

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY

FRESHMAN APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS



We appreciate the time you are taking to complete this application to PLU. We review all the information you provide in this application, so consider your responses carefully and provide additional information if you choose. Counselors in the Office of Admission are excited to review your completed file and look forward to the opportunity to work with you in the future. Please contact the Office of Admission at 800-274-6758 with any questions you have about the application process.

Application Procedures Checklist

Submit the following to the Office of Admission:

- ☐ **Undergraduate Application** with \$40 nonrefundable application fee payable to PLU (only for paper applications). Application fee will be waived for Web applications. To apply online, go to www.choose.plu.edu. Students may also opt to apply using the Common Application at www.commonapp.org.
- ☐ **Official Transcripts** from all high school and college course work. Transcripts must be sent directly from the school to PLU.
- ☐ **Test Scores** from **either** the College Board Scholastic Assessment Test (SAT) or the American College Test Assessment (ACT). (PLU's SAT I code is 4597/ACT code is 4470.)
- ☐ **Personal Essay** of at least 250 words.
- ☐ **Academic Recommendation** from a qualified person familiar with your academic record such as a principal, teacher or counselor (form provided).
- ☐ **PLU Scholarship Opportunities and Supplemental Application:** Information on financial aid and PLU scholarship opportunities are located at the end of the undergraduate application. *Qualified freshmen students are encouraged to complete the supplemental application for the **Presidential Scholarships**.*

Dates to Remember for Fall 2014

July

- Freshmen applicants may submit materials after completion of their junior year in high school.

September

- Begin work on the PLU application.

October – December

- **Fall Preview Day**, an informational open house for students, is **October 6, 2013**.
- Freshmen applicants should take the SAT or ACT if not already taken.
- **October 15:** Postmark for first Admission Decision Date. Students will be notified of their admission status prior to **November 15**.
- **November 15:** Postmark for second Admission Decision Date. Students will be notified of their admission status prior to **December 15**.
- **December 1:** Postmark for application materials and scholarship application for Presidential Scholarships. Eligibility requirements: 3.80+ GPA or 1250+ SAT (critical reading and math only) or 28+ ACT.
- **December 15:** Postmark for third Admission Decision Date. Students will be notified of their admission and scholarship status prior to **January 15**.

January – April

- **January 15** postmark for fourth Admission Decision Date. Students will be notified of their admission status prior to **February 15**.
- To be considered in the first round of financial aid awarding, all admission materials should be submitted by **January 15**.
- By **January 31**, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). File your FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov (PLU's Title IV code is 003785).
- **Starting February 1**, students will be notified of their admission status on a rolling basis.
- Financial aid award decisions mailed by PLU beginning in late February.
- **February 15** deadline for International Honors Program application materials.
- **Passport Weekends** for admitted freshmen are **March 14-15 and April 11-12, 2014**.

May

- **National Candidate Reply Date:** To reserve a place in next fall's class, to register for classes and to secure housing, an Enrollment Deposit of \$200 should be postmarked by **May 1**. No refunds will be granted after May 1. PLU continues to accept Enrollment Deposits after May 1.

June

- Fall class registration begins.

Admission Decision Dates

PLU has four Admission Decision Dates - **October 15th, November 15th, December 15th and January 15th.**

Students who complete their applications prior to one of these decision dates can expect an admission decision and notification of academic merit scholarships **prior** to the next decision date. Applications received after **February 1st** will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Running Start, AP and IB Credit

If you have participated in Washington Running Start, or taken Advanced Placement (AP) exams or International Baccalaureate (IB) exams, you may be eligible for college credit. PLU accepts Running Start credits, or other equivalent college credit programs as college credits and awards up to 30 semester-hours for AP and IB exam results. For specific information regarding advanced credit policies please visit www.plu.edu/admission/first-year/apply/advanced-credit-policies.php.

International Honors Program

The International Honors Program is a challenging and creative way to satisfy most core curriculum requirements, reflecting PLU's unique mission and its emphasis upon the liberal arts. This multi-year program consists of seven interdisciplinary courses that explore contemporary issues and their historical foundation through an integrated and multi-national approach. For more information, go to www.choose.plu.edu/honors.

Visit Campus

Visiting PLU is one of the most important things you can do during your college search. We hope you will take advantage of the invitation to spend the day on campus so you can become better acquainted with the community. Here are some options for your personalized visit:

- Meet with an admission counselor
- Attend a class
- Meet with a professor, coach or musical director
- Attend chapel
- Take a tour of campus
- Spend the night in a residence hall [Mon. - Thurs. during the academic year only]
- Meet current PLU students
- Enjoy a meal on campus

To set up a visit, call us at 800-274-6758. You can also arrange a visit online at www.plu.edu/visit.

