

# WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Kalamazoo 49008



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**Western Michigan University** is a dynamic national institution that was founded in 1903 as a teacher-preparation school and has grown to become Michigan's fourth major research university. A student-centered institution, 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 and life.

**Recognition:** WMU is nationally recognized and internationally engaged.

- The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education designates WMU as one of the nation's 76 public "research universities with high research activity."
- *U.S. News & World Report* names WMU among the top 100 public institutions in the nation and the top 30 in the Midwest.
- The *Princeton Review* includes WMU on its annual online list of the Best Midwestern Colleges.
- Phi Beta Kappa has chosen to grant chapters to WMU and just 96 other public institutions.
- Intel places WMU second on its list of America's 100 "Most Unwired College Campuses."

**Size and scope:** WMU's campuses encompass more than 1,200 acres and 150 buildings and feature some of the finest instructional and performance spaces in the Midwest. The university's main campus is located close to downtown Kalamazoo and includes a growing Oakland Drive Campus that has become a hub for WMU's health and human services programs and clinics.

The university'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. The aviation campus and BTR Park are components of two Michigan SmartZones. In addition, the BTR Park's strong community partnerships and other unique elements have made it a rapid success and drawn the attention of organizations such as the U.S. Small Business Alliance and the University of Southern California.

WMU's commitment to regional education and job creation, begun more than 90 years ago, continues to blossom. Today, the university annually serves thousands of Michigan residents through its Office of Lifelong Learning and Education and its branch campuses in Battle Creek, Benton Harbor, Grand Rapids, Lansing, Muskegon/Holland, South Haven, and Traverse City.

**Research:** WMU researchers are advancing knowledge across the state and around the globe. Faculty and staff conduct nearly \$40 million in externally funded research each year and routinely welcome students into their laboratories and creative studios. The university's research prowess is exemplified by cutting-edge investigations in such disciplines as engineering, technology, health care, education and the sciences.

Much of that research is the product of partnerships with business, industry and government. Ongoing collaborations involve such corporate leaders as Eaton, Ford, Haworth, IBM, Kimberly-Clark, MANN+HUMMEL USA, Pfizer, Procter & Gamble, and Xerox. A host of additional projects involve contracts with federal entities, including the Department of Defense, Department of Education, Department of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Endowment for the Humanities, National Institutes of Health, and National Science Foundation.

**Academic programs:** WMU shapes its instructional programs so its graduates are not only ready to immediately add value to their work places and communities but also are prepared to achieve success in whatever endeavors they choose to pursue. The university grants degrees through seven academic colleges: Arts and Sciences; Aviation; Haworth College of Business; Education; Engineering and Applied Sciences; Fine Arts; and Health and Human Services. It also offers a Graduate College to assist students pursuing advanced degrees and the Lee Honors College for exceptionally talented undergraduates.

Full-time professors teach most undergraduate as well as graduate classes, with underclassmen given ample opportunities to work closely with the university's faculty researchers and artists. Students may choose from 237 programs, including 141 at the bachelor's level, 66 at the master's level and 29 at the doctoral level, and many of these academic offerings are nationally or internationally recognized.

WMU has earned an international reputation in fields as varied as aviation, medieval studies, paper science, blindness and low-vision studies, graph theory, evaluation, and jazz studies. The university also is widely known for research and teaching in accountancy, education, experimental atomic physics, molecular biotechnology, nanotechnology and nanobioenvironmental chemistry, and the performing arts, among other fields.

For example, *U.S. News & World Report* identifies five graduate programs in the College of Health and Human Services as ranking among the top such programs in the nation. Meanwhile, the American Society for Engineering Management ranks the university's engineering management program as the best such program in the nation at the graduate level and among the best three at the undergraduate level, making WMU the only school in the country with top-ranked programs at both levels.

**Accreditation:** WMU has been accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools since 1915 and its individual academic programs are regularly reaccredited by their respective national accrediting bodies.

**Faculty:** The university's faculty is comprised of 875 full-time teachers, 488 part-time instructors, and 922 graduate assistants. The faculty is 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.

**Student support:** WMU creates an environment for its students that is at once challenging and supportive. In 2005-2006, nearly 20,000 students received almost \$208 million in financial aid, with \$44 million of this total going to some 3,000 graduate students. In 2006, the university awarded more than \$3 million in four-year scholarships just through its Medallion Scholarship Program, which is one of the largest merit-based scholarship programs in American public higher education. Since it began in 1984, about \$86 million in four-year scholarships has been offered to more than 14,000 students.

All WMU students are permitted to live in housing of their choice, either off campus or in one of 13 residence halls. The residence halls form a network of educational communities that engage students in learning and personal development. These living/learning centers are capable of housing more than 5,700 students and help residents transition to college life in addition to offering a variety of dining options and living arrangements.

Social and recreational opportunities abound on campus. There are more than 250 registered student organizations, including a wide range of Greek, academic, professional, international and honorary groups, plus scores of fitness programs, intramural sports and open recreational activities. In addition, the university has nationally recognized arts programs, a lively cultural calendar, and 16 NCAA Division I-A teams in the Mid-American Conference and Central Collegiate Hockey Association.

**International perspective and diversity:** The university is home to a diverse, culturally rich student body that includes some 1,000 international students from more than 80 other countries. Minority students also are well represented, making up 10 percent of the student body, and graduate students account for about 20 percent.

The faculty includes hundreds of scholars with academic or research experience outside the United States who are engaged in collaborative activities and projects on six continents. Notably, WMU had six faculty members named Fulbright Scholars for the 2006-2007 academic year, more than any other college or university in Michigan.

WMU infuses the campus learning environment with a global perspective and serves as a regional resource and information center on internationalization. It offers students study abroad programs in some two dozen countries, and access to overseas study opportunities in almost every country in the world through linkages with other universities and organizations.

On campus, the university is home to several international study centers, a fully accredited intensive English language program for international students, and numerous international journals and annual international conferences. Available foreign language studies encompass various non-traditional yet critical languages, such as Arabic and Chinese. Major and minor offerings include interdisciplinary programs in global and international studies as well as programs in Africana studies, selected regions of the world, international and comparative politics, international business, and development administration — with or without a Peace Corps option.

WMU also runs one of the largest and oldest set of transnational education programs — formerly called twinning programs — in the United States. The university began these collaborative partnerships in 1987 with the founding of Sunway College in Malaysia and in 2006, established the first U.S.-based transnational education program in sub-Saharan Africa by teaming up with Egerton University in Kenya. The university's seven other such programs are offered in partnership with institutions in Bolivia, China, India and Poland.

**Impact:** WMU's annual local economic impact (based on 2001-2002 data) was conservatively estimated at \$614.5 million, with the university credited in 2001 for creating 7,200 jobs in Kalamazoo County alone. In addition, there are 163,000 WMU alumni worldwide and nearly 111,000 reside in Michigan, contributing every day to the state's quality of life.

The university continues to expand its research, innovation, service and technology transfer initiatives at the state and national levels with the cooperation and support of public and private entities across the country. These efforts are impacting the state and nation in myriad ways.

- The focus on establishing new life science research is promoting economic development through partnerships involving WMU faculty and scientists at the nation’s leading pharmaceutical firms and national laboratories.
- WMU collaborates with school districts, community colleges, other research universities, arts organizations and health care providers on projects that enhance the health and education of Michigan and other U.S. citizens.
- The Office of Technology Transfer as well as faculty members work closely with international corporations, local industry, regional and state government, as well as with start-up companies, to advance the commercialization of intellectual property. In fact, the 2005-2006 fiscal year saw WMU nearly triple the number of its annual inventions, the number of patent applications it filed and the number of inventions it licensed to third parties.
- Training and research centered at the aviation campus, developed through partnerships with the Battle Creek community, are not only elevating aviation education in the United States but also transferring the sophisticated field of simulation technology to professions such as medicine.
- The Biosciences Research and Commercialization Center is harnessing Southwest Michigan’s historical pharmaceutical expertise and resources. The center is commercializing promising life sciences discoveries and expanding the state’s life sciences business sector.
- The Biosciences Research and Commercialization Center and the Biological Imaging Center are members of the Michigan Core Technology Alliance, helping serve as a catalyst for development of life sciences and biotechnology research and development.
- The university’s geoscientists and the Michigan Geological Repository for Research and Education are helping small- and medium-size companies across the state gain expertise in environmentally friendly drilling methods. They also are playing a key role in investigating ways of reducing lakeshore erosion and using the state’s unique underground rock formations for carbon sequestration to reduce greenhouse gases.
- An innovative group of faculty members is piloting a project with the city of Kalamazoo to produce a fuel generated from one of the least-used sources of biodiesel — waste grease from restaurants — and use it in Metro Transit buses. The effort is cleaning up the air as well as making public transit more efficient and could establish a model for alternative energy use and university/community cooperation that other cities can emulate.

**Cost:** WMU’s relatively low cost makes it one of the best values in higher education in Michigan. It is one of the state’s four major research universities, yet its costs remain in the mid-range for Michigan’s 15 public universities. In 2006-2007, for instance, WMU ranked ninth in tuition and fees.

<b><i>Credit Enrollment (fall head count)</i></b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>
On-campus .....	25,653	24,436	23,099
Off-campus .....	3,007	2,160	1,752
Distance Education .....	NA*	639	1,168

\*Distance Education and Extended University Programs numbers were combined prior to 2005.

**STATEMENT OF OPERATING REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES**

<b><i>Operating Revenues (all funds)</i></b>	<b>2004-2005</b>	<b>2005-2006</b>
State Appropriations .....	\$113,364,400	\$110,571,200
Student Fees .....	176,583,988	190,016,132
Gifts, Grants and Federal Contracts .....	56,685,455	51,484,915
Other Income .....	105,106,420	114,588,124
<b>TOTAL REVENUES .....</b>	<b>\$451,740,263</b>	<b>\$466,660,371</b>

<b><i>Operating Expenditures (all funds)</i></b>	<b>2004-2005</b>	<b>2005-2006</b>
Instruction and Departmental Research .....	\$125,235,559	\$128,191,279
Organized Research .....	24,333,374	25,353,122
Public Service .....	8,690,732	8,914,277
Student Services and Student Aid .....	66,910,449	74,667,883
Other Expenditures .....	203,667,987	212,681,436
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES .....</b>	<b>\$428,838,101</b>	<b>\$449,807,997</b>