



Wharton
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

GLOBAL YOUTH PROGRAM

Wharton Pre-Baccalaureate Program Student Handbook Spring 2026

Questions? Contact us at wgyp-prebacc@wharton.upenn.edu

Program Overview

Wharton's Pre-baccalaureate Program permits exceptional high school students to enroll in one or two courses per session for college credit. Pre-bacc students will be assessed and evaluated as traditional undergraduate students. Upon successful completion of the program and all coursework included therein, Pre-bacc students may request official copies of their Wharton/University of Pennsylvania transcript outlining courses completed and grades earned. When applying for full-time undergraduate study, either at Penn or another institution, you will be required to submit all secondary and post-secondary academic transcripts, which includes the transcript you will receive within the Wharton Pre-baccalaureate Program. As such, it is imperative all students take coursework seriously, take advantage of university resources available to them, and relay any concerns to an academic advisor immediately.

Note: Participation in Wharton's Pre-baccalaureate Program does not guarantee admission into the University of Pennsylvania.

Academic Calendar

Wharton Pre-baccalaureate students are subject to the same academic calendar, deadlines, and policies as Wharton and University of Pennsylvania undergraduate students. Penn's Spring 1, 2026 session spans over 7 weeks: January 20, 2026 – March 2, 2026.

	Spring Session I
Classes Begin	January 20
Last Day to Add a Course (instructor permission required)	January 26
Last Day to Drop a Course with No Financial Obligation and No Notation on the Transcript	January 26
Last Day to Change Grade Status in a Course (Pass/ Fail)	February 9
Last Day to Drop a Course (<i>with partial financial obligation and no notation on the university transcript</i>)	February 9
Last Day to Withdraw from a Course. (<i>Full financial obligation applies. Transcript to read "W."</i>)	February 24
Classes End*	March 2

*Dates are subject to change

*Spring Session does not have a set schedule for final exams. All exam dates are at the discretion of the course instructor.

To make changes to course registration and/or grading status, students must email wgyp-prebacc@wharton.upenn.edu.

Course Information

All Pre-baccalaureate Program courses are offered in a fully online format. Courses include live synchronous class meetings as well as asynchronous lectures and content. For live class meetings, students must log in during published class meeting times for lectures, discussions, and assignments. Published class meeting times are set to Eastern Standard/Daylight Time. Attendance for all live class meetings is mandatory and students are advised to keep cameras on throughout class to ensure active participation and engagement.

Beyond live class meetings, additional coursework will be required. Students may be assigned readings, video lectures, group projects, or independent assignments designed to meet course learning objectives. We estimate an additional 5-10 hours of work will be required outside of live class meetings. All assignments and applicable deadlines will be clearly outlined in the course syllabus, to be provided by the instructor at the start of term. Once received, review the syllabus carefully to familiarize yourself with course content topics, objectives, policies, and timelines.

Technology Requirements

In order to fully participate in courses, you will need a computer that meets the minimum system requirements for Canvas LMS and Zoom Videoconferencing. A webcam with microphone is also required. While some components of coursework may be accessible with a mobile device, it is not recommended. Refer to the following links for specific requirements:

- [Canvas LMS Support Resources](#)
- [Zoom Requirements and Support](#)

Course Selection and Registration

Pre-bacc students are eligible to register for two courses per session. Courses must be chosen from the list of approved [Pre-baccalaureate courses](#).

To initiate course registration, students must:

- **New Students:**
 - Complete the online [Onboarding and Resource course](#) through Canvas, including the Course Selection module.
 - Instructions for accessing the [Onboarding](#) course are included in the students' official admission letter.
- **Returning Students:**
 - Complete the online [Onboarding and Resource course](#) through Canvas, including the Course Selection module.
 - Instructions for accessing the [Onboarding](#) course are included in the returning students' interest survey link.

Due to course quotas and academic prerequisites, enrollment in a specific course is not guaranteed; we strongly encourage students to select an alternate course. Registration confirmations will be sent via email in advance of the term. Students may elect to change their course registration at any time before the start of classes.

Academic Policies

All students are required to abide by all Wharton and University of Pennsylvania policies, including the Code of Academic Integrity and the Acceptable Technology Use Policy.

- [Code of Academic Integrity](#)
- [Acceptable Technology Use Policy](#)

Grading System

The following grades are used to report the academic standing of a student upon completion of each course.

A+	= 4.0 Distinguished	F	= 0.0 Failure
A	= 4.0 Excellent	GR	= No Grade reported for student
A–	= 3.7	NR	= No Grades reported for course
B+	= 3.3	I	= Incomplete (see below)
B	= 3.0 Good	II	= Extended Incomplete (see below)
B–	= 2.7	P	= Pass, A+ TO D
C+	= 2.3	S	= Satisfactory progress
C	= 2.0 Average	U	= Unsatisfactory
C–	= 1.7	W	= Withdrew
D+	= 1.3	AUD	= Audit
D	= 1.0 Below Average	X	= Academic Violation

Pass/Fail Option

Pass/Fail is an option to encourage students to continue with courses in subjects that may prove challenging. Regulations concerning the Pass/Fail option are:

1. In courses taken Pass/Fail, the standard letter grades A-D are converted to P (Pass) by the Registrar. A failure is posted as an F.
2. Grades of P are not computed when determining students' grade point averages; grades of F are computed.
3. The Pass/Fail option stipulates that the instructor is not to be informed of those students who have enrolled Pass/Fail.