Finalizing Your Offer of Admission

Once admitted, you will receive an acceptance packet containing the forms necessary to confirm your enrollment. The following must be submitted before you may register for classes:

- Enrollment Deposit of \$200
- New Student Information Form
- Residential Life Information Form
- Official Final Transcripts
- Medical History Record

Enrollment Deposit and Housing Assignments

After receiving a letter of acceptance, you may apply for on-campus housing by submitting the \$200 Enrollment Deposit with the New Student and Residential Life Information forms. Housing is guaranteed to students who make the Enrollment Deposit by May 1. (Specific hall assignments are made on a first-come, first-served basis.) After May 1, housing is assigned on a space-available basis. The \$200 Enrollment Deposit is refundable if requested in writing by May 1. No refunds will be granted after the May 1 deadline.

Equal Opportunity Policy

Pacific Lutheran University subscribes to the principles and laws of the State of Washington and the federal government, including applicable executive orders pertaining to civil rights. This institution is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to programs and facilities without regard to age, color, creed, marital status, national or ethnic origin, disabling conditions, race, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

Disability Support Services

Information on services for students with disabilities may be obtained from Paula Burns, Director of Disability Support Services. Contact Paula Burns by telephone at 253-535-7206 or e-mail dss@plu.edu.

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY
FRESHMAN APPLICATION



PLU UNDERGRADUATE
FRESHMAN APPLICATION

OFFICE USE ONLY

☐ Fee Paid Date _____
☐ Fee Waived
Received by _____

(PLEASE SUBMIT \$40 NONREFUNDABLE FEE WITH A PAPER APPLICATION. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO PLU.)

For admission to (check one): ☐ Summer ☐ Fall ☐ January Term ☐ Spring _____
YEAR

Have you visited the PLU campus? ☐ No ☐ Yes When? _____

What influenced you to apply to PLU? _____

Biographical Information

Full Legal Name _____
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

Preferred First Name _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female

Social Security Number - - (optional)

You are not required to provide your social security number to complete the admission application; however, if you are planning on applying for Federal or State Financial Aid, you will be required to provide a social security number.

Former Name (if previous academic records under another name) _____

Permanent Address _____
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

NUMBER AND STREET CITY STATE ZIP
(PHONE) _____ (CELL) _____

Mailing Address ☐ Same as above

NUMBER AND STREET CITY STATE ZIP
(PHONE) _____

E-mail Address _____ Parent/Family E-mail Address _____

Birthdate _____ Birthplace _____
CITY STATE COUNTRY, IF OTHER THAN U.S.

Country of Citizenship _____

Are you a U.S. permanent resident visa holder? ☐ Yes ☐ No Visa type _____

Financial Aid

PLU admits students regardless of financial need and all admitted students are considered for academic merit scholarships. Do you plan to submit a FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) to be considered for need-based scholarships and financial aid? (PLU's Title IV code is 003785) ☐ Yes ☐ No

More information about financial aid can be found online at www.plu.edu/financial-aid.

Artistic Achievement Awards

Applicants who demonstrate exceptional ability in the fields of art, dance, forensics, music and theatre are encouraged to audition for artistic merit awards. Students must contact the department representative directly for application and audition requirements.

See page 11 for more information. Please indicate any of the following areas for which you plan to audition/apply:

☐ Art ☐ Dance ☐ Forensics/Debate ☐ Music ☐ Theatre

Presidential Scholarships

Applicants with a 3.8+ GPA or 1250+ SAT (critical reading and math only) or 28+ ACT are encouraged to apply for PLU's top academic and leadership Presidential Scholarships (**A separate application is required; for complete guidelines, please see page 12**). Your application and scholarship materials must be postmarked by **December 1**. Please indicate whether or not you will be applying for this scholarship. ☐ Yes ☐ No

PACIFIC LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY
FRESHMAN APPLICATION

Family Information

Please list all parental information below (attach a separate sheet if necessary)

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. Relationship to you _____

Parent/Legal Guardian full name: _____

Mailing address if different from yours: _____

NUMBER AND STREET CITY STATE ZIP

Phone: (_____) _____ E-mail address: _____

OCCUPATION AND TITLE NAME OF BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION/EMPLOYER

Colleges attended _____ Degree _____ Year _____

_____ Degree _____ Year _____

☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Ms. Relationship to you _____

