



Wheaton College

*For Christ and His Kingdom*

**Application for Admission**

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

2017

# APPLYING TO WHEATON COLLEGE

## ADMISSIONS DEADLINES

APPLICATION TYPE	APPLICATION DEADLINE	INTERVIEW DEADLINE	DECISION BY	REPLY DATE
<b>FIRST-YEAR APPLICANTS</b>				
Fall Early Action	November 1	November 1	December 31	May 1
Fall Regular Action	January 10	February 1	April 1	May 1
Spring Semester	October 1	October 1	Beginning November 1	December 1
<b>TRANSFER APPLICANTS</b>				
Fall Semester	March 1	March 1	Beginning April 1	May 1
Spring Semester	October 1	October 1	Beginning November 1	December 1

**THE FOLLOWING CHECKLIST HAS BEEN DESIGNED TO HELP YOU COMPLETE THE APPLICATION THAT FOLLOWS. PLEASE REFER TO DETAILED INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT THE APPLICATION PROCESS AT [WHEATON.EDU/APPLY](http://WHEATON.EDU/APPLY).**

### 1. Complete your application including:

- Application form
- \$50.00 application fee
- Essays (*no staples, please*)
- Art or Music Supplement:  
Prospective Art or Music Majors  
(*optional, but encouraged*)

### 2. Authorize the testing agency to send:

- ACT and/or SAT scores (*Note: Scores reported on your high school transcript are not considered official. However, if you received an application fee waiver, you may request that we make an exception.*)

### 3. Ask school officials to complete:

- High school transcript
- College transcripts (*if applicable*)
- High school report and high school profile  
(*optional; first-year applicants only*)
- Homeschool information form (*if applicable*)

### 4. Distribute Recommendations:

- Academic recommendation  
(*core subject teacher*)
- Pastoral recommendation (*must not be relative*)

### 5. Send application to Wheaton College:

- Include all application items from Step 1, along with transcripts and recommendations, if possible.
- Mail your application. (*Please allow at least one week for delivery to ensure that it arrives by the deadline.*)

### 6. Arrange:

- An admissions interview by the interview deadline date (*optional*)



**APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION**

This application is to be filled out by the applicant. Please type or print and mail to:  
Admissions Office, Wheaton College, 501 College Avenue, Wheaton, Illinois 60187.

**If you are not a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, please complete the online application.**

For office use only

Indicate year you wish to begin study: 20 ____ <input type="checkbox"/> Fall <input type="checkbox"/> Spring		
Desired major	Have you applied to Wheaton before? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, for what term did you apply? ____	Classification <input type="checkbox"/> First-Year <input type="checkbox"/> Transfer
\$50 application fee enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>If no, attach a fee waiver</i>	Do you plan to apply for financial aid? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Legal Name	Last	First	Middle	Preferred first name
<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs.				
Mailing Address	Number & Street	City	State	Zip Code
Country (if outside USA)				
If this is not your home, how long will you be at this address?		Home Phone Number ( )	Cell Phone (if available) ( )	Email Address (that you check often)
Sex at Birth <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Date of Birth	Social Security Number	State or Nation of Residency	
Citizenship <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Citizen <input type="checkbox"/> Dual U.S. Citizen; Specify other country of citizenship _____ <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Permanent Resident Card*; citizen of _____ <i>If you are not a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, please complete the online application. *Please provide a copy of your Permanent Resident Card.</i>	Race & Ethnicity (optional) Do you identify yourself ethnically as Hispanic/Latino? <i>If yes, you may specify origin.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes _____ <input type="checkbox"/> No	In addition, please select one or more of the following racial categories to describe yourself: <i>You may specify origin.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Asian _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander _____ <input type="checkbox"/> White _____		
Marital Status	Denomination	Church Name		

If your parents are Wheaton alumni, check accordingly.

