

BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

WE FLY

LEADERSHIP PROFILE

DEAN OF THE ESTOPINAL COLLEGE OF ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

ABOUT BALL STATE UNIVERSITY

Ball State University serves approximately 20,000 undergraduate and graduate students across seven academic colleges with 93 undergraduate majors. Ball State offers more than 120 certificates and master's, doctoral, and specialist degrees, many of them ranking among the best in the nation. Originally founded to meet the need for more and better teachers, Ball State has earned three Carnegie recognitions—as a Research 2 (R2) institution, an Opportunity College and University (OCU), and a Community Engaged institution—distinctions that reflect the University's impact in research, student success, and community engagement. Ball State is one of just 11 institutions nationwide—and the only one in Indiana—to hold all three recognitions. It serves as one of Indiana's public research institutions while remaining committed to empowering its graduates to have fulfilling careers and meaningful lives.

For 108 years, Ball State has had an unwavering belief in an education rooted in innovation, enduring values, and intellectual curiosity. The institution was founded on the beneficence of the Ball brothers, who gave back to the community that gave them so much. They purchased the land and buildings of a defunct institution and donated them to the State of Indiana. This gift became the Indiana State Normal School Eastern Division, which opened in 1918.

To recognize the Ball family's generosity, the Indiana General Assembly changed the institution's name to Ball Teachers College in 1922 and then Ball State Teachers College in 1929. By the 1960s, the regional teachers college had begun to attract faculty from outside the Midwest. In 1965, the Indiana General Assembly renamed the college Ball State University, acknowledging its phenomenal growth in enrollment and facilities, the variety and quality of its educational programs and services, and the anticipation of the broader role it would play in the state's future.

What began as a teachers college has grown into a world-class University with highly respected programs in education, architecture, business, communications, fine arts, sciences, humanities, and the health professions. Symbolized by the statue *Beneficence*, our enduring values—excellence, integrity, inclusiveness, innovation, courage, social responsibility, and gratitude—guide us today and will endure as we enter a bright future.

The best is yet to come.

Destination 2040: Our Flight Path establishes Ball State University's ambitious goals for our second century. This strategic plan was designed with input from faculty, staff, students, alumni, community partners, and benefactors. It provides a strategic framework with five long-term goals for 2040 and a set of strategic imperatives to be implemented by 2030.

Mission

We engage students in educational, research, and creative experiences that empower our graduates to have fulfilling careers and meaningful lives enriched by lifelong learning and service, while we enhance the economic, environmental, and social vitality of our community, our state, and our world.



Alderdice Gates

Estopinal College of Architecture and Planning

The nationally recognized Estopinal College of Architecture and Planning (ECAP) brings together professional degree programs in Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Urban Planning and Development, Interior Design, and Construction Management, plus interdisciplinary education in Historic Preservation and Urban Design.

ECAP is built on a fundamental belief in hands-on, experiential learning that gives students an understanding of the power of design and the built environment, confidence in their abilities, and connections to the real world. A grounded process of design and planning, along with the integration of theory and practice in design and construction, is a historic underpinning of the college's culture.

Established in 1965, the college offers Indiana's only state-supported professional undergraduate architecture program. Since its inception, ECAP graduates have helped shape the state's design and planning professions, often assuming leadership roles in firms throughout Indiana. ECAP alumni have also held national leadership positions in the design, planning, and construction industries.

Since Fall 2021, undergraduate enrollment in ECAP has increased by 23 percent, reflecting the college's strong appeal to students interested in design, planning, construction, and the built environment. Total enrollment in the college reached more than 1,300 in Fall 2026.

Students gain substantial experience in the latest areas of environmental design, planning, and construction with the study of community-based design and planning, complex digital architecture and landscape architecture, sustainable construction and interior design, social and environmental justice, and historic preservation. Students collaborate in hands-on studios and labs, real-world design-build projects, and nationally acclaimed field studies.

ECAP at Ball State: INDY provides special immersive learning and outreach opportunities in Indianapolis. As a hub for innovative design and planning, the site hosts classes, events, and community programs and houses the college's Center for Civic Design.

