Northwestern University
A PRIVATE INSTITUTION ESTABLISHED IN 1851

THE NORTHWESTERN DIFFERENCE

Northwestern is a comprehensive research university that is deeply interdisciplinary across multiple schools and units. Our rigorous yet empathetic academic environment provides a robust mixture of theory and practice, with an emphasis on top-tier research, new knowledge, creative expression, and practical application. At Northwestern, you’re part of an innovative, collaborative, and multidimensional community, delivering an impact that is rare in higher education.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

Northwestern is one of only three top-10 US universities ranked in the top 20 in each of the five graduate education categories.

12 COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS

WEINBERG COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES \ SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION \ SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL POLICY \ MCCORMICK SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCE \ THE GRADUATE SCHOOL \ MEDILL SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM, MEDIA, INTEGRATED MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS \ PRITZKER SCHOOL OF LAW \ KELLOGG SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT \ FEINBERG SCHOOL OF MEDICINE \ BIENEN SCHOOL OF MUSIC \ SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES \ NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY IN QATAR

ARTS AND HUMANITIES

• 35 Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences programs across the humanities, fine arts, social sciences, natural sciences, and mathematics
• Among Playbill’s top 10 most represented universities on Broadway
• Bienen School of Music alumni and faculty have won 12 Grammy Awards since 2015, and 45 music students and alumni have earned top honors in 40 international performance competitions
• Block Museum of Art named a top US campus museum by the New York Times

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

• 100+ innovation-based courses taught each year
• $2.6 billion in revenue from patents and intellectual property licensing
• More than 10 million patients impacted by Northwestern therapeutics

JOURNALISM AND INTEGRATED MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS

World-renowned programs in journalism and integrated marketing communications (IMC):
• Undergraduates complete journalism residencies at 120+ media outlets and companies in the US and abroad.
• Journalism graduate students choose to specialize in one of seven topic areas or reporting formats.
• The IMC program at Northwestern is a pioneer in blending creativity and data to build brands for the digital age.

RESEARCH

National Institutes of Health Funding

$449M

More than $1B in annual sponsored research awards

86% increase over the past 10 years

#16 in total NIH awards among AAU universities
FALL 2023 FACT SHEET

ACADEMIC OVERVIEW

- 77% of undergrads combine two or more areas of study.
- About 50% of students participate in a global learning experience.
- 97% of the Class of 2022 were employed or pursuing further education, service, or career development opportunities within six months of graduation.

PELL GRANTS AND FINANCIAL AID

- 20% of the Class of 2027 receive Pell Grants
- 64% of undergraduates receive financial aid

ENDOWMENT

- $15.4B

PELL GRANTS AND FINANCIAL AID

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SCHOLARSHIPS

Undergraduates
Northwestern awarded more than $200 million in scholarships to students in 2022–23.

Fulbright Scholars
Northwestern is one of a handful of universities to appear on every “top-producing” Fulbright US Student Program list published by the Chronicle of Higher Education since 2005.

AWARD-WINNING COMMUNITY

Northwestern faculty and alumni include recipients of Pulitzer and Nobel Prizes; MacArthur Genius Grants; Tony, Grammy, Emmy, and Academy Awards; and Guggenheim Fellowships as well as members of the National Academy of Sciences and numerous other honorary and professional societies.

NOTABLE ALUMNI

- Rubén Castillo
- Stephen Colbert
- Gillian Flynn
- Claudia Lopez
- Julia Louis-Dreyfus
- Meghan Markle
- George R.R. Martin
- Seth Meyers
- J.B. Pritzker
- Patrick G. Ryan
- Roxana Saberi
- Gwynne Shotwell
- Michael Wilbon
- Andrew Youn

ATHLETICS

- Founding member of the Big Ten Conference
- Two Big Ten West football titles since 2018 and winner of four bowl games since 2016
- 2021 NCAA field hockey national champions
- Seven NCAA women’s lacrosse titles since 2005
- Recent conference championships in basketball, fencing, field hockey, golf, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, and wrestling
- NCAA graduation success rate of 98% has ranked in the top four among Football Bowl Subdivision schools for 18 consecutive years
- One of five private AAU members/top research universities to compete in NCAA Power Five conferences

Updated September 2023