



Bachelor of Applied Science in Sustainable Practices

Admissions Information

The BAS in Sustainable Practices expands upon Cascadia’s longstanding commitment to sustainability as both a cultural value and an academic discipline. The program is designed to equip graduates with the skills necessary to plan and implement sustainable approaches to how we live and work. Graduates will be prepared to manage complex projects for government agencies, private and non-profit organizations, water and agriculture industries, construction management firms, and educational institutions. Applicants will be evaluated for admission on a space available basis.

Admission Requirements

In order to consider your application, you should meet one set of the following conditions (or see below):

An Applied Science Associate degree from a regionally accredited college or university in the area of sustainability or environmental technology consisting of at least 90 credits, with a minimum 2.5 cumulative grade point average and a 2.0 grade in each of the following courses:

- English 101 (5 credits) or equivalent
- Any Math course that required Intermediate Algebra (MATH 085) as a prerequisite (5 credits)
- Natural Science course with lab in Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Environmental Science, or Geology (5 credits)

OR

A transfer Associate degree from a regionally accredited college consisting of at least 90 credits or a bachelor’s degree with a minimum 2.5 cumulative grade point average and a 2.0 grade in each of the following courses:

- English 101 (5 credits) or equivalent
- Any Math course that required Intermediate Algebra (MATH 085) as a prerequisite (5 credits)
- Natural Science course in Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, Geology, or Environmental Science (10 credits with at least 5 credits in a lab science)
- Social Science course (5 credits)

Students with relevant work or volunteer experience and **some college credit but without degrees** are encouraged to meet with the Assistant Director of Sustainable Practices to discuss enrollment options.

The following courses are strongly recommended in addition to (or as part of) the entry requirements: BIOL 120, CHEM& 121, ECON 151, ECON& 201, ECON& 202, ENGL& 102, ENGL& 235, MATH& 146, POLS& 101, POLS&202, POLS&206, SOC& 101, and SOC& 150.

1. Cascadia College Admissions Application (if you are new to Cascadia).
2. BASSP Application Form (page 2 of this document).
3. Application essay (1-2 pages) answering the following questions (see example essay on pgs 4-5):
 - What sustainability challenge (local, national or global) matters most to you and why?
 - What are the ecological, political, social and economic factors contributing to this challenge?
 - How will this degree help you address those factors and contribute to alleviating this challenge?
 - How will this degree help you accomplish your educational and career goals?
4. Official Transcripts from all previous colleges attended (even if you did not earn a degree).
5. Skills based resume including all relevant work and volunteer experience (see example on page 6).



Admission Application

Bachelor of Applied Science in Sustainable Practices

Personal Information

Name (Last, First, Middle)				Student Identification Number (SID)
Mailing Address				City
State	Zip	Primary Phone	Alternate Phone	Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)
Email Address:			Intended Quarter Start: <input type="checkbox"/> Fall 20__	Previous Names

Educational Information

Please list all institutions that you are currently or have previously attended beginning with the most recent.

Institution Name	Dates of Attendance	Degree Earned

Please indicate the institution where you completed or plan to complete your associate or bachelor's degree and indicate what degree you earned. (Example: Cascadia College, AAS-T in Environmental Technology and Sustainable Practices)

Institution Name and Degree Earned	Date
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Planned Courses

Please list all courses you are currently enrolled in or plan to complete prior to the start of the program

Course (Ex. CHEM& 161)	Institution	Completion Date

How did you first hear about this program? _____

Are you applying to participate as a full-time (three classes/quarter) or part-time (two classes/quarter) student in this program? _____ Note: Bachelor's level programs requires approximately 2-3 hours of work outside of class for every hour in class (~36+ hours of in-class and out-of-class work per week for a full-time student) including group work and field trips.

Are you (or Will you be) an International Student on F-1 visa? _____

Classes are scheduled generally Mon-Thur between 3:30pm and 7:50pm on campus, in the community and online. Are you available to participate in the program during these times? _____

I certify that all statements on this form are true to the best of my knowledge and authorize Cascadia College to verify any and all information on this form.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____



Application Checklist

Bachelor of Applied Science in Sustainable Practices

Please use this checklist to ensure you submit a complete application. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

- Cascadia College Admissions Application (if you have never been a Cascadia student).
- BASSP Admissions Application (page 2 of this document).
- Essay (No more than 2 pages, ~500 words) answering the following questions (see pages 4-5):
 - What sustainability challenge (local, national or global) matters most to you and why?
 - What are the ecological, political, social and economic factors contributing to this challenge?
 - How will courses and opportunities from this degree help you address those factors and contribute to alleviating this challenge?
 - How will this degree help you accomplish your educational and career goals?
- Official Transcripts from previous colleges attended even if you did not earn a degree from that college. If you earned credits or a degree at Cascadia, you do not need to submit a Cascadia College transcript. See address below.
- Skills based resume including all relevant work and volunteer experience (see page 6).