ECAP is also home to the Institute for Digital Intermedia Arts (IDIA Lab), which specializes in virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), and emerging technologies at the intersection of the arts, sciences, and humanities. The lab works with clients and academic partners on projects involving 3D animation, mobile app development, interactive museum exhibitions, and human-computer interaction (HCI), while exploring applications of artificial intelligence (AI).

The 2,500-square-foot Robert G. Hunt Center for Construction Management on campus simulates a teamwork-focused office environment found at top professional firms. In the Student Design Center, Interior Design students gain practical experience while creating attractive and functional environments for commercial clients.

ECAP is committed to sustainability and high-performance building. The college has received awards from the U.S. Department of Energy, National Wildlife Federation, American Institute of Architects, Sustainable Buildings Industry Council, and State of Indiana for its innovative programs and projects in environmental education. In 2023, the college won the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon International Build Challenge, reinforcing ECAP's commitment to sustainability across its disciplines.

The college's students and faculty have a history of community engagement. Recent projects include:

- Transforming a community garden near Muncie's Maring-Hunt Library into an interactive urban green space with a market pavilion, outdoor kitchen, nature play areas, and more.
- Working with Habitat for Humanity to develop sustainable designed homes for local residents who need them.
- Building an affordable, net-zero energy, eco-friendly duplex family home in Indianapolis.

ECAP has also expanded into downtown Muncie with a studio and community space in the historic Columbia Theater Building, further strengthening the college's connections to community-engaged design, planning, and regional impact. A $25 million renovation of the college's midcentury-modern Architecture Building is expected to be completed in early 2027, providing additional design studios and upgraded infrastructure.



ECAP's five-year Bachelor of Architecture degree is the only professional undergraduate architecture program offered by a public institution in Indiana.

1

Architecture students and other disciplines partner with local community groups each year to create sustainable home concepts for a U.S. Department of Energy competition. All eight teams have been national finalists, with two placing first and second.

2

Department of Architecture

The Department of Architecture prepares students to become thoughtful, skilled, and engaged professionals who are ready to serve diverse communities through design. Grounded in rigorous professional education, the department helps students develop critical thinking, creative confidence, ethical awareness, and the technical and communication skills needed to succeed in a rapidly changing world.

The department's work is shaped by a student-focused culture of teaching excellence, design studio-centered learning, multi-disciplinary experiences, community-engaged and applied learning, professional connections, environmental stewardship, social and environmental justice in design, innovative technologies, design communication media, and travel-based learning.

Degree programs include:

- Bachelor of Architecture
- Master of Architecture, two-year track for students with a four-year undergraduate degree in architecture
- Master of Architecture, three-year track for students with a four-year undergraduate degree outside architecture
- Master of Science in Historic Preservation

The Bachelor of Architecture is a five-year professional degree and the only professional undergraduate architecture program offered by a public institution in Indiana. The Master of Architecture offers multiple pathways into the profession, providing accessible options for students from different academic, demographic, and economic backgrounds.

The Master of Science in Historic Preservation provides unique degree and dual-degree opportunities for graduate students. Architecture students also engage with required course work in social and environmental justice, an area the department has emphasized for more than a decade through undergraduate and graduate study.

The Department of Architecture values its place in ECAP, where students learn alongside peers in allied design, planning, preservation, and construction disciplines. Faculty continually seek multidisciplinary learning experiences that bring students together across the college and beyond.

In its most recent annual report to the National Architectural Accrediting Board, the department reported a total enrollment of 389 students and a retention rate of 85.25 percent. Department faculty are leaders in providing high-impact learning opportunities that prepare students for professional success while often benefiting the local community.

Architecture students continue to demonstrate design excellence in national competitions. Recent student work in the ACSA/AISC Steel Design Student Competition earned an honorable mention in 2025 and first- and third-place recognition in 2026, selected from approximately 1,300 entries from the United States, Canada, and Mexico.