Father:  Attended  Graduated Year \_\_\_\_\_ Mother:  Attended  Graduated Year \_\_\_\_\_

List family members other than parents who have attended Wheaton:

NAME	RELATIONSHIP	YEAR
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**FAMILY INFORMATION**

Are your parents career missionaries outside the U.S.? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If yes, what country?	Are your parents divorced or separated? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes* Date _____ *If yes, with whom do you primarily live?
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Father _____ TITLE FIRST MIDDLE LAST SUFFIX	Mother _____ TITLE FIRST MAIDEN LAST
If deceased, give date _____	If deceased, give date _____
Address _____	Address _____
City, State, Zip _____	City, State, Zip _____
Country _____	Country _____
Phone _____	Phone _____
Email _____	Email _____
Colleges attended _____	Colleges attended _____
Highest degree earned _____	Highest degree earned _____
Employer _____	Employer _____
Occupation/Position _____	Occupation/Position _____
*If remarried, spouse's name _____	*If remarried, spouse's name _____

## EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION AND EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

1. List all high schools attended	City	State or Nation	Grade Level(s)				School Type <i>(Pub., Pri., Chr., Home)</i>
			9	10	11	12	

2. Date of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_  
(MONTH/YEAR)

3. List Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate classes taken or currently in progress. Include AP or IB exam score.

CLASS	DATES TAKEN	AP/IB EXAM SCORE	GRADE EARNED

4. List all colleges or universities attended, even if you withdrew prior to earning credit. You must have official transcripts sent from each institution.

SCHOOL	CITY/STATE	DATES OF ATTENDANCE	CREDIT HOURS EARNED TO DATE	CREDIT HOURS IN PROGRESS

5. List any academic awards or honors you have received in high school in order of their importance to you (i.e. *National Merit, National Honors Society, other honors*). Transfers may also list college awards/honors.

Grade level or post-graduate					Honor	Level of Recognition			
9	10	11	12	PG		School	State/ Regional	National	Inter- national

6. Are you a National Merit semifinalist?  Yes  No



## AUTOBIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

### FAITH QUESTIONS

At Wheaton College, the integration of faith and learning is central to who we are and our Christian identity permeates everything we do, providing the groundwork for our academic and community life. Wheaton College seeks students who share our commitment Christ and a desire to grow in their faith. Please use the questions below to share about God's work in your life. For both questions one and two, please answer in 200 words.

Have you accepted Jesus Christ as your personal savior?  Yes  No

**Question One:** In light of your faith in Jesus, what values and personal character traits are becoming more or less important to you?

**Question Two:** In what ways is Christ leading you to live out these qualities and values in the Church and world?

### REQUIRED ESSAY(S)

The essay section is a significant component of the application process. Essays are evaluated on the basis of content, writing skill, and creativity. They must be double-spaced and should not exceed the suggested length. Please put your full name on the top right-hand corner of each page. Essays must be submitted with your application. **All applicants must answer the primary essay option of their choice.** Transfers must also answer the Additional Essay for Transfers at the bottom of this section.

We are eager to get to know you, and your essays provide an opportunity for you to let us know who you are through your answers.

**Essay:** Select a topic below and write a 500-750 word essay.

- a. How have you been changed through your interaction with a piece of visual or performing art, a work of literature, or a concept of math or science?
- b. Pick a topic or experience and write an essay that reveals something about who you are.

**Additional Essay for Transfers:** In 500 words, describe your experience at your current school and explain the reasons you wish to transfer to Wheaton College. Also tell us why you see yourself as a good match with Wheaton.

### ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

1. Have you ever had to leave any educational institution for academic or disciplinary reasons?  Yes  No  
If yes, please explain on a separate sheet of paper.
  2. Have you ever been convicted of a felony?  Yes  No If yes, please explain on a separate sheet of paper.
  3. If you are not currently attending school, describe what you are doing. Attach an additional page, if necessary.
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## COMMUNITY COVENANT

Please read Wheaton's Community Covenant printed at the back of this packet. This covenant is designed to express the crucial Christian convictions, aspirations, commitments and responsibilities shared by the members of the Wheaton College campus family. In applying for membership in this community, you should therefore weigh carefully whether these convictions, aspirations and commitments match your own, and whether you can gladly join in fulfilling the covenant's responsibilities.

**"I affirm by my signature below that I have carefully read Wheaton's Community Covenant, that this covenant expresses my own Christian convictions, aspirations and commitments, and that, if I am accepted and subsequently enroll as a student at Wheaton College, I will gladly join in fulfilling its responsibilities."** (Please explain any questions, reservations or disagreements in an attached statement.)

**"I also affirm by my signature that all the information contained in my application, including my essays, is my own work, factually true, and honestly presented."**

Print Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## OVERSEAS STUDENTS ONLY

If you're currently living outside the United States, you may choose to have your decision letter faxed or emailed to you. Some students prefer that we do not fax or e-mail our decision to them due to possible loss of confidentiality. All decision letters will also be sent by air mail. Please check one:

\_\_\_\_ Please e-mail\* my decision letter to this e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*Emails to Early Action applicants will be sent by January 5, and emails to Regular Action applicants will be sent by April 1.**

\_\_\_\_ Please do not e-mail the letter. Send it only by air mail to the address listed on page 1.

