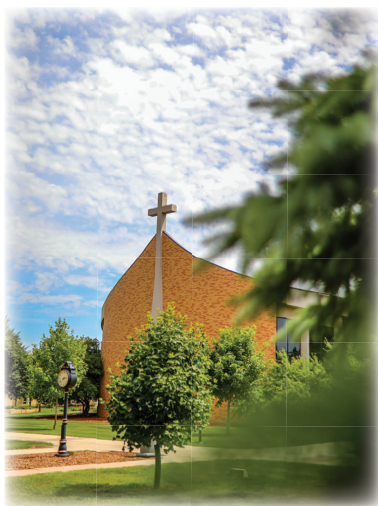




DAKOTA WESLEYAN  
UNIVERSITY

2025-26

# Facts and Statistics



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[www.dwuathletics.com](http://www.dwuathletics.com)

## SOCIAL MEDIA

**Facebook:** @dwublu, @dwuathletics  
**Flickr:** dakotawesleyan  
**Instagram:** @dwublu, @dwu\_sports  
**X:** @DakotaWesleyan, @DWUSports

**DWU MISSION STATEMENT:** As an inclusive educational community, Dakota Wesleyan University provides a transformative learning experience that cultivates enduring intellectual growth, ethically grounded leadership, intentional faith exploration and meaningful service.

*This summary provides answers to frequently asked questions about Dakota Wesleyan University.*

DWU is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

## Academic Programs

### 5 Largest Undergraduate Majors

Business (all concentrations).....	191 (28%)
Nursing (all tracks).....	155 (22%)
Athletic Training/Exercise Science/ Fitness and Sport Management.....	88 (13%)
Social Sciences (Criminal Justice, Psychology, Behavioral Science).....	84 (12%)
Education (all concentrations).....	76 (11%)

### Graduate Program Enrollment: 112

Master of Arts in Education.....	26 (23%)
Master of Athletic Training.....	14 (13%)
Master of Business Administration.....	42 (38%)
Certificate Seeking.....	30 (27%)

## Outcomes

### 2024-25 Undergraduate Degrees: 143

Associate of Arts.....	6 (4%)
Associate of Science.....	0 (0%)
Bachelor of Arts.....	43 (30%)
Bachelor of Science.....	94 (66%)

### 2024-25 Graduate Degrees: 76

Master of Arts in Education.....	9 (12%)
Master of Athletic Training.....	5 (6%)
Master of Business Administration.....	35 (46%)
Graduate Certificate.....	27 (36%)

Total Undergraduate and Graduate Degrees.....219

### Fast Facts

- 96% of graduates are employed full time or attending graduate school.
- 100% job placement for nursing graduates
- 100% of education graduates are working as teachers or attending graduate school.
- 90% placement rate into medical and other healthcare-related graduate programs
- 76% aggregate retention
- 72% freshman-to-sophomore retention
- 30 student clubs and organizations

### Annual Graduate Survey Data

- 93% of graduates would recommend DWU to a student seeking a quality educational experience.
- 94% of graduates "evaluated their overall educational experience at Dakota Wesleyan" as either "excellent" or "good."
- 93% of graduates said their academic experience prepared them well for employment.
- 97% of graduates said that instructors were willing to meet with them outside of class to discuss questions and concerns.
- 93% of graduates were satisfied with academic advising and professional advice given by the adviser.
- 93% of graduates agree that "my experience at Dakota Wesleyan University has prepared and inspired me to lead a life of learning, leadership, faith and service."
- 91% of graduates said professors provided them with opportunities to apply classroom learning to "real-life situations."
- 96% of graduates agreed that their program of study engaged them in developing skills adaptable to changing environments.