Department of Construction Management and Interior Design

The Department of Construction Management and Interior Design prepares graduates for careers designing and building the environments in which people live, work, and gather. Through accredited programs, professional experiences, and applied learning, students develop the technical, managerial, creative, and collaborative skills needed to contribute to the built environment.

Degree programs include:

- BA/BS in Construction Management
- BA/BS in Interior Design
- MA/MS in Interior Design
- Graduate certificate in Planning and Design of Healthcare Environments

The Construction Management program may be completed as either a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. Both options are accredited by the American Council for Construction Education. Coursework combines technical and managerial preparation with hands-on learning. Students complete a specialized minor in business administration, two internships of more than 400 hours each, and specialized technical electives.

Construction Management students and faculty coaches are known for teamwork and competitiveness, regularly winning and placing in regional and national competitions. Graduates go on to work in commercial, industrial, institutional, heavy/highway, and residential construction.

The Construction Management major has grown to nearly 300 students, an increase of more than 38 percent in the last five years. Close collaboration with industry partners supports the largest single-major career fair on campus, and graduates have achieved a 100 percent placement rate for the last 12 years.

The department also offers a minor in Construction Management for students in other disciplines, particularly design and business, who want to enhance their understanding of building and project delivery. A construction concentration is offered within the Miller College of Business MBA program and is delivered completely online.

The Interior Design program prepares students to create resilient, sustainable, adaptive, functional, safe, and aesthetically compelling indoor environments. Students develop strong visual design skills through drawings, structural models, computer simulations, and full-scale prototypes, while also building communication skills for working with clients, contractors, architects, and other project partners.

Interior Design students may complete either a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. Both options are accredited by the Council for Interior Design Accreditation. Students are required to participate in a competitive portfolio review during the second semester of their first year before admission to 200-level courses and higher. Enrollment has remained stable at approximately 120 majors.

The curriculum emphasizes global diversity, universal design, and sustainable interiors. Students apply these lessons through professional experiences in the University Design Center, one of the few programs in the country where interior design students work with real-world clients.

The department offers online Master of Arts and Master of Science degrees in Interior Design for students seeking advanced preparation or a transition into the field. A blended program combining on-campus undergraduate study with online graduate courses is also available to students with degrees in non-design-related fields.

The graduate certificate in Planning and Design of Healthcare Environments introduces students to current research in facility design and provides the expertise, knowledge, and tools to design, manage, and evaluate healthcare spaces. The certificate may be completed separately or combined with a master's degree program of study.



Department of Landscape Architecture

The Department of Landscape Architecture prepares designers, planners, and scholars to shape resilient, equitable, and transformative outdoor environments. Situated at the intersection of ecological systems, community engagement, art, and design, the department combines technical mastery and critical thinking to address complex design challenges.

Through immersive studio learning, interdisciplinary collaboration, and real-world project engagement, students develop context-aware design solutions that emphasize ecological sustainability, green infrastructure, transportation systems, cultural heritage preservation, and thoughtful design at a variety of scales.

Degree programs include:

- Bachelor of Landscape Architecture
- Master of Landscape Architecture
- Master of Urban Design

The Bachelor of Landscape Architecture is a fully LAAB-accredited, five-year professional degree emphasizing studio-based design, site engineering, construction technology, digital visualization, and community-engaged design.

The Master of Landscape Architecture is Indiana's only LAAB-accredited MLA program. The STEM-designated program offers pathways for students entering with non-design degrees, advanced-standing candidates, and post-professional scholars pursuing research.

The Master of Urban Design is a one-year, STEM-designated post-professional program housed at ECAP's Indianapolis center. The program focuses on complex urban challenges, public realm revitalization, and sustainable design.

The department enrolls approximately 110–120 Bachelor of Landscape Architecture students, 10–15 Master of Landscape Architecture students, and 5–8 Master of Urban Design students.

Every student engages in signature experiential learning opportunities, including annual Field Trip Week experiences to important sites and firms in cities such as Chicago, St. Louis, Pittsburgh, and New York, as well as natural areas in the Southwest. International travel options, including study abroad programs in Europe and Asia, allow students to experience other cultures while analyzing world-class landscapes, urban design, and historic places.