Please submit your BASSP Admissions Application, Essay, and Resume together:

- Via email to sclassen@cascadia.edu
- By mail to: Cascadia College
ATTN: Stephan Classen, Assistant Director of Sustainable Practices
18345 Campus Way NE
Bothell WA 98011

Example Application Essay

I learned of the Great Pacific Garbage Patch last year while volunteering at a beach clean-up event. I was devastated to learn how plastics in our ocean impact marine life. For example, sea turtles mistake plastic bags for jellyfish and eat them and albatrosses mistake plastic resin pellets for fish eggs and feed them to their chicks¹. I was further shocked to learn that most of the debris comes from land-based activities in North America and Asia¹. I thought back to the last beach trip with my family. Did we pick up all our trash? Had a zip lock bag or water bottle been left behind or blown away by a gust of wind?

Since that volunteer event I've been extra careful to make sure all of my trash and recyclables are properly disposed of, but I'm still left with the feeling that there is more I can do. This issue needs action on a global scale! Unfortunately, it is difficult to rally public attention to this matter because this gigantic vortex of garbage consists almost entirely of teeny tiny bits of plastics generally invisible to the naked eye. Even satellite imagery doesn't show the giant patch of garbage¹.

The enormity of the problem, as well as the lack of public attention on the matter, will make cleaning up the Great Pacific Garbage Patch tremendously difficult. While there are many things we can do on an individual level – reduce single-use plastic consumption, avoid products with microbeads, bring reusable bags to the grocery store and travel mugs to the coffee shop² – we also need legislation and incentives that help manufacturers and businesses transition from toxic, disposable plastics to biodegradable materials¹ and cutting edge technologies that can safely remove existing debris from the open ocean and turn the trash into useful materials³. I am ready to take the next step in my education and gain the knowledge and skills I need to contribute to the design and implementation of these solutions.

Completing Cascadia's Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Sustainable Practices will help me better understand complex sustainability problems such as the Great Pacific Garbage Patch which continues to grow as I write this essay⁴. From the company who chooses non-biodegradable plastics for a short-term boost to their bottom line, to the subsistence fisherman thousands of miles away who becomes ill from eating contaminated fish, this is truly a global issue that merits our immediate attention. I would be thrilled to be part of a program that addresses the ecological and social impacts of our most pressing sustainability issues, such as the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, and opens doors to the political, ecological, economic and technological process and resources available to resolve them.

Upon earning a Bachelor of Applied Science degree in Sustainable Practices from Cascadia College, I aspire to complete a Masters of Business Administration and join the sustainability team of a national or global company such as Amazon. In such a position, I would be able to help corporate leaders transition to more environmentally friendly practices, such as replacing Styrofoam peanuts with biodegradable packing materials. My hope is that by helping a large, well known company successfully lead the way, other companies across the globe will eventually follow suit and that one day, many of the problems we once thought were too big to solve – ozone depletion, oceanic pollution, climate change – will become concerns of the past and a prosperous, healthy, and sustainable future for all will prevail.

References

- 1) National Geographic Society. (n.d.). Retrieved December 6, 2016 from <http://nationalgeographic.org/encyclopedia/great-pacific-garbage-patch/>
- 2) P Newman and A Crawley. (2015, April 30). Fishing for Plastic: Science in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch. Retrieved from <https://ocean.si.edu/blog/fishing-plastic-science-great-pacific-garbage-patch>
- 3) J Layton. (2010, February 04). Could we clean up the Great Pacific Garbage Patch? HowStuffWorks.com. Retrieved from <http://science.howstuffworks.com/environmental/green-science/clean-up-garbage-patch1.htm>
- 4) (2016, October 04). Great Pacific garbage patch far bigger than imagined, aerial survey shows. The Guardian. Retrieved from <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2016/oct/04/great-pacific-garbage-patch-ocean-plastic-trash>

Example Skills-Based Resume

Stuwert Dent

StuDent00@gmail.com

555-333-3333

11223 444th Pl NE, Example, WA 98765

EDUCATION

Cascadia College, Bothell, WA
Associate in Integrated Studies

Graduated June 2020

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Organization/Coordination

- Organized and led a half-day field trip to the Bellevue Art Museum for eight students and one faculty advisor
- Reviewed expense requests per state guidelines; tracked and reported on annual budget
- Project managed a group presentation on the future of electric vehicles

Technological Competencies

- Highly skilled in Microsoft Office including Word, Excel, Access and Publisher
- Moderately skilled in Adobe Suite including Acrobat, Photoshop, Illustrator and InDesign

Customer Service

- Provided exceptional service to restaurant patrons in fast-paced environment
- Assisted clients with product selection, purchases and returns
- Resolved customer concerns and elevated issues to management as appropriate

Field Work

- Removed debris from beach habitats, sorted collected materials and disposed of waste per county specifications
- Cleared brush from back-country trails and posted educational signage

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Sales Associate, Banana Republic – Seattle, WA
Server and Hostess, Red Robin – Woodinville, WA

September 2020 - Present
January 2016 – June 2020

LEADERSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Treasurer, Cascadia Art Club – Bothell, WA
Volunteer, Coastal Clean-up – Des Moines, WA
Volunteer, Washington Trails Alliance – Mount Rainier, WA

September 2015 – Present August
2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021 July
2020