

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Kalamazoo 49008
www.wmich.edu



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JOHN M. DUNN, President

Western Michigan University is a learner-centered, discovery-driven and globally engaged national university with a small-college feel. WMU was founded in 1903 as a teacher-preparation school and has grown to become one of Michigan's five research universities. It builds intellectual inquiry, investigation, and discovery into its academic programs, yet remains focused on providing personal attention and preparing both undergraduate and graduate students for success in work as well as life.

Recognition: WMU is nationally recognized and internationally engaged.

- The Carnegie Foundation classifies WMU among the nation's 147 public research universities.
- *U.S. News & World Report* has named WMU among the country's "best national universities" and among the top-30 in the Midwest for the past 22 years.
- *The Princeton Review* includes WMU on its annual online list of the Best Midwestern Colleges.
- Phi Beta Kappa, America's premier honor society, has granted chapters to WMU and fewer than 100 other public institutions.
- *Military Times EDGE* ranks WMU 49th out of 650 rated U.S. schools on its "Best for Vets" list of higher education institutions. WMU is the only four-year school in Michigan to be included on this list.
- *G.I. Jobs* places WMU among the top 15 percent of colleges for vets, and WMU continues to be listed among the "military friendly" schools compiled by *Military Advanced Education*.
- Facilities management personnel in higher education and the corporate world recognize WMU as a national leader in conserving energy and as well as reducing energy costs and regularly come to campus to learn best practices.
- In a groundbreaking national report, the Sustainable Endowments Institute in 2011 lauded WMU as the first university in the nation to utilize innovative green financing models to save and reuse millions of dollars in operating funds.
- WMU constructed the nation's first higher education building to receive gold-level certification for meeting Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Existing Buildings (LEED-EB) standards.

Size and scope: WMU enrolls 25,000 students. Its campuses encompass more than 1,200 acres and 150 buildings, and feature some of the finest instructional and performance spaces in the Midwest. Yet, WMU has the second leanest administrative staffing levels of any of Michigan's 15 public universities.

The main campus is located close to downtown Kalamazoo and includes a growing Oakland Drive Campus that has become a hub for health and human services programs and direct-service clinics. WMU's highly rated engineering college and thriving Business Technology and Research Park are based three miles away at the Parkview Campus, while its nationally known aviation college is based at the W.K. Kellogg Airport in Battle Creek, Michigan. Both the aviation campus and BTR Park are components of two Michigan SmartZones.

WMU has long met the state's regional needs for higher education and career development programs, and continues to serve thousands of Michigan residents annually through its Online and Lifelong Learning offices, as well as its regional sites in Battle Creek, Benton Harbor, metro Detroit, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Muskegon, and Traverse City.

Academic programs: The university continues to innovate, offering new cutting-edge programs in response to state and national needs as well as employers in business, industry, the nonprofit sector and other areas. One recent example is the WMU School of Medicine, which will enroll its first class for fall 2014 and be among the nation's first to be developed based on a 21st-century paradigm of medical education.

WMU shapes its academic programs so that its graduates are immediately ready to add value to their workplaces and communities. Degrees are granted through seven colleges: Arts and Sciences, Aviation, Haworth College of Business, Education and Human Development, Engineering and Applied Sciences, Fine Arts, and Health and Human Services. In addition, the Lee Honors College serves as an intimate home for 1,600 of the exceptionally talented undergraduates WMU attracts while the Graduate College assists those pursuing advanced degrees.

WMU offers the second largest number of undergraduate majors of any public university in Michigan. Students may choose from 246 programs — 145 at the bachelor's level, 71 at the master's level, and 30 at the doctoral level. Many of these offerings are nationally or internationally recognized, such as those in accountancy, aviation, blindness and low-vision studies, creative writing, education, experimental atomic physics, evaluation, graph theory, jazz studies, medieval studies, paper science, and the performing arts.

Faculty: The university's faculty is comprised of 913 full-time teachers, 543 part-time instructors, and 876 graduate assistants and doctoral associates. These scholars are dedicated to providing quality teaching at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, advancing the university's public service mission, and creating knowledge, as well as putting it to work in daily life.

Despite its size and complexity, WMU has a 18-to-1 student-to-faculty ratio, and two-thirds of all undergraduate classes have 30 or fewer students. Additionally, full-time professors teach most undergraduate as well as graduate classes, and underclassmen have ample opportunities to work closely with faculty researchers and artists.

Student support: WMU creates an environment for its students that is at once challenging and supportive. A wide range of resources and services focus on the academic and career success of students, and several offices are dedicated to meeting the special needs of such select groups as first-year students, transfer students, military veterans, youths who have aged out of the foster-care system and underclassmen who are undecided about their majors.

The university operates 20 residence halls in conjunction with six full-service dining facilities and one carry-out dining facility, four apartment-style complexes, and six cash-dining cafés. The residence halls offer various financial discounts and form a network of educational communities that engage students in learning and personal development. The apartments offer a more independent on-campus living arrangement in housing staffed and guided by WMU personnel. This arrangement is preferred by upperclassmen who previously lived in a residence hall and still want the convenience of living on campus as well as by students who have families, come from overseas, and are studying at the graduate level.

WMU also recognizes that college is a time for students to have fun and develop their individual skills and interests. Educational, social, and recreational opportunities abound through hundreds of student organizations, fraternities and sororities, professional groups, intramural and club sports, and fitness and wellness programs. The university also has nationally recognized arts programs, a lively cultural calendar, and 16 NCAA Division I, Football Bowl Subdivision teams in the Mid-American Conference and Central Collegiate Hockey Association (WMU will move to the National Collegiate Hockey Conference in fall 2013).

International perspective and diversity: The university is home to a diverse, culturally rich student body that includes nearly 1,600 international students from some 95 other countries. Minority students are also well represented, making up at least 19 percent of the student body, while graduate students account for almost 21 percent. Nearly 88 percent of all students are Michigan residents.

WMU infuses the campus learning environment with a global perspective. It offers scores of study abroad programs in some two dozen countries and access to overseas study opportunities in almost every other country through linkages with universities and organizations around the world. On campus, WMU is home to several international study centers, a variety of international and foreign-language programs, and a fully accredited intensive English language program for international students.

Research: WMU researchers are advancing knowledge across the state and around the globe. A growing amount of their funded research is the product of partnerships with business, industry, and government in areas such as nanotechnology, homeland security, and the life sciences. These collaborations enhance classroom instruction and career opportunities for students, as well as foster economic development in Michigan while building the state's 21st-century knowledge base.

During recent years, WMU has focused on supporting life science research and commercialization in a way that has helped launch more than 30 startup companies that have brought some 225 high-paying technical jobs to Michigan.

Cost: WMU's relatively low cost (www.wmich.edu/registrar/tuition) makes it one of the best higher-education values in Michigan. The university ranks 10th in tuition and fees among the state's 15 public universities, yet is one of the five universities in the state to have earned the Carnegie Foundation's research designation.

WMU awards nearly \$300 million annually in financial aid, offers one of the largest merit-based scholarship programs at a public university in the United States, and regularly introduces initiatives to keep its costs low. One such initiative is the Western Edge (www.wmich.edu/edge), which not only freezes room-and-board rates for those living in the residence halls, but also saves students money by helping them stay on track so they can graduate in four years.

<i>Credit Enrollment (fall head count)</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>	<i>2012</i>
On-campus	23,096	23,068	22,443
Regional sites and online education	3,692	3,998	5,127