Credits and Credit System

Penn academic credit is measured in "course units" (CUs). Pre-baccalaureate courses award a half course unit, 0.5CUs, which is equivalent to two semester hours or college credit hours at most other institutions. If planning to transfer your Penn credits to your future undergraduate institution, please maintain a course syllabus and transcript, as these will aid in the transfer.

If applying to one of Penn's undergraduate schools, you may learn about Penn's [Pre-College/Dual Enrollment Work policy here](#). At this time, credits accrued through Wharton's Pre-baccalaureate Program are accepted within the Wharton School for undergraduate credit.

Incompletes

An incomplete grade indicates a student has not completed all the work in a course and has done so with the instructor's permission. An instructor who chooses to grant an extension to a student who has not completed a course by the end of the term may grant either an Incomplete (I) or an Extended Incomplete (II). An Incomplete must be made up within the first four weeks of the start of the next term, and an Extended Incomplete must be made up by the end of the next term. In either case, if the Incomplete is not made up by the deadline it will become an F.

Failures

A grade of F remains on the student record and cannot be erased, even if the student repeats the course and earns a passing grade. A grade of F is always calculated into the cumulative grade point average.

Final Examinations

No students shall be excused from a final examination in a course where such an examination is required. In exceptional instances, such as serious illness or injury, students may be allowed to postpone the examination with the approval of the instructor.

FERPA Policy

As stated by Federal law, the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), protects the privacy of student educational records. Students in the Wharton Pre-Baccalaureate Program are protected under FERPA policies, meaning information regarding a student's performance in the classroom or any identifying academic information may not be released to anyone but the student. Should a student wish to release their records to a parent or guardian, they may complete a FERPA Waiver via [Path@Penn](#) and return to wgyp-prebacc@wharton.upenn.edu.

End of Term

Transcripts

An official transcript of a student's academic record is available from the University Registrar. To request a transcript, follow instructions outlined below, or on the [Registrar's website](#).

1. Log into [Path@Penn](#) with your PennKey and password
2. View your 'Unofficial transcript from the 'My Courses' menu ' to confirm your information is correct
3. Access the 'Order My Official Transcript' link from the 'My Courses' menu
4. You will be redirected to the National Clearing House Penn website:
 - a. Confirm your information
 - b. Select your transcript and delivery details
 - c. Order Transcripts – request hard or soft copy transcripts after completing a few prompts; transcript copies are \$10 a piece

Program Continuation

All students who are age eligible and remain in good academic standing are invited to continue with the Pre-baccalaureate Program for future terms – no additional application necessary. Good academic standing is measured as a cumulative 3.0 GPA (B) or higher in Wharton coursework. Shortly before the start of each term, the

Wharton Global Youth team will invite eligible students to return. It is not a requirement to continue with the program; it is simply an opportunity to continue your students should you be interested. Students who do not meet the 3.0 GPA are asked to reapply for the program should they wish to continue.

Academic Resources

Instructor Office Hours

All instructors will hold periodic office hours in which students may virtually ‘drop in’ with questions or concerns. Should published office hours not fall within your range of availability, please email your instructor for alternate meeting times or to schedule an appointment.

Penn Libraries

[The University of Pennsylvania library system](#) includes 15 different libraries. Your PennKey and email account give you access to all of the library’s electronic resources, digitized materials, workshops, and virtual support systems.

Canvas

Canvas is a learning support system utilized by instructors to house course details, including: Zoom links for live class sessions, course syllabi, assignments, contact information, discussion boards, videos, or resources applicable to coursework. Once registered for courses, you may log in to Canvas using your PennKey:

<https://canvas.upenn.edu>

Refer to the [Canvas Student Guide](#) for detailed instructions and FAQs for utilizing the Canvas system.

Textbooks & Course Materials

Some courses may require the purchase of textbooks or additional course materials. These are typically available in digital format and may be acquired from the [Penn Bookstore](#) or other online retailers. Your course instructor will outline requisite course materials in the syllabus.

The Weingarten Learning Resources Center

The [Weingarten Learning Resources Center](#) provides academic workshops and consultation services for academic success, including: academic reading, writing, study strategies, and time management. A schedule of available workshops and services may be found on their website.

