Welcome to Student Life!
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This is where college happens on the campus of Western Michigan University. Students here have many opportunities to meet new people, join student organizations, work, live and engage in the diversity of campus life.

Student Affairs is here to help students achieve success, both inside and outside of the classroom. Through a variety of resources, students can achieve their career, educational and personal goals, and become active members of the WMU community.

As you navigate the University environment, keep in mind that student success is always our top priority. We hope you will take advantage of the many exciting student life opportunities at WMU.
There are hundreds of ways to get involved in campus life at WMU. A variety of activities and programs help students achieve success through personal and professional development, and to participate in life beyond the classroom.

**Student Engagement** supports over 400 diverse student organizations where students can socialize, develop leadership skills, and become active on campus.

» [wmich.edu/activities](http://wmich.edu/activities)

**The WMU Signature Program** provides the framework for students to intentionally plan their co-curricular experiences. It provides the vehicle for students to plan, reflect and demonstrate their unique passions and interests. Upon graduation, the Signature pathway chosen by the student will be designated on their diploma and transcript.

» [wmich.edu/signature](http://wmich.edu/signature)

**The Bernhard Center**, located in the heart of WMU, is the vibrant community center for campus life. The center serves as the living room of the University where people gather to meet friends, shop, participate in cultural activities, study or just relax in lounge areas.

**The Student Organization Center** is designed for student engagement and provides a central collaborative space for Registered Student Organizations on the main floor of the Bernhard Center.

» [wmich.edu/studentcenter](http://wmich.edu/studentcenter)

30% more students continue on to their fourth year at WMU as a result of their engagement in campus employment, club sports, CAB events, or from living in a learning community.

Over 400 student organizations, including 34 Greek student organizations, contribute over 30,000 service hours.
Cultivating healthy lifestyles, minds and bodies is critical to student success. WMU students will find a variety of health-related services on campus designed to support physical, emotional and personal well-being.

**Sindecuse Health Center** serves students with board-certified clinicians who specialize in college health care. A full-service pharmacy serves the campus community.

**Counseling Services** is staffed by licensed counselors dedicated to helping students make safe and healthy choices. Health promotion programs are available to supplement a student’s college education.

» [wmich.edu/students/health](http://wmich.edu/students/health)

**University Recreation** encourages healthy lifestyle choices, team building, leadership skills and positive social interactions.

- The Student Recreation Center is a progressive modern facility filled with many energizing activities.

- Group fitness programs, intramural sports, aqua fitness classes and personal training are just a few options to keep bodies and minds in peak condition.

For a challenge, climbing clinics on the 45-foot climbing wall will help improve strength and endurance.

» [wmich.edu/rec](http://wmich.edu/rec)

**160** students engaged in internship, employment or volunteering as a part of a student group or learning experience at the health center.

**3,629** students, faculty and staff have been trained in bystander intervention over the last three years.
Residence Life offers housing options for students who choose to live on campus. Conveniently located close to classes, residence halls and WMU apartments are great places to meet new people and build lifelong friendships.

- A variety of living arrangements, themes and learning communities all support student success.
- Enjoy the safety of college living in campus Residential Neighborhoods, with instant access to staff and community support.
- Get close to the action! Dining Centers, the Student Recreation Center and the Bernhard Center are all within walking distance and just minutes away.

» wmich.edu/housing

Dining on campus

From early morning to late at night, flexible dining choices help students stay healthy so they can focus on academics. Students can rejuvenate between classes or meet up with friends at any of the convenient dining locations.

- WMU Dining Services offers many choices including dining centers, carryout and campus cafés.
- The Bronco Mall on the lower level of the Bernhard Center is home to several national brand food vendors.

» wmich.edu/dining

The average GPA for residence hall students is **3.03**. The average term GPA was **0.11 higher** for learning community students vs. non-learning community students.

94% of students living in a residence hall feel safe in their room.
Career and Student Employment Services empowers students to develop the skills necessary for reaching their career goals. Through career advising, and learning about career pathways, WMU students get ready for the world of work or service after graduating.

**Career and Student Employment Services** partners with employers to offer career development opportunities for students and alumni. Through campus employment, internships and a focus on practical experience, students build professional skills and gain hands-on experience.

- Services and programs focus on career development, exploring options and finding employment.
- Career Advisors assist students with self-assessment, occupational research and job search strategies.