**WHEATON COLLEGE (IL) – HIGH SCHOOL REPORT (FIRST-YEAR APPLICANTS ONLY)**

**PART I – TO BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY APPLICANT**

First-Year Applicants, please print or type Part I. Have your guidance counselor or other school official complete Part II and submit it with your high school transcript and school profile.

Wheaton ID # (if known) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
NUMBER & STREET CITY STATE ZIP CODE COUNTRY

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

I am applying (check one):  Fall Early Action First-Year  Fall Regular Action First-Year  Spring First-Year

**APPLICANT’S WAIVER OF RIGHT OF ACCESS TO CONFIDENTIAL STATEMENT:**

I hereby voluntarily waive my right of access to any information contained on this recommendation form and agree that the statement shall remain confidential.

Applicant’s Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**PART II – TO BE COMPLETED BY HIGH SCHOOL GUIDANCE OFFICE OR SCHOOL OFFICIAL AND SUBMITTED WITH TRANSCRIPT AND SCHOOL PROFILE**

This form is due in the Wheaton College Admissions Office by:

**Fall Early Action:** November 1 **Fall Regular Action:** January 10 **Spring:** October 1

Class rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Class size: \_\_\_\_\_ Covering a period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
(MM/YYYY) (MM/YYYY)

The rank is  weighted  unweighted. How many students share this rank? \_\_\_\_\_

We do not rank. Instead, please indicate quartile \_\_\_\_\_ quintile \_\_\_\_\_ decile \_\_\_\_\_.

Cumulative GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ on a \_\_\_\_\_ scale, covering a period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
(MM/YYYY) (MM/YYYY)

This GPA is  weighted  unweighted. The school’s passing mark is \_\_\_\_\_.

Grading Scale: A+ = \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ B+ = \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ C+ = \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ D+ = \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ F = \_\_\_\_\_  
A = \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ B = \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ C = \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ D = \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
A- = \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ B- = \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ C- = \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ D- = \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation date \_\_\_\_\_  
(MM/YYYY)

Percentage of graduating class attending: four-year \_\_\_\_\_ two-year \_\_\_\_\_ institutions

Indicate student’s National Merit standing, if applicable. Commended \_\_\_\_\_ Semi-Finalist or Finalist \_\_\_\_\_

In what subjects are Honors, AP or IB courses available at your school? Please indicate Honors (H), AP, or IB beside the subject area.

English \_\_\_\_\_ Math \_\_\_\_\_ Science \_\_\_\_\_ Social Science \_\_\_\_\_ Other (indicate) \_\_\_\_\_

For graduating seniors, please indicate the mean composite score (or mid 50% range) on the following exams:

SAT Critical Reading \_\_\_\_\_ SAT Math \_\_\_\_\_ ACT Composite \_\_\_\_\_

What percentage of the senior class has taken the SAT? \_\_\_\_\_ What percentage has taken the ACT? \_\_\_\_\_

**Please enclose a copy of the student’s senior year courses/schedule if not already on the transcript.**



**PART II - CONTINUED**

What are the first words that come to your mind to describe this student?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Using specific examples, please write a summary appraisal of the applicant assessing his or her academic ability and future promise as a student at Wheaton College. Any special talent or qualities of the applicant's can be noted, as well. We welcome any information that will help us differentiate this student from others.

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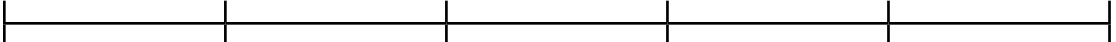
Has the applicant ever been found responsible for a disciplinary violation at your school from 9th grade forward?  Yes  No

To your knowledge, has the applicant ever been convicted of a misdemeanor, felony, or other crime?  Yes  No

If you answered yes to either or both questions, please attach a separate sheet of paper or use your written recommendation to give the approximate date of each incident and explain the circumstances.

Check here if you would prefer to discuss this over the phone with the Admissions Office.

WITH ENTHUSIASM      STRONGLY      FAIRLY STRONGLY      WITH RESERVATION      NOT RECOMMENDED

Overall, I recommend this student: 

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

School \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ College Board High School Code \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for completing this report.**

Please return with the transcript and school profile to the applicant (in a sealed envelope, signed across the flap).

