

Introduction to the University of Wisconsin-Extension

MISSION: Access and lifelong learning

Through the University of Wisconsin-Extension, all Wisconsin people can access university resources and engage in lifelong learning, wherever they live and work.

This is “the Wisconsin Idea” – extending the university’s boundaries to the corners of the state. UW-Extension works in partnership with 26 UW System campuses, 72 Wisconsin counties, tribal governments, and other public and private organizations to fulfill its public service mission.

Benefits for all ages and stages

UW-Extension educational programs help people grow and succeed at all stages of life. Lifelong learning programs serve children, retirees and working adults who need updated

education to pursue new career paths. Flexible delivery methods, including the use of distance-learning technologies, let people enjoy the benefits of “anytime, anyplace” education.

Through statewide outreach networks, UW-Extension also connects university research to the specific needs and interests of residents and communities. Educators, working on campuses and in communities, use up-to-date research and careful analysis to help Wisconsin people address economic, social and environmental issues.

Learning happens every day

UW-Extension serves millions of Wisconsin residents through year-round educational programs.

On an average day, a large number of people benefit from these services:

3,040 contacts with county-based Cooperative Extension educators*

560 people take part in a Continuing Education course or distance-learning program

50 entrepreneurs participate in a Small Business Development Center training course

75,365 watch a Wisconsin Public Television program

205 attend a class or event at an Extension Conference Center

415 prospective UW students submit an electronic application through UW HELP

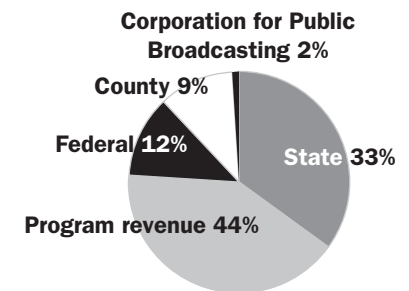
60,570 listen to Wisconsin Public Radio

* Calendar year 2007. All other figures are for July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008.

Diverse funding sources and partners

Ongoing support for UW-Extension comes from state, county, tribal and federal government sources. Fees, gifts, grants and contracts from the public and private sectors provide additional revenue.

In a typical year, UW-Extension’s expenditures reflect the following funding mix:



UW-Extension allocates between 40 and 50% of all expenditures to the 26 UW campuses. Supporting the UW System’s public service mission, these dollars are used for business and management education and continuing education courses, as well as research in agriculture, nutrition, economics, natural resources, human development and other areas.

UW
Extension
Learning for life

www.uwex.edu

UW-Extension's divisions and major programs

CONTINUING EDUCATION, OUTREACH AND E-LEARNING

Continuing Education

- UW System-wide planning, coordination and budgeting
- Programs and partnerships to promote lifelong learning
- Special initiatives addressing baccalaureate access, diversity, economic development, PK-16 education and workplace credit

UW Learning Innovations

- Course development and faculty support
- Call center support for online degrees and courses
- Online access to comprehensive distance-education program information

School for Workers

- Education for union representatives, officers, members and employers
- Labor-management facilitation

UW HELP

- Advising for current and prospective students
- Information on admission, registration, major selection, financial aid and residence life
- Centralized electronic application for all UW campuses

Independent Learning

- Self-paced, non-classroom credit and non-credit learning opportunities

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Agriculture

- Farm and financial risk management
- Specialized programs in dairy, livestock, crops, soils, emerging markets and more
- Urban horticulture

Community, Natural Resources and Economic Development

- Local and regional economic development programs
- Organizational development and facilitation
- Natural resources protection

Family Living

- Consumer health, nutrition and food safety
- Family financial management and housing
- Parenting, caregiving and school readiness

4-H Youth Development

- 4-H community clubs
- Civic leadership and volunteer development
- Building life skills through hands-on learning

Wisconsin Geological and Natural History Survey

- Earth-science surveys, field studies and research
- Natural resources archives

Wisconsin Rural Leadership Program

- Intensive two-year leadership training
- Conflict resolution and critical thinking

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Small Business Development Centers

- One-to-one business counseling
- Technical, managerial and general business education
- Toll-free Business AnswerLine

Wisconsin Innovation Service Center

- New product and invention assessments
- Market expansion studies

Center for Advanced Technology and Innovation

- Incubation for developing technology firms
- Applied research using intellectual property from large companies

Center for Innovation Development

- Feasibility assessment, product engineering and design
- Prototype development and patent advice

Wisconsin Entrepreneurs' Network

- One-stop access for entrepreneur services
- Statewide integrated client tracking and referral
- Expanded services for high-growth firms

BROADCASTING AND MEDIA INNOVATIONS

Instructional Communications Systems

- WisLine international conference call service
- Satellite and Internet-based video-conferencing
- Audio and video streaming support for educational programs

Wisconsin Public Radio

- 31 stations statewide
- Current events, politics and consumer news
- Classical music and NPR news

Wisconsin Public Television

- Public affairs, educational and cultural programs
- Children's educational programs and classroom
- Digital broadcasting and new media

For more information

UW
Extension
Learning for life

www.uwex.edu