Through partnerships with Indiana municipalities, parks departments, and nonprofits, faculty and students deliver design strategies for greenways, streetscapes, brownfields, public parks, and public realm challenges. Students also gain direct industry experience through required professional practice internships and active involvement in the Student Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects and Sigma Lambda Alpha honor society.

The department includes seven tenure-line faculty and eight non-tenure-line faculty, supplemented by adjunct faculty and Indianapolis-based practitioners. Faculty scholarship informs studio instruction in areas such as design pedagogy and representation, urban design, landscape engineering and technology, cultural landscapes and placemaking, ecological design, and resilience.

Students use 24/7 studio spaces, high-performance computing labs, digital fabrication facilities, and woodshops. Proximity to diverse regional landscapes provides living laboratories for ecological, cultural, and social design.

As Indiana's premier landscape architecture program, the department produces highly sought-after graduates who are recognized in regional and national ASLA awards and go on to lead in private practice, public agencies, and academic institutions nationwide.



Department of Urban Planning

The Department of Urban Planning prepares the next generation of planners for impactful careers in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. The department serves as a hub of scholarly and professional engagement that empowers students, faculty, alumni, and civic partners to design and plan more just communities in Indiana and around the world.

By bringing passionate scholars and inspired practitioners into a community-engaged classroom environment, the department blends academic rigor with hands-on practice. Through professional development opportunities such as conferences, internships, and competitions, students graduate prepared for meaningful lives and fulfilling careers. Faculty scholarship advances student achievement, community well-being, and the discipline of urban planning.

Degree programs include:

- Bachelor of Urban Planning and Development
- Master of Urban and Regional Planning

The Bachelor of Urban Planning and Development prepares graduates for professional practice, further study, and lifelong careers in urban planning. The Master of Urban and Regional Planning prepares graduates to be reflective practitioners, program designers, leaders, and researchers in the field.

The department also offers a Real Estate Development minor and certificate for students from any major who are interested in careers related to development, planning, and community needs. Students in other degree programs may also pursue a minor in urban planning.

Planning degree offerings date to the founding of the College of Architecture and Planning in 1964. The Bachelor of Urban Planning and Development and Master of Urban and Regional Planning programs continue to be the only accredited planning programs in Indiana.

Over the past five years, the department's average job placement rate in the field has been 98 percent. The department enrolls 75 students across its two degree programs, including 53 undergraduate students and 22 graduate students. Recent undergraduate entering classes are more than 50 percent larger than the 10-year average, and graduate enrollment has rebounded since the COVID-19 pandemic.

The department employs four tenure-line faculty, three full-time non-tenure-line faculty, two joint-appointed full-time non-tenure-line faculty, one staff member, and approximately 15 student workers. Adjunct faculty who are active professionals in the discipline also contribute to an innovative curriculum through flexible online, hybrid, and credit-hour classes.

The recently revised undergraduate and graduate curricula include community-engaged studios each semester; lab classes focused on technical skills and professional development; culminating studio experiences that sharpen professional and scholarly acumen; and University Core Curriculum classes that broaden students' understanding of planning.

The Muncie Land Bank is a key community partner. Staff at the land bank partner with community development and spatial analysis studios each year to train students in grassroots planning practice. Other governmental and nonprofit partners consult, advise, guide studios and courses, sponsor graduate assistantships, offer paid internships, and serve in advisory roles.

The department's award-winning Student Planning Association and active Alumni Board contribute to the culture of collegiality and innovation that defines Ball State's urban planning programs.



THE DEAN SEARCH

Opportunities and Expectations for Leadership

The dean of the Estopinal College of Architecture and Planning serves as its chief academic and administrative officer, guiding long-term strategy and overseeing the operations of a nationally recognized college focused on the built environment.

Reporting directly to Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs Anand R. Marri, the dean serves as an institutional steward and a key member of the University's academic leadership team.

The next dean will have a unique opportunity to lead a distinctive college with deep strengths in architecture, construction management, interior design, historic preservation, landscape architecture, and urban planning, design, and development.

