



OAS



Western Illinois University

## CALL FOR 2026 OAS-THE WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY PARTIAL SUPPLEMENTAL SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY

The General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (GS/OAS) and the Western Illinois University (WIU) in the United States have decided to support outstanding individuals from the Americas by awarding partial supplemental scholarship to pursue undergraduate and graduate studies.

### AT A GLANCE:

<b>ACADEMIC PROGRAMS:</b>	Undergraduate Programs Graduate Programs
<b>MODALITY:</b>	Onsite, Online, Hybrid (United States):
<b>LANGUAGE:</b>	English
<b>DURATION:</b>	2 – 4 years
<b>APPLICATION DEADLINE:</b>	<b>University admission and scholarship application:</b> <b>Fall 2026: April 1, 2026</b> Open only to admitted students from OAS member states, excluding the United States, starting Fall 2026.
<b>BENEFITS:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Western Illinois University will offer partial supplemental scholarships based on academic performance for its undergraduate and graduate programs with the opportunity to earn additional scholarships and assistantships.</li> <li>• WIU will waive the application fee for OAS candidates</li> <li>• The OAS, through WIU, will provide a one-time supplementary amount of USD \$1,000 to support tuition and fees for scholarship recipients.</li> </ul> <p>Please note that significant residual tuition and other costs after the scholarship(s) deduction remain the responsibility of the student.</p>

Scholarship benefits are subject to the academic performance of the scholarship recipient and subject to the availability of funds. To receive these benefits, the scholarship recipient must not be reported with an unsatisfactory academic performance due to absences or failing courses.

## AREAS OF STUDY

WIU offers over 100 innovative undergraduate and graduate degree programs, integrated programs, pre-professional programs, and certificate programs:

1. List of Undergraduate Programs: [Academic Programs - WIU](#)
2. List of Graduate Programs: [Academic Programs - WIU](#)

Please note:

- Interested undergraduate students have the option to begin all programs online with the application of academic scholarship.
- Acceptance of CAPE and Caribbean College credits with a 2+1+2 or 2+2+1 format for CAPE/Caribbean Colleges (Two years college or CAPE one or two years online + two or one year on campus resulting in Savings in cost of living)
- No SAT required for The Bahamas students and no Standardized tests for transfer students who have completed at least one year of college.
- Articulation agreements with CXC and ALL Caribbean Colleges
- Study Abroad Programs operational or planned for Ecuador, Argentina, Grenada, Costa Rica
- The WIU will inform of its other university partners that offer scholarships and training benefits to citizens of OAS Member States.

## ELIGIBILITY

To be considered for this scholarship opportunity, the applicant must:

- Be admitted to one of the undergraduate or graduate programs offered by Western Illinois University
- This scholarship opportunity is open to new applicants as well as current Western Illinois University students from an OAS member state, who are not a current OAS Scholarship recipient.
- Be a citizen or legal resident of any active [OAS Member States](#): excluding the United States.
- Applicants from **Argentina** must complete the following form: <http://www.oas.org/en/scholarships/PAEC/2018/NOTA-SOLICITUD-DGCIN2017.doc> and submit it to the [National Liaison Office](#) (ONE) in Argentina.

## INELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

- ⊗ Current OAS or OAS-UNI scholarship holders
- ⊗ GS/OAS staff, consultants, or their immediate relatives
- ⊗ OAS Permanent Mission officials and their immediate relatives.

## HOW TO APPLY

1. For admission consideration, Applicants may contact the Center for Global Studies through Sheryl Harty, Assistant Director, International Admissions at [International-Ed@wiu.edu](mailto:International-Ed@wiu.edu). Please note: Commitment of significant personal funds is necessary to facilitate enrollment.
  - a) All programs require students to submit the Financial Guarantee before receiving immigration documents.
  - b) Applicants must be admitted to Western Illinois University to be considered for the OAS-WIU Scholarship through the university.
2. To apply for an OAS-WIU Scholarship, it is essential to be admitted to one of the undergraduate or graduate programs at the University.
3. The applicant must submit all supporting documents as required by the University for admission consideration.
4. Upon admission to the study program, the applicant will automatically be considered as a candidate for the OAS-Western Illinois University scholarship.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE:

University admission and scholarship application priority deadline:

**Fall 2026: April 1, 2026.**

## ADDITIONAL BENEFITS:

In addition to the scholarship benefits listed above, OAS students will have access to the following benefits and services:

- Electronic admission application.
- Scholarship awarded upon admission (Minimum 3.0 GPA required).
- Scholarship renewal automatic with 3.0 GPA regardless of level.
- Free Airport/Train pickups.
- Free local transportation year-round.
- Organized Low Cost Off Campus Housing for Junior/Seniors guaranteed, with guaranteed on campus housing (required for freshmen/sophomores).
- Visa preparation.
- Step by step process with monthly Zoom meetings for prospects.
- Grad school prep and explorations.
- Full career placement services, personal advising, and Counseling Center.
- Legal seminars for H1-B/NIW.
- Health Center with full medical staff on campus.
- Small city with low crime and low cost of living in a rural setting.
- Shopping trips and support organizations, including multiple Caribbean organizations.
- NCAA Division 1 sports (Basketball, Football, Baseball, Soccer, Track and field) and Cricket field and Cricket tournaments.

- Dance team, Steel Band and several other bands.
- Free food pantry for emergency crises and free winter coats for hardship situations.

## **EXPENSES NOT COVERED BY THIS SCHOLARSHIP**

Scholarship recipients are responsible for:

- Remaining tuition and institutional fees
- Immigration and visa costs
- Housing, meals, health insurance, and personal expenses
- Study and research materials
- Round-trip airfare
- Any additional costs not included in the scholarship offer

Applicants can also apply for the Rowe Fund, an OAS educational loan program that helps citizens from Latin America and the Caribbean finance their studies in accredited universities across the United States **by awarding interest-free loans** of up to USD 15,000. [Rowe Fund](#)

## **SELECTION AND NOTIFICATIONS**

Scholarship recipients will be selected jointly by the OAS and WIU based on:

- Academic and professional merit
- Leadership potential and expected impact upon return
- Gender diversity
- Geographic distribution of the candidates, taking into account the most important needs of the Member States, according to the Human Development Index reported by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP)

Selected candidates will be notified by email. Applicants who are not selected will not be contacted. Results will be published by May 2026.

## **RECIPIENT OBLIGATIONS**

Scholarship recipients must formally accept the award by signing the OAS/WIU Acceptance Form, comply with all academic, financial, and conduct requirements, and maintain a good academic standing. Recipients are expected to uphold the standards of the OAS Scholarship Program, meet university regulations, and fulfill all financial responsibilities not covered by the scholarship. The scholarship may be declined before the program starts without penalty; however, late withdrawal without valid justification may require reimbursement of funds. Awardees must also commit to returning to work in their country of study for a period equal to the scholarship duration, or risk repayment of the full scholarship value.

## ABOUT THE PARTNER INSTITUTIONS

The **General Secretariat of the OAS (GS/OAS)** is the central and permanent organ of the [Organization of American States](#) (OAS). Through its Department of Human Development, Education and Employment (DHDEE), the GS/OAS supports Member States in creating policies and implementing programs that promote the development of human capabilities at all educational levels. By enabling educational opportunities for citizens, DHDEE strengthens democratic values and security within the framework of regional integration. DHDEE does this by: (i) supporting the efforts of OAS member states to improve quality and equity in education; and (ii) helping the citizens of the Americas to develop their full potential by providing them with access to knowledge and skills through training that improves the living standards of individuals, families and communities in the region.

**Western Illinois University (WIU)** is in Macomb, IL, just over three hours from Chicago and two hours from St. Louis. The institution was founded in 1899 and has an enrollment of approximately 6000 students. Over 500 international students from more than 50 countries attend WIU. Latin America and the Caribbean account for over 150 of our international students who mostly hail from Asia and Africa. WIU offers over 80-degree programs at the undergraduate and graduate level including all STEM disciplines including engineering, business, education, information technology, agriculture, and nursing. WIU offers an array of scholarships and assistantships designed to reduce the cost of higher education for international students. Housing is available on campus and off campus at comparatively very low prices by US standards. Local transportation is free. WIU provides an arrival orientation, airport pickups, and Zoom preparation meetings as well as a fully electronic and expeditious admission process.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

- **WIU [Center for Global Studies - WIU](#)**  
✉ International-Ed@wiu.edu
- **OAS Scholarship Inquiries**  
✉ scholarships@oas.org

**Note:** The General Secretariat of the Organization of American States (GS/OAS) reserves the right to cancel this scholarship announcement at any time during the process. The GS/OAS and its staff will not be responsible for any action that derives from the information in this announcement.