### National Recognition for DWU

- Fortune: Best Online MBA Programs
- NAIA: Champions of Character Five-Star Gold Institution

- Prairie Business Magazine: 50 Best Places to Work
- RegisteredNursing.org: Best Nursing Programs in South Dakota
- U.S. News & World Report:
  - Best Value Schools – Midwest
  - Best Regional Colleges – Midwest
  - Top Performers on Social Mobility
  - Best Bachelor of Science in Nursing Programs
  - Best Online Master's in Education Programs
  - Best Online MBA Programs
- Research.com:
  - Most Popular Colleges in South Dakota
  - Best Colleges in South Dakota
  - Best Value Colleges in South Dakota
  - Most Popular Colleges in Midwest

## Accreditation

DWU has been continuously accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association, 312 N. LaSalle St., Suite 2400, Chicago, IL 60602, 312-263-0456, [www.ncahlc.org](http://www.ncahlc.org), since 1916. The university and/or specific university programs are either accredited and/or approved by South Dakota Department of Education, South Dakota Board of Nursing, Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE), United Methodist University Senate, International Assembly for Collegiate Business Education (IACBE) and Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education (CAATE).

## Facilities/Human Resources

There are 38 buildings on the university's 55-acre Mitchell campus, including the Dakota Discovery Museum and L.B. Williams Elementary School. Satellite nursing programs are offered in Rapid City and Sioux Falls, as well as a satellite business program in Pierre.

Students Living on Campus.....496

### Employees

Staff.....102  
Faculty.....48

Student/Faculty Ratio: 12:1  
Faculty With Terminal Degree: 67%  
Courses Taught by Teaching Assistants: 0%  
Faculty/Staff Giving Participation Rate: 79%

## Church Affiliation

DWU is affiliated with the Dakotas Conference of The United Methodist Church.

## Student Support Services

Internship support, mentoring, tutoring, small-group learning, writing assistance, pastoral care, career services, nursing services and short-term counseling

## Enrollment Statistics

### Headcount: 890

Undergraduate.....778  
Graduate.....112

### Undergraduate Student Enrollment: 778

Full time.....655  
Part time.....36  
Other.....87

## Graduate Student Enrollment: 112

Full time.....	53
Part time.....	29
Nondegree or Certificate Seeking.....	30

## Online Enrollment: 81

Undergraduate.....	13
Graduate.....	68

## Enrollment by Program Type

Mitchell Campus.....	593
Undergraduate: 579	
Graduate: 14	
Online Programs.....	81
Hybrid Programs.....	118
Satellite Nursing Programs: 92	
Graduate Certificate Programs: 26	
Nondegree Certification.....	4
High School Bridge Program.....	2
High School Dual Credit.....	77
Other.....	15

## Fall 2025 New Enrolled Students: 318

Mitchell Campus.....	208
Freshmen: 179	
Transfers: 29	
Online Programs.....	37
Hybrid Programs.....	73
Satellite Nursing Programs: 47	
Graduate Certificate Programs: 26	
Other.....	0

Average Incoming Freshmen GPA: 3.39  
Average Incoming Freshmen ACT: 20.8  
% Incoming Freshmen Pell Eligible: 40%  
% Incoming Freshmen First Generation: 17%

## Enrollment by Classification

Freshmen.....	239 (27%)
Sophomores.....	171 (19%)
Juniors.....	139 (15%)
Seniors.....	116 (13%)
Other.....	113 (13%)
Graduate.....	112 (13%)

## Undergraduate Student Profile

### Gender DEGREE SEEKING

Men.....	351 (51%)
Women.....	340 (49%)

### Diversity DEGREE SEEKING

Caucasian.....	561 (81%)
Two or More Races.....	44 (6%)
Hispanic.....	41 (6%)
Black or African American.....	25 (4%)
American Indian/Alaska Native.....	16 (2%)
Asian.....	3 (1%)
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.....	1 (0%)

### Geography DEGREE SEEKING

South Dakota.....	431 (62%)
Nebraska.....	48 (7%)
Minnesota.....	44 (7%)
Iowa.....	24 (4%)
Texas.....	19 (3%)
Colorado.....	13 (2%)
Wyoming.....	12 (1%)
Arizona.....	12 (1%)
26 Other States and 6 Countries.....	88 (13%)
(20 International Students with an F-1 Visa)	

International students represent the following countries/  
territories: Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland and  
United Kingdom

