

When you apply to The University of Winnipeg (UW) for admission as a Mature Access student, you are showing that you are interested in pursuing university studies. As part of this application process, you will be required to submit a signed and dated Statement of Intent and accept the conditions described in the Mature Access Contract.

Writing your Statement of Intent

An important first step is to think about how ready you are for university studies. By writing the Statement of Intent, you can reflect on your readiness for university, and you can give us a good picture of your background and your plans.

When you write your Statement of Intent, follow these guidelines:

- your Statement should be about 500 words or two double-spaced pages long
- in your Statement, discuss these topics:
 - your readiness for university
 - do you have family and friends who will support you in your studies by encouraging you and giving you practical help?
 - can you dedicate at least 12 hours every week to each class you take (three hours of lecture time and nine hours of study and research)?
 - are you a good reader and writer?
 - what kinds of informal and formal learning experiences have you had? Talk about your employment, your volunteer work, seminars, conferences, workshops, or any learning you have accomplished on your own.
 - your learning strengths
 - tell us about your abilities and characteristics in these areas:
 - consistency
 - maturity and responsibility
 - ability to complete tasks
 - time and stress management
 - decision-making
 - goal-setting

- your goals
 - what are your career and education goals?
 - how will attending university help you achieve these goals?
 - how long do you plan to take to reach your educational goals?
 - which University of Winnipeg program or programs are you interested in? Why?

What Happens After I am Admitted as a Mature Access Student?

If you are admitted to the University as a Mature Access Student, you will meet with a Mature Access Advisor (MAA) before the term starts to:

- complete and sign a Mature Access Contract
- only register in the following two courses: Introduction to University (3 credit hours) and an Academic Writing course (3 credit hours) or the extended Academic Writing course (6 credit hours)
- talk about strategies that will help you succeed in your studies.

We strongly recommend that you:

- take part in the free Study Skills Workshops
- participate in the UW's Mentor Program

Completing your Contract:

The Mature Access Contract is an agreement between you and the Mature Access Advisor (MAA) that outlines the conditions and expectations related to your Mature Access admission. The MAA will discuss the items of the agreement and explain the rationale for each. The purpose of the Contract is to ensure you understand the terms of your admission, discuss supports/services that might be of benefit to you, and to monitor your progress.

You and Your Mature Access Advisor (MAA)

You will work with your Advisor to ensure a successful start to your university studies.

The Advisor will:

- Help you through the admission and registration process.
- Encourage and support you as you develop the skills and knowledge necessary for success.

- Give you information about University resources and services and help you to use those resources and services.
- Be available to meet with you during office hours either in person or on the phone or by email.
- Listen carefully to your questions and concerns.
- Consult with other advisors to make sure you receive the best information available.

You will:

- Learn about UW's programs, policies and procedures and ask for more information when you need it.
- Keep in regular contact with your Advisor either by making an appointment, phoning, or emailing.
- Come prepared to each appointment with questions and topics to discuss.
- Accept responsibility for your decisions, actions, outcomes and achievements.
- Ask questions if you do not understand an issue or have a specific concern.
- Make sure you have all the information you need to make good decisions.
- Give your Advisor accurate information.
- Keep a personal record of your academic progress and goals.

What Happens After I Take My First Two Courses?

When you have finished taking Introduction to University and Academic Writing, you and your Mature Access Advisor will meet to discuss your next steps.

If you have received a grade of at least 'C' in these two courses, your Advisor will submit a request to the Admissions Department asking that your status be changed from Mature Access to Mature.

If you have not received at least a grade of 'C' in both of these courses, you and your Advisor will discuss the options that will help you qualify to return to university as a Regular Status student.