Student Disabilities Services

[Student Disabilities Services \(SDS\)](#) provides comprehensive professional services and academic accommodations for students with disabilities to ensure equal academic opportunities. Reasonable accommodation to a qualified student’s known disability may be provided to assure equal access. Penn invites students with disabilities to self-identify via their website. Although the self-identification process is confidential and completely voluntary, it is required for those requesting accommodation. SDS may be contacted via the web at <https://wlrc.vpul.upenn.edu/sds/>, by phone at 215.573.9235, and by TDD at 215.746.6320.

Wharton Global Youth Additional Resources

The Wharton Global Youth Program (WGYP) offers additional opportunities and resources to explore business and finance education, including an [annual investment competition](#) and online business journal. The [WGYP business journal](#) features articles, videos, [podcasts](#), and glossary terms designed to provide insight and faculty analysis on topics like [Health Economics](#), [Data Science](#), and [more](#).

Electronic Access

PennKey

All Pre-Bacc students are **REQUIRED** to set-up a PennKey, which is an access code for ALL University systems, including the online billing system, Path@Penn and Penn Canvas. Students will be issued instructions by email on creating a PennKey.

Wharton Email Address

All Pre-Bacc students are **REQUIRED** to create a Wharton e-mail account while attending courses. This e-mail address is set up as a forwarding address only. Students will activate their Wharton accounts and select their preferred personal forwarding address, which is where all official correspondence from the University will be sent (including billing statements, course communication, etc). 24 hours after setting-up your PennKey, please go to the Wharton Account Creator website and follow the instructions on setting up a Wharton e-mail account: <https://apps.wharton.upenn.edu/iam/accountcreator/>

Path@Penn

Path@Penn provides secure access to online course schedules, academic records, billing, address corrections and updates, and transcript ordering. A PennKey is required to access [Path@Penn](#)

Tuition and Billing

Course tuition and fees are calculated in the same manner as all other non-degree undergraduate students at the Wharton School. Tuition and fees are charged per course, as outlined below. All billing for the University is done on an electronic basis via [Penn.Pay](#). Billing statements are issued directly to the student's Wharton email.

- [Accepted Payment Methods](#)
- [Billing Schedule](#)

	Tuition	Online Services Fee	Course Materials Fee
Spring I Session	\$4,230/course	\$81/course	\$76/course*

*For applicable courses only; fee covers exclusive content, simulations, or case studies utilized within the course.

In addition to tuition and fees, all students are financially responsible for any other fees associated with attending courses, which may include textbooks, software, course materials, etc.

Students who attend a School District of Philadelphia public or charter high school may attend one course tuition-free per term. Tuition and fees are automatically waived; there is nothing further students need to do. If you attend a Philadelphia public/charter school and believe you have been billed erroneously, please contact us at wgyp-prebacc@wharton.upenn.edu so we can triage.

Note: The Pre-Baccalaureate Program is NOT eligible for the Penn Payment Plan advertised on Penn.Pay. Please do not enroll in the payment plan when attempting to submit your payment.

Student & Parent/Guardian Agreement

- i. **Code of Conduct:** I agree to adhere to the University code of conduct as outlined in the [PennBook](#).
- ii. **Code of Academic Integrity:** I understand every member of the University community, including myself, is responsible for upholding the highest standards of honesty at all times. I agree to adhere to the principles and spirit of the University's Code of Academic Integrity as outlined in the [PennBook](#).
- iii. **Acceptable Use Policy on Electronic Resources:** I understand and agree to adhere to the Acceptable Use Policy on Electronic Resources policy as outlined here: [Acceptable Technology Use Policy](#)
- iv. **Financial Obligation:** By registering for class(es) offered by the University of Pennsylvania, I am agreeing to pay tuition, fees, and other charges associated with my enrollment on or before the scheduled due dates. This constitutes a legal financial obligation. Additionally, I am aware that non-attendance does not relieve me of my financial responsibility for the class(es) in which I am enrolled.
- v. **Registration Hold:** I understand that if I have outstanding financial obligations to the University, I cannot register for additional classes and the University will not provide me with an official transcript while payment is outstanding.
- vi. **Methods of Communications:** I understand the University of Pennsylvania uses my email address to communicate important updates or information about my student account, student course information, and program information. I authorize the University of Pennsylvania or its authorized agents to contact me by mail, email, or by phone, including any cell phone numbers I provide.
- vii. **Permission to Share Academic/Financial Information:** I understand the University cannot, by federal student privacy law (FERPA), discuss my academic or financial records with a third party, including parents. I can explicitly authorize Penn to share information by completing a FERPA Waiver via [Path@Penn](#) and returning it to wgyp-prebacc@wharton.upenn.edu.

By signing below, we acknowledge we have read the Wharton Pre-Baccalaureate Program Handbook and agree to adhere to the academic, financial, and electronic use policies set forth by the program and the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

Student name (print) _____

Student signature _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian name (print) _____

Parent/Guardian signature _____ Date: _____

E-signature is acceptable. **Please submit a signed copy of your Handbook through the Onboarding course, or email wgyp-prebacc@wharton.upenn.edu in advance of term coursework.**