

Consortium Agreements at UW–Madison

What Is It and Why You Might Need One

It's an agreement between two institutions that one institution (HOME, UW–Madison) will determine financial aid eligibility while you (the student) temporarily takes classes required for your degree at another institution (HOST).

Students will often use a consortium agreement when they're unable to be on-campus, there is a required course they can take elsewhere, or they want to study abroad through a non-approved program.

Student Qualification and Host Institution Eligibility

You can take all of your courses at another institution or you can take some courses at UW and some at another institution. BUT, half-time enrollment must be met at **one school**. Credits between schools cannot be added together to equal half-time.

Your HOST institution must participate in *Title IV* federal student aid programs. In other words, they have a federally-issued School Code and can process federal financial aid. It must also be who charges you tuition and who your financial aid will pay.

We cannot approve consortium agreements with most foreign schools, a broker, or other agencies.

The Process

- Meet with your Academic/Program Advisor to confirm the coursework you're taking off-campus will successfully transfer back to your degree.
 - Submit the Credit Evaluation Form (Undergrads) (Graduate/Professionals)
 - Complete the Consortium Agreement
 - Complete the Student Section and sign.
 - Send to your Host Institution to complete the rest and sign.
- Both forms must be submitted at least a week before the end of the term.

Impacts to Financial Aid

A Consortium Agreement does not guarantee that you receive any additional financial aid, only that your off-campus credits will be used to determine your enrollment status and that you can use your already offered financial aid at another institution. Students in need of additional funding should consider a PLUS or Private Loan.

When Your Consortium Is Complete...

Request that your HOST institution transcript(s) are sent to UW–Madison to confirm your completion. If a final transcript is not received, we will assume you did not complete the course(s) and will recalculate your financial aid eligibility.

If you drop the class before it's complete, please notify our office so that we can determine if your financial aid is impacted.

So, Who's Responsible For What?

UW–Madison

- Determine Financial Aid Eligibility
- Disburse funds to student

You, The Student

- Complete Consortium Agreement process
- Use financial aid to pay balance at Host Institution
- Submit final transcript.

Your Host Institution

- Issue Tuition Bill
- Accept Payment
- Release Transcript



Office of
Student Financial Aid
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON