Updated: Fall 2026



MERCILE J. LEE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Excellence in Scholarship, Leadership and Service

SCHOLARSHIP

We offer a four-year academic tuition scholarship to both Wisconsin residents and non-residents. Additionally, scholars receive a stipend per semester (contingent on annual budget availability and is subject to change).

SERVICES

- Advising and individualized support
- Mentorship opportunities
- Leadership development
- Monthly Program Meetings with distinguished faculty, staff, and alumni
- Community building with respective cohort
- On-going social and volunteer experiences
- Access to learning support centers

Mercile J. Lee Scholars Program
DIVISION FOR TEACHING & LEARNING
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

Visit us for more!

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

- Apply to UW-Madison as a First-Year Student
- Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
- Have a minimum high school cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- Come from a background where applicants have experienced hardship/disadvantage which has impacted their educational opportunities*

*This can include educational, cultural, economic, or social forms of hardship (e.g., low-income, first-generation student, come from underserved urban, rural, or farming community, attended high school with limited college preparatory curriculum, etc.).

Please refer to our website for a more thorough definition.

SELECTION PROCESS

- To be considered for this scholarship, apply to UW-Madison through the Common App or the UW System Application.
- There is not a separate application for this scholarship.

Contact the Office of Admissions & Recruitment regarding the admission process to UW-Madison and selection for the Mercile J. Lee Scholars Program, onwisconsin@admissions.wisc.edu | 608-262-3961

For all other inquires contact the Mercile J. Lee Scholars Program
mjl.scholars@wisc.edu | 608-262-9315