Parent/Legal Guardian full name: _____

Mailing address if different from yours: _____

NUMBER AND STREET CITY STATE ZIP

Phone: (_____) _____ E-mail address: _____

OCCUPATION AND TITLE NAME OF BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION/EMPLOYER

Colleges attended _____ Degree _____ Year _____

_____ Degree _____ Year _____

Did either of your parents graduate from a two-year college? ☐ Yes ☐ No A four-year college? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Did either of your parents attend PLU for two or more consecutive semesters? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please list their student name(s) and year(s) _____

Have you been or are you currently a foster youth in the state of Washington? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you been in foster care in Washington state for at least one year since your sixteenth birthday and emancipated from care on or after January 1, 2007? ☐ Yes ☐ No *(This information will be used to determine a student's eligibility for additional services and financial aid programs.)*

Please list all of your siblings below (attach a separate sheet if necessary):

NAME AGE SCHOOL HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION YEAR COLLEGE

Please list any relatives or friends, other than those previously noted, who have attended PLU:

NAME RELATIONSHIP TO YOU

Educational Background

High school you currently attend: _____
☐ public ☐ private ☐ home school

Graduation date: _____ ☐ G.E.D. taken _____
MM/DD/YY

Name of High School Guidance/College Counselor _____ Phone: _____
E-mail: _____

HAVE YOU TAKEN THE SAT I OR ACT?

Yes, I took the SAT I /ACT on (1) _____ (2) _____ (3) _____ (Dates)

I am planning to take/retake the SAT I /ACT on _____ (Date)

Have you requested your scores to be sent to PLU? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If no, please make arrangements to have your scores sent from either your school or the testing organization. Please use the following codes: SAT: 4597, ACT: 4470.)

Does your high school offer AP, IB, or honors courses? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Do you plan to submit any of the following for college credit consideration?

☐ International Baccalaureate exam results ☐ Advanced Placement exam results ☐ Cambridge International exam results

☐ Washington Running Start credits or credits
from equivalent college credit programs from _____ (College Attended)

☐ College credits outside of high school from _____ (College Attended)

PLU celebrates the many ways in which students may be honored for their academic achievement. Please indicate any of the following for which you currently hold recognition:

☐ National Merit Semi-Finalist ☐ College Bound Scholar

☐ National Hispanic Scholar ☐ National Achievement Scholar ☐ Other: _____

The information below is for statistical purposes only and is not used in the admission decision process

Ethnic Origin: Are you Hispanic or Latino? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Racial Identity: Regardless of your answer to the previous question, select one or more from the following:

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native (tribe) _____

☐ Asian

☐ Black or African American

☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

☐ White

If other than English, what primary language is spoken in your home? _____

Religious Preference:

☐ Lutheran; Home Congregation _____

City _____ Synod _____

☐ Baptist ☐ Episcopal ☐ Methodist ☐ Presbyterian ☐ Roman Catholic ☐ Jewish ☐ Non-denominational Christian

☐ Other Christian _____ ☐ Buddhist ☐ Muslim ☐ Hindu ☐ Other _____

☐ None ☐ Choose not to report

Are you a child of clergy? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Current Year Academic Information

Please list all courses to be completed during the current academic year.

Semester 1/Trimester 1	Semester 2/Trimester 2	Trimester 3

If you feel that there is additional information you would like the committee to consider, please take this opportunity to tell us. *If more room is needed please include an attachment with your name and birthdate on each additional page.*

Personal Essay

The essay allows the admission committee to get to know you as a person, as well as to evaluate your writing ability. The essay is a great way to understand you beyond your test scores and grades. Please choose from the following admission essay options and check the box of the option you have selected.

- ☐ **Option 1:** PLU encourages and challenges students to consider the question inspired by the poet Mary Oliver: "What will you do with your one wild and precious life?" Be creative - we are not looking for a resumé of what you have already accomplished.*
- ☐ **Option 2:** Please submit your college application essay on a topic of your choice.*

* Applicants competing in the Presidential Scholarships process must answer option 1. This essay will be considered for admission to the university and the scholarship competition. For both options 1 and 2, please submit your essay on a separate piece of paper. Please type or print legibly, and include your name and birthdate on each page. Essays should be at least 250 words.

