

Introduction

Western Michigan University is a major research university enrolling some 24,800 students from across the United States and nearly 90 other countries. WMU provides the top-notch programs, faculty, facilities and hands-on learning opportunities students need to prepare for and excel in graduate school or the workplace. Founded in 1903, WMU is a nationally recognized, internationally engaged institution dedicated to fostering student success.

- The Carnegie Foundation classifies WMU among the nation's fewer than 200 research universities.
- Phi Beta Kappa, the nation's most prestigious honor society, has chosen to grant chapters to WMU and just 99 other public institutions.
- *U.S. News & World Report* names WMU among the nation's top-100 public institutions and the Midwest's top 30.
- *The Princeton Review* includes WMU on its annual online list of the Best Midwestern Colleges.
- Intel places WMU second on its list of America's most wireless college campuses.

WMU offers more than 230 degree programs through seven degree-granting colleges: Arts and Sciences, Aviation, Education, Engineering and Applied Sciences, Fine Arts, Haworth College of Business, and Health and Human Services. Students may choose from 140 bachelor's programs, 67 master's programs and 29 doctoral programs. Many of these offerings have earned a national or international reputation, and several are offered close to home through the University's branch campuses in Battle Creek, Benton Harbor, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Muskegon/Holland and Traverse City.

WMU attracts faculty members who have been trained at the world's leading universities and who bring a global perspective to the classroom. These scholars conduct \$30-\$40 million in externally funded research each year and share their cutting-edge discoveries in the classroom. This robust academic environment is bolstered by some of the finest instructional facilities in the Midwest as well as a rich array of study-abroad programs, internship opportunities, research institutes and business/industry collaborations.

Despite its size and complexity, WMU remains one of the most affordable and accessible schools in Michigan. The University ranked eleventh in tuition and fees among the state's 15 public universities in 2008-09, while continuing to provide the close personal attention usually associated with small private colleges. At WMU, two-thirds of all undergraduate classes have 30 or fewer students, and first-year mentoring programs, extensive career and employment services, and experienced advisors and tutors are within easy reach.

WMU is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association. www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org