are many fun activities. Despite the cold temperatures and snow, you may find winter an enjoyable season!

# Share your Culture with the Eau Claire Community

The Center for International Education (CIE) provides many opportunities for international students to share their culture with the Eau Claire community. For more information visit: [www.uwec.edu/cie/fsa/Programs/index.htm](http://www.uwec.edu/cie/fsa/Programs/index.htm).

We encourage you to bring traditional clothes and items that represent your culture to share your home with Eau Claire.

## **International Folk Fair**

Every October, the CIE coordinates the International Folk Fair. The fair brings people together to celebrate culture through educational exhibits, food, and cultural performances. Students, community groups, and student organizations represent more than 40 different countries/cultures every year.

## **International Speakers Bureau**

The International Speakers Bureau provides an opportunity to broaden cultural perspective in the Eau Claire community. Share your culture with local schools, churches, and community groups.

## **International Buddy Project**

Are you interested in making American friends? The International Buddy Project pairs international and American students based on hobbies, interests, etc. Buddies often attend campus or community events together.