Statement of Character and Signature

Applicants to PLU must present evidence of good character in order to be accepted for admission. Therefore, we ask the following question of every applicant: Have you been convicted of a felony or gross misdemeanor, or do you have a court case pending against you at this time?

☐ No ☐ Yes If yes, please attach written details with your application.

By submitting this application for enrollment to Pacific Lutheran University, I hereby certify that the information contained in it is true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand and agree that if PLU discovers at any time during my enrollment that I have provided inaccurate or untruthful information in my application (or any related documents), PLU may immediately terminate my enrollment and/or housing without reimbursement or refund to me of any costs, tuition, fees or rent. Permission is hereby given to release appropriate test scores and academic records requested by Pacific Lutheran University.

NAME OF APPLICANT (PRINT)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

DATE



ACADEMIC RECOMMENDATION

To be completed by applicant

Name of Applicant: _____

NUMBER AND STREET _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail Address: _____

Birthdate - -

For Admission to ☐ Summer ☐ Fall ☐ J-Term ☐ Spring

Year: _____

In compliance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, effective November 21, 1974, this letter of recommendation, which will be placed in the applicant's admission file, may be reviewed by the applicant upon request unless this waiver has been signed.

Do you waive the right to be shown information on this form, which is to be used for undergraduate admissions purposes only.

☐ Yes ☐ No

NAME OF APPLICANT (PRINT)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

DATE

To be completed by respondent *(a qualified person familiar with your academic record such as a principal, teacher or counselor)*

Name : _____

School: _____ Title: _____

SCHOOL ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Office Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

SIGNATURE OF RESPONDENT

DATE

Please respond to the following questions, which will be considered in the application and scholarship process. PLU welcomes the inclusion of letters of recommendation in an applicant's admission file.

How long have you known the applicant and in what context? Please list any course(s) you have taught this student.

(continued on back page)

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What four words would you use to describe this applicant?

_____ / _____ / _____ / _____

Do you believe that the applicant's academic record is reflective of his or her ability? ☐ Yes ☐ No

In 3-5 sentences, please comment on this student's academic record and their ability to succeed in a rigorous baccalaureate program:

How familiar are you with PLU?

☐ I am a PLU alum ☐ I know PLU well ☐ I am familiar with PLU ☐ I know very little about PLU

Do you recommend this applicant for admission to PLU?

☐ Without reservation ☐ Yes ☐ Yes, but with concern ☐ No

*Please return to: Office of Admission, Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, Washington 98447
Fax: 253-536-5136 E-mail: admission@plu.edu*

FINANCIAL AID & SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

PLU provides an outstanding educational experience with lifelong value. At PLU, our goal is to create a partnership that is financially feasible for you and your family. Financial assistance from PLU, federal and state financial aid programs, a combination of parent and student resources, payment options and careful planning can make PLU affordable.

Glossary of Terms

Merit-Based Aid: Awarded to recognize academic achievement, talent and leadership. These awards are not based on financial need but may be supplemented by additional need-based scholarships and grants, as well as loans and employment.

Need-Based Aid: Funds from PLU as well as state and federal sources. These awards, which do not have to be repaid, are based on financial need (as determined by Free Application for Federal Student Aid—FAFSA) and academic ability. These can be combined with merit awards, as well as loans and employment.

Loans: Loans are available on a need and non-need basis. Many are interest-free while you are in school, and a low-interest repayment program begins six to nine months after graduation.

Employment: Money earned from on-campus or off-campus jobs. Employment opportunities are available through the State and Federal Work Study Program in addition to non-Work Study opportunities.

Scholarships

Presidential Scholarships: Each year 150 President's Scholars are selected (\$22,000) and from those, ten students are named Harstad Founder's Scholars (\$27,000) and five students are named Regents' Scholars (full tuition scholarship). Eligibility requires a 3.80+ GPA or 1250+ SAT (critical reading and math only) or 28+ ACT. The most successful applicants will have met both standards for GPA and test score. See page 12 for more information.

Academic Merit Scholarships: Academic merit scholarships are awarded to students who have demonstrated academic success. The PLU Undergraduate Application for Admission is used in identifying students who are qualified.

Freshman Students - \$9,000 to \$21,000 per year from a combination of all merit sources.

Artistic Achievement Awards: Freshmen applicants who demonstrate exceptional ability in the fields of art, theatre, forensics, dance and music are encouraged to audition for artistic merit awards. **More information can be found at www.plu.edu/soac/scholarships.**

Rieke Leadership Award: Recipients of the award are men and women of any ethnic background who demonstrate their leadership in promoting racial and ethnic diversity and social justice at Pacific Lutheran University and beyond. Gifts are awarded up to \$2,500. Students should contact Angie Hambrick (253-535-8180) with questions.

