



GROWTH AGENDA FOR WISCONSIN

Access • Affordability • Growth

UW-La Crosse: Growth and Access Plan

UW-La Crosse (UW-L) has outlined an experimental tuition management program that would allow the campus to generate the financial resources needed to achieve the following outcomes: increased degree production; increased access to quality programs; timely degree completion; increased financial aid for students from the lower two economic quintiles, and less reliance on additional taxpayer dollars to provide an increase in higher education services.

What is the Growth and Access Plan?

At a projected program start of Fall 2008, UW-L would reduce non-resident undergraduate tuition to 75% of the fall 2005 rates. Over a three-year period, the campus would raise resident undergraduate tuition to the level of the average of the Upper Midwest Comprehensive Peer Group. Graduate tuition (Resident and Non-Resident) would be adjusted to competitive “market levels” for each program. Undergraduate resident and graduate students enrolled at program implementation would be “grandfathered” and allowed to pay tuition rates established for the UW System comprehensive institutions as long as they are continuously enrolled.

If granted this tuition flexibility, UW-La Crosse will:

- Enroll more resident and non-resident students.
- Increase the annual number of baccalaureate and advanced degrees awarded.
- Continue to increase the diversity of the campus community.
- Enhance its current level of academic excellence.
- Maintain its current retention and graduation rates.
- Create more access to low income students.
- Maintain and/or increase its array of resource-intensive health professions programs.
- Self-fund the necessary increase in faculty/staff FTE and support service costs.

What are the benefits of the Growth and Access Plan?

The Growth and Access Plan will increase UW-L’s ability to improve academic quality and attract, retain, and graduate students who contribute to Wisconsin’s economic growth. UW-L is uniquely positioned to take advantage of tuition flexibility to realize these outcomes. Consider the following:

- The number of applications to attend UW-La Crosse has steadily increased. UW-La Crosse receives nearly five applications for every place available in the freshman class.
- UW-La Crosse’s ability to attract students is at a level where the market will bear a tuition rate consistent with institutional quality and high-demand academic programs.
- UW-La Crosse is committed to creating and nurturing an environment that reflects the diversity of the world. UW-La Crosse is well-positioned to expand these initiatives and create more opportunities for students to experience and better understand cultural differences.

What would the Growth and Access Plan mean for Wisconsin?

UW-La Crosse produces more degree holders for the state of Wisconsin than any other UW comprehensive university. Approximately 80 percent of UW-L graduates stay in Wisconsin and contribute to the state’s economy.

Estimated ongoing cost: \$3.46 million (\$0 GPR / \$3.46 million Fees)

For more information: <http://www.uwlax.edu/af/growthandaccess.htm>