**Handshake** is a web-based resource to help students with their employment search. Students use the web features to search and apply for jobs, sign up for interviews and events, or to publish their resume online.

» [wmich.edu/students/employment](http://wmich.edu/students/employment)

From the class of 2017, **91%** are employed or in graduate school; **88%** are satisfied with their job; and **85%** have jobs related to their major. **77%** of the class are employed in Michigan and the starting median salary is **$40,000 to $45,000**.
Character and Citizenship

**Student Affairs** is committed to guiding students to become responsible citizens and future leaders. Campus resources are available so students can lead successful and purposeful lives with civility and compassion.

Every student is encouraged to grow academically, culturally, personally and spiritually. Through learning and discourse, WMU students become engaged citizens who act with high ethical standards beyond the classroom.

**Student Conduct** strives to foster student learning and personal development by creating an educationally purposeful, disciplined and caring community. Staff work collaboratively to forge a responsive and ethical academic community, balance individual student rights and responsibilities, and promote civility and effective citizenship.

» [wmich.edu/studentaffairs](http://wmich.edu/studentaffairs)

Diversity and Inclusion

**Diversity and inclusion** are supported, affirmed and celebrated at WMU. The University community is committed to integrating cultural diversity into all facets of campus life, and encourages students to grow and develop through active involvement. Programs and services are purposefully designed to support diverse environments that enhance learning and personal development.

Students here will find many opportunities to embrace cultural differences through campus organizations and programs that advance the values of diversity, multiculturalism and good citizenship.

» [wmich.edu/students/diversity](http://wmich.edu/students/diversity)

**Spectrum House** is an empowering, inclusive and supportive environment where students of all gender identities and sexual orientations, inclusive of allies, can live and learn together.
Family Engagement serves as a contact point, liaison, and an information gateway for parents, guardians and family members of WMU students. Family members are welcome to join the WMU Family Connection network to receive up-to-date news and information about campus activities.

The Children’s Place Learning Center offers flexible childcare options for students who are balancing academics and family responsibilities. The learning center is accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and is the perfect choice for active student parents.

The Invisible Need Project is a multi-faceted initiative intended to serve students with unmet needs, while strengthening the culture of giving at WMU. The project engages the entire campus community, encouraging all faculty, staff, administrators and fellow students to come together to help students in need.

The WMU Food Pantry is located in the Office of Student Affairs in the Faunce Student Services Building.

» wmich.edu/students

During fall 2017, there were 402 visits to the WMU Food Pantry.
Transformational Initiatives

WMU is working to redevelop the South Neighborhood to provide a broader scope of choices for all WMU students in supportive living environments.

South Neighborhood

Western Michigan University’s redevelopment work will soon shift to the South Neighborhood to create an eye-catching new presence. The area that runs along Stadium Drive will transform into a state-of-the-art campus gateway presenting a “wow” factor near the southern part of main campus. Construction plans include a new student center and dining facility, student housing and other mixed-use facilities.

New student-focused housing
Projected opening fall 2020
• Offering innovative design features
• Focused on the student of the future
• Providing the latest in student housing amenities
• Designed to support student success, recruitment and retention

New student center and dining facility
Projected opening fall 2021
• Located in the footprint of McCracken Hall
• Serving as the cornerstone of campus life
• Supporting mission critical programs and events
• Connecting WMU to the community
A campuswide call for ideas to transform the way WMU serves students has led to funding for two initiatives, designed to build a stronger sense of belonging and community among all students.

**Success @ WMU**

The Success @ WMU initiative is a large-scale transformational campus program that builds on past WMU success with small learning communities. The initiative ensures that all new undergraduate students have access to a learning community led by a peer leader who is assisted by faculty and staff. It will offer every incoming undergraduate the benefits of having a strong yearlong community connection within the University. The learning communities are intended to help welcome and orient new students and also to help them build skills essential for success in college.

**Esports @ WMU**

WMU will become one of a relatively small number of colleges and universities nationwide to formally sponsor video gaming through the new Esports initiative. The University plans to open its pilot gaming facility and make it available for a variety of venues, including community video gaming events.

The Little Theatre location will be equipped with 22 stations that can be used in the short term for competitions and skill development at the club sport level. The facility is expected to allow for the development of academic programming designed to meet the career demands of what is expected to be a $1.5 billion U.S. industry by 2020.