## Denominational Preference DEGREE SEEKING

Catholic.....	107 (15%)
Christian.....	102 (15%)
Lutheran.....	73 (12%)
Methodist.....	46 (6%)
Other (12 Other Denominations).....	45 (6%)
No Denomination Preference.....	318 (46%)

## First Generation DEGREE SEEKING

First Generation.....	115 (17%)
Not First Generation.....	294 (42%)
Unknown.....	282 (41%)

## Graduate Student Profile

### Gender

Men.....	44 (53%)
Women.....	38 (47%)

### Diversity

Caucasian.....	59 (72%)
Hispanic.....	6 (7%)
Other (American Indian, Asian, Multiple or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander).....	17 (21%)

## Financial

### Budget and Finance

Operating Budget: \$20,000,000  
Endowment: \$62,500,000

### Annual Student Charges

Tuition.....	\$33,100
Room and Board.....	\$8,500
Technology Fee.....	\$800
Activity Fee.....	\$640
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$43,040</b>

### Financial Aid

Federal.....	\$4,660,468
Private.....	\$1,996,728
Endowed Scholarships.....	\$1,274,020
Institutional Scholarships.....	\$9,784,574
Work Study.....	\$104,099
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>\$17,819,889</b>

Average Aid Per Student (including federal loans): \$27,060  
Average Aid Per Student (not including federal loans): \$18,969  
Average Debt Per Student (federal loans): \$26,456  
Full-time, On-campus Students Receiving Aid: 100%

## Tiger Athletics

Total Student-Athletes: 443

As a member of the Great Plains Athletic Conference (GPAC) of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), DWU offers the following varsity sports:

Men's Baseball
Men's Football
Men's and Women's Basketball
Men's and Women's Cross Country
Men's and Women's Golf
Men's and Women's Soccer
Men's and Women's Track and Field
Men's and Women's Wrestling
Women's Softball
Women's Volleyball
Coed Cheer and Dance (club status)
Coed Esports (club status)

Nickname: Tigers

Colors: Royal Blue (Pantone 2945) and White

## GPAC Members

Briar Cliff University, Sioux City, Iowa  
College of Saint Mary, Omaha, Neb.  
Concordia University, Seward, Neb.  
Dakota Wesleyan University, Mitchell, S.D.  
Doane University, Crete, Neb.  
Dordt University, Sioux Center, Iowa  
Hastings College, Hastings, Neb.  
Midland University, Fremont, Neb.  
Morningside University, Sioux City, Iowa  
Mount Marty University, Yankton, S.D.  
Northwestern College, Orange City, Iowa  
Waldorf University, Forest City, Iowa

## Alumni

Total Alumni: 20,573

Total Number of Living Alumni: 8,459

## Alumni by State/Region

South Dakota.....	4,936 (58%)
Minnesota.....	464 (5%)
Nebraska.....	333 (4%)
Colorado.....	240 (3%)
California.....	217 (3%)
Iowa.....	216 (3%)
Texas.....	181 (2%)
Arizona.....	170 (2%)
Florida.....	108 (1%)
Illinois.....	94 (1%)
Wisconsin.....	88 (1%)
New York.....	66 (1%)
Foreign Countries.....	47 (1%)
Other.....	1,299 (15%)

## Trustees

### Executive Committee

Jim Gritzner, Chair  
Terry Nebelsick '78, Vice Chair  
Beth Kroger '91, Secretary

Jacquelyn Johnson, Roger Musick, Bishop Lanette Plambeck,  
Lesta Turchen, Leon Washington '72

Total Trustees.....28

## Administration

Daniel R. Kittle, Ph.D.; President  
Kitty Allen, MSA; Vice President of Institutional Advancement  
Fredel Thomas '14, MBA; Vice President of Admissions,  
Marketing and Technology  
Jodi Landgaard '89, MBA; Vice President of Finance and  
Administration  
Derek Driedger, Ph.D.; Provost

## Academic Deans

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College of Healthcare, Fitness and Sciences  
Ashley Digmann, Ph.D.; Ron and Sheilah Gates  
College of Business, Education and Social Science  
Kyle Herges, MFA; College of Arts and Humanities  
Melissa Weber, Ed.D.; Associate Dean of Strategic  
Initiatives