Specifically, the dean will be expected to:

Develop and advance a strategic vision for the college's future.

Working collaboratively with faculty, staff, students, alumni, University leaders, and external partners both locally and nationally, the next dean will develop and advance a shared vision for ECAP that builds on the college's history, reputation, and distinctive strengths while positioning it for future growth and impact in the state of Indiana and across the country. The dean will articulate a clear identity for the college; support strategic enrollment, program development, and student success; and align ECAP's priorities with the University's strategic plan and broader academic mission.

Champion excellence in planning, design, construction, and built-environment education.

The dean will support academic excellence across disciplines while strengthening ECAP's tradition of hands-on, high-impact experiential and immersive learning. This includes championing studio-based education, field studies, design-build learning, community-based projects, undergraduate and graduate research, and creative inquiry. The next dean will prioritize career readiness, ensuring ECAP equips students with the knowledge, skills, creativity, and practical experience to become engaged citizens and thoughtful, effective professionals.

Build community and cultivate a collaborative college culture.

To enable ECAP to realize its greatest aspirations, the dean will foster a culture that is student-centered, collaborative, and inclusive; prioritizes respect and transparency; and embraces innovation and change. The dean will be a strong advocate for faculty and staff, actively supporting their professional development, growth, and success. This leader will strengthen collaboration among ECAP's programs and with other Ball State colleges, creating opportunities for faculty, staff, and students to work across disciplines in ways that reflect the interconnected nature of the built environment.

Advance community-engaged design, civic partnerships, and regional impact.

ECAP has a long history of connecting students and faculty with communities through design, planning, preservation, construction, and civic engagement. The next dean will sustain and deepen partnerships in Muncie, Indianapolis, East Central Indiana, and beyond, including through ECAP at Ball State: INDY, the Center for Civic Design, and the college's growing presence in downtown Muncie. In alignment with Ball State's commitment to community engagement and impact, the dean will strengthen opportunities for students and faculty to address real-world challenges while contributing to the vitality of the communities Ball State serves.

Strengthen sustainability, design-build learning, and emerging technologies.

The dean will advance ECAP's commitment to sustainability, environmental stewardship, high-performance building, and innovative design and planning practices. Building on the college's success in the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon Build Challenge and other experiential projects, the dean will support learning opportunities that connect theory and practice while preparing students for evolving professional expectations. The dean will help the college evaluate and integrate artificial intelligence (AI) and other emerging technologies into design, planning, construction, visualization, data analysis, and related fields.

Generate resources and deepen alumni, professional, and philanthropic engagement.

The dean will provide responsible, transparent stewardship of college resources in alignment with the University's strategic goals and incentive-based budget model. This leader will work closely with the Ball State University Foundation and University leaders to cultivate and steward support from alumni, donors, professional partners, and friends of the University. The dean will build long-term relationships, identify gift opportunities, and articulate a compelling case for supporting ECAP locally, regionally, and nationally, with priorities including scholarships, faculty support, student experiences, program innovation, community-engaged work, and facilities that advance the college's mission.

Qualifications and Qualities

Ball State University seeks an experienced, strategic, and collaborative leader to serve as the next dean of the Estopinal College of Architecture and Planning.

The successful candidate will share Ball State University's enduring values: excellence, innovation, courage, integrity, inclusiveness, social responsibility, and gratitude.

Candidates must hold a terminal degree, or a professionally accredited master's degree considered terminal in the candidate's discipline, and possess a record of scholarly, creative, or professional contributions sufficient to qualify for tenure and appointment at the rank of professor in the Estopinal College of Architecture and Planning.

In addition, the ideal candidate will possess the following qualifications and qualities:

Visionary leadership and a growth mindset. Capacity to develop and advance a strategic vision for the future of the college, combined with the ability to guide growth, innovation, and adaptation amid changing learner preferences, shifting workforce demands, and a dynamic higher education environment. An entrepreneurial mindset and the ability to identify new opportunities and respond creatively to emerging challenges. The ability to set priorities and translate strategy into measurable outcomes.