If you prefer to mail it directly to us, please inform the applicant when it is sent and mail it to:

**Admissions Office, Wheaton College, 501 College Avenue, Wheaton, Illinois 60187**



# WHEATON COLLEGE (IL) - ACADEMIC RECOMMENDATION

## PART I - TO BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY APPLICANT

Please print or type Part I. Part II must be completed by a teacher you have had in a **core academic subject** (*English, science, social science, math or foreign language*). Please do not choose anyone related to you, unless you are homeschooled.

**Homeschool Students:** While we prefer that someone other than your parent complete the recommendation, if there is no other teacher we will accept the academic recommendation from your parent. If you would like, you may submit a second recommendation from an individual outside your household who knows you well as a student and as a person: an employer, tutor, or coach, for example. This would be in addition to the required pastoral recommendation, which must also come from someone who is not related to you.

**Transfer Students:** Request that your faculty advisor or a college professor who knows you academically submit the recommendation. Current college freshmen may submit a recommendation from either a college professor or a high school teacher of one of your core academic courses.

Wheaton ID # (if known) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
NUMBER & STREET CITY STATE ZIP CODE COUNTRY

School or College (attending/attended) \_\_\_\_\_

I am applying (check one):  Fall Early Action First-Year  Fall Regular Action First-Year  Fall Transfer  Spring First-Year or Transfer

### APPLICANT'S WAIVER OF RIGHT OF ACCESS TO CONFIDENTIAL STATEMENT:

I hereby voluntarily waive my right of access to any information contained on this recommendation form and agree that the statement shall remain confidential.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## PART II - TO BE COMPLETED BY ACADEMIC TEACHER

This form is due in the Wheaton College Admissions Office by:

**Fall Early Action:** November 1    **Fall Regular Action:** January 10    **Fall Transfer:** March 1    **Spring First Year or Transfer:** October 1

The above student is applying for admission to Wheaton College. We value your comments highly and ask that you give a full and candid report so that fair consideration may be given to the applicant. You may submit a letter of recommendation in addition to this completed form. An incomplete or late report may lessen this applicant's chances for admission.

1. How long have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

2. In what academic context have you known the applicant? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Academic Ratings: Of all the students I have known, this student ranks in the:

	TOP 1%	TOP 5%	TOP 10%	TOP 25%	TOP 50%	OTHER
Motivation						
Creative Qualities						
Self-discipline						
College Readiness						
Intellectual Curiosity						

4. Character and Personality Ratings:

	OUTSTANDING	ABOVE AVERAGE	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE
Leadership				
Self-confidence				
Warmth of Personality				
Concern for Others				
Personal Initiative				

**PART II - CONTINUED**

5. Using specific examples, please write a summary appraisal of the applicant assessing his or her academic ability and future promise as a student at Wheaton College. Any special talent or qualities of the applicant's can be noted, as well. We welcome any information that will help us differentiate this student from others.

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	WITH ENTHUSIASM	STRONGLY	FAIRLY STRONGLY	WITH RESERVATION	NOT RECOMMENDED
Overall, I recommend this student:					

Name _____	Position _____
Course(s) Taught to Applicant _____	
School/College _____	Telephone Number _____
Address _____	Email _____
_____	College Board High School Code _____
Signature _____	Date _____

**Thank you for completing this recommendation.**

**Please keep a copy for your records.** Be sure both sides have been completed and return to the applicant in a sealed envelope, signed across the flap. If you prefer to mail it directly to us, please inform the applicant when it is sent and mail it to:

**Admissions Office, Wheaton College, 501 College Avenue, Wheaton, Illinois 60187**  
**Fax: 630 752 5285**

# WHEATON COLLEGE (IL) - PASTORAL RECOMMENDATION

## PART I - TO BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY APPLICANT

Please print or type Part I. Part II is to be completed by your pastor, youth pastor, former pastor, Bible study leader, Christian school teacher, or other mature Christian who knows you well and has had the opportunity to observe your spiritual life. *The individual must NOT be a relative.*

Wheaton ID # (if known) \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
NUMBER & STREET CITY STATE ZIP CODE COUNTRY

I am applying (check one):  Fall Early Action First-Year  Fall Regular Action First-Year  Fall Transfer  Spring First-Year or Transfer

### APPLICANT'S WAIVER OF RIGHT OF ACCESS TO CONFIDENTIAL STATEMENT:

I hereby voluntarily waive my right of access to any information contained on this recommendation form and agree that the statement shall remain confidential.

Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## PART II - TO BE COMPLETED BY PASTOR/YOUTH DIRECTOR

This form is due in the Wheaton College Admissions Office by:

**Fall Early Action:** November 1 **Fall Regular Action:** January 10 **Fall Transfer:** March 1 **Spring First-Year or Transfer:** October 1

The above student is applying for admission to Wheaton College. We value your comments highly and ask that you give a full and candid report so that fair consideration may be given to the applicant. You may submit a letter of recommendation in addition to this completed form. An incomplete or late report may lessen this applicant's chances for admission.

1. How long have you known the applicant?  0-6 months  6 months-1 year  1-2 years  2-4 years  5 or more years

2. In what context and how well have you known this applicant? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

3. To the best of your knowledge has the applicant made a personal commitment to Jesus Christ?  Yes  No  I don't know

Please rate the students in the following areas, compared to his/her peer group:

	High	Average	Low		High	Average	Low
Cooperation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Emotional Stability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reliability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Concern for Others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motivation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Maturity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disposition	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spiritual Maturity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. Please describe the applicant's social and spiritual influence in your church or organization. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

5. In your opinion, does this student possess any outstanding abilities or spiritual qualities? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**PART II - CONTINUED**

6. Please describe any leadership positions or significant roles the applicant has held in your church or organization. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. To your knowledge, does the applicant have any attitudes or behaviors that are inconsistent with biblical principles or with Wheaton's lifestyle expectations (for example, dishonesty, abuse of alcohol or illegal drugs, or inappropriate internet usage)? See Wheaton's Community Covenant at [wheaton.edu/covenant](http://wheaton.edu/covenant).

Yes (please explain)                       No

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Using specific examples, please write a summary of the applicant's spiritual life, qualities, etc., and how you think those will influence their college experience. Please include personal, home or family factors that may positively or negatively affect the applicant's success at Wheaton College (you may attach an additional sheet if necessary).

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\_\_\_\_\_

Based on your observations of this applicant's spiritual life and character, how strongly do you recommend this applicant to Wheaton College?

WITH ENTHUSIASM	STRONGLY	FAIRLY STRONGLY	WITH RESERVATION	NOT RECOMMENDED
----- ----- ----- ----- -----				

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Position \_\_\_\_\_

Church/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for completing this recommendation.**

**Please keep a copy for your records.** Be sure both sides have been completed and return to the applicant in a sealed envelope, signed across the flap. If you prefer to mail it directly to us, please inform the applicant when it is sent and mail it to:

**Admissions Office, Wheaton College, 501 College Avenue, Wheaton, Illinois 60187  
Fax: 630 752 5285**

# COMMUNITY COVENANT



## PREFACE

Wheaton College is an institution of higher learning, a rigorous academic community that takes seriously the life of the mind. But this description does not exhaust the College's understanding of itself. Wheaton College is also a largely residential community made up of Christians who, according to the College motto, are dedicated to the service of "Christ and His Kingdom."

These features in combination mean that Wheaton College is a complex Christian community of living, learning, and serving that cannot be reduced to a simple model. For example, while the College is not a church, it is yet a community of Christians who seek to live according to biblical standards laid down by Jesus Christ for his body, the church. Or again, while the College is not a religious

order, it yet demonstrates some features that are similar to religious orders, communities wherein, for the sake of fulfilling the community's purposes, its members voluntarily enter into a social compact. At Wheaton we call this social compact our community covenant.

For Wheaton's community covenant to serve its stated purpose, it is crucial that each member of the College family understand it clearly and embrace it sincerely. In joining this covenant we are, before the Lord, joining in a compact with other members of the Wheaton College community. If we do not wish to live under the provisions of this compact, we should not agree to it. But if we do agree to it, it should be with the full intention of living with integrity under its provisions.

The goal of campus life at Wheaton College is to live, work, serve, and worship together as an educational community centered around the Lord Jesus Christ. Our mission as an academic community is not merely the transmission of information; it is the development of whole and effective Christians who will impact the church and society worldwide "For Christ and His Kingdom." Along with the privileges and blessings of membership in such a community come responsibilities. The members of the Wheaton College campus community take these responsibilities seriously.

