College Fair Tip Sheet

Prior to Fair
- Refer to the updated information about Wesleyan by using the materials sent to you and visiting our main Admission page. Select from the menu on the left side of the screen to review academic, student life, and application information. Also, review the most recent admission profile to learn more about our latest admitted class.

- Please arrive at least thirty minutes early in order to set up your table. The attire at fairs is business casual. You will have received a table banner from our office, as well as plenty of materials to distribute at the fair.

During the Fair
- Greet each student or parent, and explain that you are an alumni representative of Wesleyan. Ask them if they have any questions—some students will want very general information, and other will have specific questions.

- Answer questions based on your own experiences at Wesleyan and from what you’ve read.

- Refer students back to the admission office if you don’t know an answer to a question, and encourage a visit to campus. Do not be afraid to say that you don’t know the answer! No information is better than bad information, and the admission staff can always answer their questions later. For your convenience, a handful of the regional deans’ business cards will be included in the materials sent to you.

- Ask students to fill out an inquiry card to become part of our mailing list and so that we know they attended the fair for our records.

After the Fair
- Return the table banner and inquiry cards to Karen O’Leary (address below). Please take a moment to fill out the evaluation form through your portal and let us know your thoughts on the fair. Your evaluation will help us decide if it is worth attending the fair again.

Karen O’Leary
Office of Admission
70 Wyllys Avenue
Middletown, CT 06459
Helpful Information

On Campus

- **Housing** – housing is guaranteed for all for years and required of all students. Residential life follows a model of progressive independence (the housing options become increasingly more independent each year)
  - *Freshman year* – traditional dorm rooms
  - *After freshman year* – program and special interest houses, singles in dorms for sophomores, apartment living for juniors, and large apartments or wood-frame houses for seniors.

- **Involvement** – students are incredibly involved in various extracurricular activities, and many current students highlight this aspect of their Wesleyan experience.
  - **Student-run groups** – There are over 250 student-run clubs on campus. For a list of clubs, please click [here](#).
  - **Athletics** – Wesleyan is part of the NESCAC (New England Small College Athletic Conference) with Amherst, Williams, Bates, Bowdoin, Colby, Connecticut, Hamilton, Middlebury, Trinity and Tufts. An 11 member league in NCAA Division III, the NESCAC is considered to be the most competitive conference in Div III nationally. Approximately 25-30% of the student body participate in varsity athletics, and including club and intramural sports brings the participation to about 60%.

- **Diversity** – Wesleyan has a longstanding commitment to diversity in its many forms (i.e. socioeconomic, racial, gender, geographic, life perspectives, etc.) Please refer to the updated profile for statistics on first year students.

Application Information

The Common Application must be completed; Wesleyan uses the Common Application exclusively. Students can access the application online at [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org). Wesleyan no longer requires a supplement for all students. For more information about applying, please click [here](#).

Application Deadlines

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<th>First Year Students</th>
<th>Application Deadline</th>
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<td>Early Decision I</td>
<td>November 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early Decision II</td>
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<td>Regular Decision</td>
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<th>Transfer Students</th>
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<td>Fall Transfer</td>
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Selection Criteria
A holistic approach is taken when reviewing applications. Academic accomplishments as well as personal qualities are assessed. Below is a brief summary of the traits we look for.

- **Ability to succeed in a rigorous and broad-based academic program**
  Did the student take the most challenging courses offered at his/her school? Were the five core subjects (math, science, English, social studies, and foreign language) covered each year? Ideally, a candidate will have four years of English and a social science, math through calculus, three years of lab science (biology, chemistry, physics), and a foreign language through the fourth level. Wesleyan, however, does not have requirements for admission.

- **Genuine intellectual curiosity**
  How enthusiastic is the student about his/her studies? Is there evidence of going beyond what is required? Do they have interests across the curriculum?

- **Demonstrated social involvement**
  Is the student involved in community or school activities and has he/she developed leadership skills? How might they contribute to the Wesleyan community? Have they demonstrated the ability to balance academics and extracurriculars?

Interviews
Interviews are not required, but are recommended. They are evaluative and offer an opportunity for an exchange of information about the candidate and the University. Students may interview on campus (June through mid-December of senior year), or locally using our network of alumni interviewers (August through December of senior year). Interviews are weighed the same regardless of whether you interviewed on or off campus. More information can be found by visiting the admission website [interviews](#).
Financial Aid Information

- Wesleyan does not give merit or athletic scholarships—all of our financial aid is need-based.

- Wesleyan meets 100% of demonstrated need for all admitted students. This means that students will submit their financial information to our Office of Financial Aid, who will calculate the family contribution. A student’s need is the difference between our cost of attendance and that family contribution.

- Aid is given in the form of loans, grants, and work study. It may be helpful to print out the Financial Aid Tipsheet.

- Wesleyan is committed to enrolling a student body that is socioeconomically diverse. By meeting the full demonstrated need of every admitted student, we make it possible for all students to attend regardless of financial circumstances. Families need to look beyond “sticker price” and apply for need-based aid to know what Wesleyan will cost. Assuming you have completed the financial aid application in a timely manner, you will be notified of your financial aid award along with your acceptance (this includes both rounds of Early Decision as well).

- All colleges and universities are required by federal law to have a Net Price Calculator on their websites. This calculator is designed by each institution so that a family can input their financial information and receive a ballpark idea of how much financial aid they can expect from the institution, and what their out-of-pocket cost will be. Please remind students and parents that this calculator is not a guarantee of financial aid, and the information going into the calculator must be accurate in order to receive an accurate estimate.

- Starting in 2013, Wesleyan will work to keep tuition increases in line with inflation. The plan is to use an inflation index to set annual increases and control the rising cost of tuition.

- In addition to the traditional four-year, eight-semester degree, Wesleyan offers students the opportunity to complete their 32 credits in three years. By using 2 AP credits or other advanced course credits such as IB or A-level exams, and three Wesleyan summer sessions, students do not have to take an overload during any semester. Students who pursue this option should expect to choose their major early in the sophomore year, leaving ample time to complete their requirements. This option will save approximately 20% from the total costs for the B.A.

- Our admission process is as need-blind as possible within a fixed financial aid budget; all applications will be reviewed without information about a student’s ability to pay, but there is a limit or cap on the amount of grant aid available for each class. We expect this sensitivity to need will impact a small portion of the first-year, domestic applicant pool. We are also need-aware for transfer students, and have been for years.

- For students who are not US citizens or permanent residents, financial aid is available but extremely limited and the process is very competitive. We will still meet the full need for any international student who is admitted.

- Most families earning $60,000 or less, once need is determined, will be offered a package of grants and work-study—no loans. Most students whose families are Pell eligible, but earn more than $60,000 will qualify for a reduced-loan package. All other students will be packed with the standard Federal Direct loan for their class year. Wesleyan asks students to borrow no more than a total of $19,000 over four years.

- Those students that do not qualify for need-based aid can contact the financial aid office for advice on meeting college costs.