Broad understanding of the planning, design, and construction fields. Experience working in interdisciplinary settings and understanding both professional practice and academic environments. Ability to support and advocate on behalf of a wide range of scholarly, creative, and professional activities across those fields.

Commitment to academic, pedagogical, and design excellence. A record of achievement in teaching, scholarship, creative activity, professional practice, or other accomplishments appropriate to the disciplines represented within the college. Intellectual curiosity, creativity, and a commitment to innovation across these areas.

Understanding of the built-environment professions. An understanding of the specific and disparate needs of the college's various disciplines and programs. Knowledge of emerging trends in built-environment education, higher education, professional practice, sustainability, design technology, and community-engaged work, and the ability to apply those insights to inform strategies and plans that advance the college and Ball State.

Academic and administrative leadership experience.

A successful record of recruiting, mentoring, developing, and retaining talented faculty, staff, and students. Experience with program development, enrollment management, and outcomes assessment. An understanding of the accreditation, professional standards, and evolving workforce needs associated with the disciplines and programs in the college.

Commitment to students. Authentic commitment to student success, including experience with programming, mentorship, advising, and support services to help students grow as creative professionals and engaged citizens. An understanding of the value of high-impact immersive learning, experiential education, and student-centered leadership.

Collaborative and inclusive leadership. Experience leading through change while fostering collaboration and maintaining organizational cohesion. An accessible leadership and management style that fosters trust, accountability, open dialogue, and belonging. Ability to build consensus and community. Commitment to inclusive and transparent decision-making and to enhancing interdisciplinary collaboration.

Exceptional communication and decision-making. Clear, direct, and transparent communication style. The ability and inclination to listen to others. An inclusive, data-informed approach to decision-making balanced with the ability to make timely, principled decisions.

Fundraising and external relations capabilities. Proven ability or demonstrable potential for success in fundraising, alumni engagement, and external relations. Ability to serve as an effective advocate and spokesperson for the college. Willingness and capacity to work with the Ball State University Foundation, advisory board members, alumni, donors, community partners, and leaders in the built-environment professions to create opportunities for students, support faculty initiatives, and enhance institutional impact.

Relationship-building and strategic partnerships. Demonstrable ability to build and maintain relationships with internal and external constituents. In particular, the capacity to foster effective collaborations with academic partners and alumni; community, civic, and cultural leaders; and professional organizations and industry partners.

Operational and managerial acumen. Prior experience with financial management and budget oversight, incentive-based budgeting, resource allocation, and human resources management. The ability to build, motivate, and manage high-performing teams and to align financial and human resources with strategic priorities while maintaining operational excellence.

Integrity and character. Honesty, humility, sound judgment, and emotional intelligence. A willingness to lead by example and an openness to new ideas. Genuine respect for diverse perspectives and the ability to bring people together around a shared mission and goals.

Procedure for Candidacy

All applications, nominations, and inquiries are invited. WittKieffer is assisting Ball State University in this search.

Applicants should submit a CV or resume and a letter of interest using WittKieffer's candidate portal. For fullest consideration, candidate materials should be received by January 22, 2027.

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to Philip Tang and Sarah Seavey at BallStateECAPDean@wittkieffer.com.

University Leadership



Geoffrey S. Mearns, President

President Geoffrey S. Mearns serves as the 17th president of Ball State University. After joining the University in May 2017, President Mearns helped to develop a new strategic plan. *Destination 2040: Our Flight Path* establishes a long-range vision for the University that sets priorities across five key areas: undergraduate excellence, graduate education and lifetime learning, community engagement and impact, scholarship and societal impact, and institutional and inclusive excellence.

During his tenure, President Mearns has pursued initiatives that have produced the largest freshman class in history and increased alumni engagement and fundraising. President Mearns has also strengthened the University's relationship with the community, most notably through its innovative partnership with Muncie Community Schools.

President Mearns earned his undergraduate degree in English from Yale University and a law degree from the University of Virginia. After a legal career that included serving as a federal prosecutor, President Mearns held academic and administrative roles at Cleveland State University, and then he served as president of Northern Kentucky University. He and his wife, Jennifer, have five children.