The biblical foundation of Christian community is expressed in Jesus' two great commandments: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind," and, "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matt. 22:37-40). Jesus himself perfectly demonstrated the pattern: love for God, acted out in love for others, in obedience to God's Word. Acknowledging our dependence on the power and grace of God, the members of the Wheaton College campus community humbly covenant to live according to this ideal.

► **All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness.**

2 TIMOTHY 3:16

The purposes of this community covenant are as follows:

- to cultivate a campus atmosphere that encourages spiritual, moral and intellectual growth;
- to integrate our lives around Christian principles and devotion to Jesus Christ;
- to remove whatever may hinder us from our calling as a Christ-centered academic community;
- to encourage one another to see that living for Christ involves dependence on God's Spirit and obedience to his Word, rather than a passive acceptance of prevailing practices.

## Affirming Biblical Standards

We desire to build this covenant on basic biblical standards for godly Christian character and behavior. We understand that our calling includes the following:

- The call to acknowledge the Lordship of Christ over all of life and thought. This involves a wholehearted obedience to Jesus and careful stewardship in all dimensions of life: our time, our possessions, our God-given capacities, our opportunities (Deut. 6:5-6; 1 Cor. 10:31; Col. 1:18; 3:17);
- The call to love God with our whole being, including our minds, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. Christ-like love should be the motive in all decisions, actions, and relationships (Matt. 22:37-40; Rom. 13:8-10; 1 John 4:7-12);
- The call to pursue holiness in every aspect of our thought and behavior (2 Cor. 7:1; 1 Thess. 4:7; Heb. 12:14; 1 Pet. 1:15-16);
- The call to exercise our Christian freedom responsibly within the framework of God's Word, humbly submitting ourselves to one another (1 Pet. 5:5; Eph. 5:21) with loving regard for the needs of others (Phil. 2:3-11; Rom. 14:1-23; 1 Thess. 4:9);
- The call to treat our own bodies, and those of others, with the honor due the very temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:17-20);
- The call to participate in the worship and activities of the local church, which forms the basic biblically-mandated context for Christian living (Acts 2:42-47; Heb. 10:25; 1 Tim. 3:14-15).

## Living the Christian Life

We believe these biblical standards will show themselves in a distinctly Christian way of life, an approach to living we expect of ourselves and of one another. This lifestyle involves practicing those attitudes and actions the Bible portrays as virtues and avoiding those the Bible portrays as sinful.

According to the Scriptures, followers of Jesus Christ will:

- show evidence of the Holy Spirit who lives within them, such as "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" (Gal. 5:22);
- "put on" compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, forgiveness, and supremely, love (Col. 3:12-14);
- seek righteousness, mercy and justice, particularly for the helpless and oppressed (Prov. 21:3; 31:8-9; Micah 6:8; Matt. 23:23; Gal. 6:10);
- love and side with what is good in God's eyes, and abhor what is evil in God's eyes (Amos 5:15; Rom. 12:9, 16:19);
- uphold the God-given worth of human beings, from conception to death, as the unique image-bearers of God (Gen. 1:27; Psalm 8:3-8; 139:13-16);

- uphold chastity among the unmarried (1 Cor. 6:18) and the sanctity of marriage between a man and woman (Heb. 13:4);
- be people of integrity whose word can be fully trusted (Psalm 15:4; Matt. 5:33-37);
- give faithful witness to the Gospel (Acts 1:8; 1 Pet. 3:15), practice good works toward all (Gal. 6:10; Eph. 2:10; Heb. 10:24; 1 Pet. 2:11), and live lives of prayer and thanksgiving (1 Thess. 5:17-18; James 5:16; Titus 2:8).

By contrast, Scripture condemns the following:

- pride, dishonesty (such as stealing and lying, of which plagiarism is one form), injustice, prejudice, immodesty in dress or behavior, slander, gossip, vulgar or obscene language, blasphemy, greed and materialism (which may manifest themselves in gambling), covetousness, the taking of innocent life, and illegal activities (Prov. 16:18; 1 Cor. 6:10; Exod. 20:7; Rom. 13:9; Col. 3:8-9; James 2:1-13; Gal. 3:26-29; Rom. 13:1-2; 1 Tim. 2:8-10; Heb. 13:5-6);
- hypocrisy, self-righteousness, and legalism, understood as the imposition of extra-biblical standards of godliness by one person or group upon another (Acts 15:5-11; Matt. 16:6; 23:13-36);
- sinful attitudes and behaviors such as "impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like" (Gal. 5:19-21);
- sexual immorality, such as the use of pornography (Matt. 5:27-28), pre-marital sex, adultery, homosexual behavior and all other sexual relations outside the bounds of marriage between a man and woman (Rom. 1:21-27; 1 Cor. 6:9; Gen. 2:24; Eph. 5:31).

