What are SCORE trips like?

SCORE trips are an integrative and immersive experience that introduce participants to the Walla Walla community and its complexities. Participants will meet with community organizations, partners, and citizens to learn about local social and political issues. Direct service, education, and reflection will be a daily occurrence, as well as fun exploration of the Walla Walla area. Participants will stay at local churches and cook most meals together. The trips will run from the evening of Thursday, August 16 to the morning of Thursday, August 23.

Expectations

Every student plays an important part in the success of a SCORE. Because the trips are service-based, every volunteer will be expected to work hard, be open to new ideas, contribute to the group, and have a positive attitude. Part of SCORE is learning how to live simply and be aware of your personal impact on the community.

Reflection about what you do and learn is an important part of SCORE, and it will require thoughtful and respectful participation. At the lodging sites, all students help cook and clean up. Willingness to build a cohesive group will help you develop friendships that will continue throughout your time at Whitman.
Space is limited, so register right away!

There are a limited number of spots for incoming students, so sign up right away. The application can be found online at: whit.mn/score

You'll need to fill out the application before June 15. On June 15 we will review applications and match participants to trips based on stated preferences. We'll start with the applications that were submitted first, so it is best to turn in your application as soon as possible to improve your chances of getting on your top choice SCORE trip. We will maintain a waitlist once SCOREs fill up.

We will notify you of your trip placement within two weeks. Once accepted, you will need to submit your payment and follow up paperwork.

Cost

All SCORE trips cost $375 per person. This includes food, lodging, supplies, and transportation for six days. If the cost is prohibitive, please contact the SCORE coordinator to discuss a reduced cost trip.

Cancellations and Refunds

• If you cancel before July 15, you will receive the full refund minus a $50 cancellation fee.
• If you cancel after July 15 but prior to August 1, the Student Engagement Center will retain 50% of the trip fee.
• From August 1 throughout the duration of SCORE, all trip fees are non-refundable.

Schedule and Travel Plans

There are three daily flights to Walla Walla from Seattle, so you should make travel arrangements as soon as you are confirmed on a trip. In July, you will receive an email from the SCORE coordinator with additional trip details. Included in this email will be a travel plan survey. Please fill out this form as soon as possible. We will make arrangements to pick you up at the Walla Walla airport or bus station.

All SCORE trips start with a group orientation at 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 16. All SCORE trips will return to Whitman’s Reid Campus Center on Thursday, August 23, at 9 a.m. for new student arrival, and leaders will be available to help with storage pick-up and moving into the residence halls.

Equipment and Food

Food, transportation, and group gear are all included as part of the trip. Participants need to bring a sleeping bag and pad, but both can be rented from the Outdoor Program if needed for a low cost. A detailed list of necessary personal items will be included in your SCORE packet.
Storage

We will provide a place for you to store your belongings while on your SCORE. Your items must be well-labeled and will be placed in a storage room. You will be able to pick up your belongings on Thursday, August 23, at 9 a.m. when all other first-year students have the opportunity to move in.

Drug and Alcohol Policy

No drugs or alcohol are allowed on service trips. We believe they inhibit full engagement with the group and the service project. Anyone who uses drugs or alcohol will be released from the trip at their own expense. It will be the responsibility of the individual to coordinate plans once they are removed from the trip.

Additional Questions You May Have:

**What training do my SCORE leaders have?**

SCORE leaders are required to possess current Red Cross first aid certification. They also participate in a two-day training provided by the Student Engagement Center prior to the SCORE start date. Many of them have led service trips in the past.

**What safety and communication equipment do leaders carry?**

Each SCORE trip will have a first aid kit and a cell phone for each leader.

More Info:

whitman.edu/community-service
**SCORE THEMES**

**Food & Hunger**

The Food & Hunger SCORE will focus on food issues in the Walla Walla Valley. Participants will work at local family farms, participate in gleaning for the food bank, and visit food-related organizations such as the food bank, the Farmers’ Market, and Whitman’s catering service Bon Appétit. The Food & Hunger SCORE encourages students to think about where their food comes from and how food travels from farm to fork.

**The Environment & Social Justice**

The Environment & Social Justice SCORE will focus on the community’s relationship to the land and place we occupy. Participants will work with environmental groups, the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and community organizations specializing in environmental and social justice issues.

**Community Health**

The Community Health SCORE will be making its debut this year! Participants will learn about different health issues and concerns relating to the health of the individual and community at large. They will work with local organizations committed to addressing health related problems and other health focused organizations.

**Housing & Homelessness**

The Housing & Homelessness SCORE will work with local agencies in Walla Walla that serve the homeless and housing insecure population. Students will serve meals, work with local shelters and other projects. The Housing & Homelessness SCORE raises questions about the difference between a house and a home and the responsibility of the community to its citizens.
2016 Participants:

“SCORE is one of the defining experiences I’ve had at Whitman. It really made me feel like I was a part of the Walla Walla community, and not just Whitman. And the friends I made on SCORE quickly became some of my closest, and we’re still friends!”

— Andy Burnstein ’20, Community & Identity Participant

“SCORE was an amazing opportunity to better understand the community we live in. I was amazed by how much I learned about Walla Walla in one week, and how bonded I felt to my group members by the end. As a SCORE leader, but not a first-year SCORE participant, my eyes were opened to completely new aspects of Walla Walla even after two years at Whitman. I wish I had participated in SCORE sooner!”

— Meg Weisselberg ’18, Housing & Homelessness Leader 2016