Frog Baby

Academic Leadership



Anand R. Marri, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Provost Anand R. Marri was appointed provost and executive vice president for academic affairs at Ball State University in 2023. As the University's chief academic officer, he oversees academic programs, policies, and procedures across the institution. He works in partnership with President Geoffrey S. Mearns to advance Ball State's strategic priorities and collaborates closely with the college deans and other unit leaders to support a robust academic enterprise.

Provost Marri oversees Ball State's academic colleges, the Graduate School, University College, University Libraries, the Division of Online and Strategic Learning, Sponsored Projects Administration, and numerous academic centers, institutes, and units. Under his leadership, the Office of the Provost supports faculty and students on matters related to curricula, teaching and learning, scholarship, student success, and strategic academic initiatives.

Prior to his appointment as provost, Dr. Marri served as dean of Ball State's Teachers College, where he led the University's historic partnership with Muncie Community Schools. Before joining Ball State, he led the Margaret Warner Graduate School of Education and Human Development at the University of Rochester and served on the faculty of Columbia University's Teachers College.

College of Communication, Information, and Media

The College of Communication, Information, and Media (CCIM) prepares students for fulfilling careers as ethical practitioners and scholars through exceptional educational and experiential learning opportunities. CCIM redefines the intersection of communication and technology while emphasizing the importance of human interaction.

Students in the Center for Information and Communication Sciences, Department of Communication Studies, Department of Media, and School of Journalism and Strategic Communication gain essential skills to procure the best jobs prior to graduation. The Ball State Public Media program has also formally joined CCIM. This has deepened the already rich engagement Ball State PBS, Indiana Public Radio, and CCIM have shared.

The CCIM Office of Student Success and Belonging is fully committed to enhancing student outcomes and experiences throughout their academic journey. CCIM students know how to adapt quickly to a diverse and ever-changing global job market to ensure fulfilling careers and meaningful lives.

CCIM students:

- Operate a wide spectrum of media organizations focused on broadcast news (NewsLink Indiana), long-form journalism (*Ball Bearings Magazine*), multimedia news/features (*Byte*), newspaper publication (*The Ball State Daily News*), and radio (WCRD).
- Create films, produce sports content and telecasts of sporting events for ESPN and other media partners, and work with Ball State's National Public Radio and PBS stations.
- Operate their own strategic communication, public relations, and media sales agency (Agency at Cardinal Media).
- Develop exceptional argumentation, advocacy, and research skills by participating in nationally competitive speech and debate teams.
- Provide outreach and leadership in the technology industry.

CCIM hosts a cutting-edge esports program, serving as the cornerstone of Ball State University's comprehensive esports strategy. This strategy encompasses recreational play, club and varsity competitions, academic programs, and community and industry partnerships.

A clear example of CCIM's dedication to hands-on, collaborative learning is the Radiance Cinema project, a joint venture with the College of Fine Arts. This initiative, culminating in a notable showcase at the Indy Shorts International Film Festival, united students from both colleges in an immersive filmmaking experience.

Beyond its emphasis on collaborative, experiential learning, CCIM is at the forefront of future technology. The college integrates Artificial Intelligence (AI) across its curriculum, equipping students with the advanced skills necessary for navigating a rapidly evolving digital landscape. This forward-thinking approach ensures that CCIM graduates are well-prepared to lead and innovate in an increasingly digital world.



For a second straight year, Ball State Sports Link earned the No. 1 ranking for Top Winning Sports Program in the 2026 Broadcast Education Association Festival of Media Arts School Rankings. The Department of Media's broadcast program was ranked sixth overall, including tenth for documentary production. Media projects have earned 59 Emmy® Awards and 56 student production awards. **1**

Ball State University's Speech Team won the 2026 National Speech Championship, earning both the tournament's 1st Place Team Award and Top Non-Scholarship Team Award. **3**

Ball State has been recognized by the Indiana Association of School Broadcasters as News School of the Year for four consecutive years. **2**

The Esports Center is the hub of the integrated University Esports engagement strategy that includes recreation, club and varsity competition, curriculum, and community and industry partnerships. **4**

College of Fine Arts

The Ball State University College of Fine Arts (CFA) comprises three academic units—the School of Art, School of Music, and Department of Theatre and Dance. Together, they offer a comprehensive education rooted in creative inquiry, hands-on practice, professional excellence, and public engagement.