## Exercising Responsible Freedom

Beyond these explicit biblical issues, the Wheaton College community seeks to foster the practice of responsible Christian freedom (Gal. 5:13-14; 1 Pet. 2:16-17). This requires a wise stewardship of mind, body, time, abilities and resources on the part of every member of the community. Responsible freedom also requires thoughtful, biblically-guided choices in matters of behavior, entertainment, interpersonal relationships, and observance of the Lord's Day.

► **You are not your own. You were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.**

I CORINTHIANS 6:20

Of particular concern in a collegiate environment are those issues related to alcohol, illegal drugs, and tobacco. While the use of illegal drugs or the abuse of legal drugs is by definition illicit, and the use of tobacco in any form has been shown to be injurious to health, the situation regarding beverage alcohol is more complex. The Bible requires moderation in the use of alcohol, not abstinence. Yet the fact that alcohol is addictive to many, coupled with the biblical warnings against its dangers, also suggests the need for caution. The abuse of alcohol constitutes by far our society's greatest substance abuse problem, not to mention the fact that many Christians avoid it as a matter of conscience. Thus the question of alcohol consumption represents a prime opportunity for Christians to exercise their freedom responsibly, carefully, and in Christ-like love.

The Wheaton College community also encourages responsible freedom in matters of entertainment, including the places where members of the College community may seek it, such as television, movies, video, theater, concerts, dances and the Internet. The College assumes its members will be guided in their entertainment choices by the godly wisdom of Philippians 4:8: "Whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think about such things."

### **Embracing College Standards**

To foster the kind of campus atmosphere most conducive to becoming the Christian community of living, learning, and serving that Wheaton College aspires to be, the College has adopted the following institutional standards. These standards embody such foundational principles as self-control, avoidance of harmful practices, the responsible use of freedom, sensitivity to the heritage and practices of other Christians, and honoring the name of Jesus Christ in all we do.

- Wheaton College and all Wheaton College-related functions will be alcohol-free and tobacco-free. This means that the possession or consumption of alcohol or the use of tobacco in any form will be prohibited in, on, or around all campus properties, owned or leased. The same prohibition applies to all Wheaton College vehicles, whether on or off campus, and to all Wheaton College events or programs, wherever they may be held.

While enrolled in Wheaton College, undergraduate members of the community will refrain from the consumption of alcohol or the use of tobacco in all settings.

Other adult members of the College community will use careful and loving discretion in any use of alcohol. They will avoid the serving or consumption of alcohol

in any situation in which undergraduate members of the Wheaton College family are or are likely to be present.

- On-campus dances will take place only with official College sponsorship. All members of the Wheaton College community will take care to avoid any entertainment or behavior, on or off campus, which may be immodest, sinfully erotic, or harmfully violent (Eph. 4:1-2, 17-24; I Tim. 5:2; Gal. 5:22-23).

### **Conclusion**

We, the Wheaton College community, desire to be a covenant community of Christians marked by integrity, responsible freedom, and dynamic, Christ-like love, a place where the name of Jesus Christ is honored in all we do. This requires that each of us keeps his or her word by taking the commitment to this covenant seriously as covenant keepers, whatever pressures we may face to do otherwise.

The issue of keeping one's word is for a Christian an important one. Being faithful to one's word is a matter of simple integrity and godliness. "Lord, who may live on your holy hill?" asks the Psalmist. "He who keeps his oath, even when it hurts" (15:4), comes the reply. Christian integrity dictates that if we have voluntarily placed ourselves under Wheaton's community covenant, we must make every effort to fulfill our commitment by living accordingly.

Keeping our covenant may also on occasion require that we take steps to hold one another accountable, confronting one another in love as we work together to live in faithfulness both to God's Word and to our own word. Such loving acts of confrontation are at times difficult, but when performed in the right spirit (Gal. 6:1), they serve to build godly character for both the individuals involved and the community as a whole (Matt. 18:15-17). Only in this way, as we are willing to speak the truth in love, will we "grow up into him who is the Head, that is, Christ" (Eph. 4:15).

► **Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, ... And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.**

COLOSSIANS 3:16-17





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