Financial Aid Awarding will begin in February with the completion of all admission and FAFSA application materials. Materials must be postmarked by January 15 to be considered in the first cycle of awarding.

For a full listing of scholarships, grants and need-based awards for full-time undergraduate students, please visit www.plu.edu/financial-aid.

Presidential Scholarships

Background

The Regents', Harstad Founder's and President's Merit Scholarship recognizes academic, co-curricular and leadership achievement in the incoming freshman class. From the scholarship applicant pool, PLU selects students who demonstrate the most potential for affecting positive change and leadership at PLU in both the academic and co-curricular life of the university. Both scholarships are renewable for three years of undergraduate study. Selected students will be asked to campus for an interview on February 8, 2014, and those students offered a scholarship must reply to the offer by May 1, 2014.

Eligibility

- Students with a 3.8+ GPA or 1250+ SAT (critical reading and math only) or 28+ ACT are encouraged to apply for these scholarships. The most successful applicants will have met both standards for GPA and test score.
- Evidence of outstanding leadership abilities as shown in the activities resumé.
- All scholarship materials, including application for admission, postmarked by **December 1**.

The scholarship committee will review the following components:

- Presidential Scholarships Application including the Activities, Leadership and Honors Resumé found on pages 14 and 15. You may also apply online at www.choose.plu.edu/presidentialscholarships
- Academic rigor and preparation
- Ability to formulate and express ideas clearly and effectively (*demonstrated through essay*)
- Application for Admission

Awards

Over 600 students apply for the President's Scholarship each year. For the 2014-15 academic year, 150 President's Scholars will be selected. All President's Scholars will then be invited to the PLU campus in February to interview for one of ten Harstad Founder's Scholarships and one of the Regent's Scholarship.

President's Scholarships (2013-2014 Academic Year)

Year one	\$21,000
Year two	\$21,000
Year three	\$21,000
Year four	\$21,000

Total \$84,000

Harstad Founder's Scholarships (2013-2014 Academic Year)

Year one	\$26,000
Year two	\$26,000
Year three	\$26,000
Year four	\$26,000

Total \$104,000

Regents' Scholarships (2013-2014 Academic Year)

Year one	\$34,440
Year two	Full Tuition
Year three	Full Tuition
Year four	Full Tuition

Total > \$140,000

Submission of Materials

To be considered for the Presidential Scholarships competition, the scholarship application as well as all application materials for admission must be **postmarked by December 1**. Please indicate scholarship Essay at the top of each page of your essay, as well as your name and birthdate. If you have any questions, please contact Brandon Bruan in the Office of Admission via phone at 253-535-8724 or email at bruanbj@plu.edu.

The supplemental materials may be submitted online and/or addressed to:

PLU Office of Admission
Attn: Presidential Scholarships
Tacoma, WA 98447

Presidential Scholarship Paper Application

To apply online, visit www.choose.plu.edu/presidentialscholarships

Eligibility requirements, as well as information regarding the Presidential Scholarships can be found on page 12 of this application. Only applications for students meeting requirements will be considered, and no late applications are accepted.

Name _____				
Phone (____) _____		E-mail Address _____		
Address _____				
Number and street		City	State	Zip
High School _____				
Birthdate <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> - <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>				
Hometown Newspaper _____				
<input type="checkbox"/> My information may be released to the media if I am selected as a President's Scholar.				

Please list all courses tentatively scheduled in your senior year:

Semester 1/Trimester 1	Semester 2/Trimester 2	Trimester 3

Does your school offer Honors, AP, or IB courses? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Size of senior class: _____

The following essay and activities resumé are required for consideration for the Presidential Scholarships in addition to your complete application for admission. The essay may have also been used for the regular application for admission.

- ☐ **Essay**
PLU encourages and challenges students to consider the question inspired by the poet Mary Oliver:
"What will you do with your one wild and precious life?" Be creative - we are not looking for a resumé of what you have already accomplished.*
- ☐ **Activities Resumé**
Please complete the Regents' and President's Scholarship Activities, Leadership and Honors Resumé found on pages 14 and 15.

Submission of Materials:
All materials for consideration may be addressed to:

PLU Office of Admission
Attn: Presidential Scholarships
Tacoma, WA 98447

Signature:

_____	_____	_____
Name (print)	Signature	Date