The college's nationally recognized programs prepare students to be thinkers, responsible citizens, and motivated artists through collaboration, empathy, inclusion, and hard work. College of Fine Arts students believe in the power of expression, the beauty of interpretation, and the possibilities of material. Professionally connected faculty artists nurture students' creativity, curiosity, and collaborative skills through individualized training that challenges, motivates, and inspires.

Remarkable exhibition and performance spaces amplify the College of Fine Arts and Ball State student experience. The world-class David Owsley Museum of Art is an academic support unit in the college. Additional cultural assets include the Marilyn K. Glick Center for Glass and Ned and Gloria Griner Art Gallery. Three public-facing performance venues—Emens Auditorium, Pruis Hall, and the Brown Family Amphitheater—comprise an auxiliary unit within the College of Fine Arts, enriching both the campus and the greater Muncie and East Central Indiana communities. A new 65,000-square-foot Performing Arts Center, scheduled for completion in 2026, will further distinguish Ball State as a regional and national destination for the arts.

CFA thrives on collaboration among its units and with other Ball State colleges. The College of Fine Arts and College of Communication, Information, and Media partner on the Radiance Cinema project, a collaboration in immersive learning that brings together students across colleges for a unique filmmaking experience that culminates in a showcase at the Indy Shorts International Film Festival.

The College of Fine Arts is committed to making the arts accessible to the communities Ball State serves. Adults and children across Muncie can enroll in community art classes while local musicians play alongside students in Ball State ensembles. The college's Arts Alive series allows East Central Indiana residents to experience world-class arts and artists at a fraction of the cost to do so in other cities. The David Owsley Museum of Art offers programs and curriculum-based tours to K–12 students and teachers from Muncie Community Schools and surrounding districts and counties throughout the region.



Sursa Hall

1 The Arts Alive series, presented by the College of Fine Arts, includes a diverse slate of artists that span the spectrum of cultural and intellectual diversity and includes engagement with artists such as Melanie Herzog, Byron Stripling, Carmen Bradford, Mnozil Brass, and Justin Favela. Each of these artists engages with students, faculty, and the community through this series of exhibitions, lectures, and performances.

2 The David Owsley Museum of Art offers partnership programs and curriculum-based tours to Muncie Community Schools that help local K-12 students fulfill Indiana state educational requirements. The museum has extended these efforts to students and teachers from surrounding districts and counties throughout the region.

3 Since 2004, students from the Department of Theatre and Dance have been invited as national qualifiers to the yearly Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF), one of the nation's premier events for collegiate theatre programs.

4 The College of Fine Arts and College of Communication, Information, and Media partner on the Radiance Cinema project, a collaboration in immersive learning that brings together students across colleges for a unique filmmaking experience culminating in a showcase at the Indy Shorts International Film Festival. Led by Benjamin Strack from Media and Mark Cabus from Theatre and Dance, the project offered students hands-on involvement in all facets of filmmaking, including scripting, directing, acting, and producing. This collaboration not only equipped students with practical skills and professional connections but also highlighted their achievements on a prominent platform, demonstrating the successful integration of artistic and technical expertise from both departments.

College of Health

The College of Health (CoH) brings together seven academic units—Counseling Psychology, Social Psychology, and Counseling; Kinesiology; Military Science (ROTC); Nursing; Nutrition and Health Science; Social Work; and Speech Pathology and Audiology—and 14 clinics, centers, and labs. The college's programs hold 16 health accreditations among them.

CoH embraces an innovative, collaborative, and interprofessional environment for learning, discovery, and engagement. The learning environment is shaped by core content that enhances understanding of health and well-being throughout the life span. Discovery occurs across health-related disciplines and readily engages students and faculty in a collaborative manner. The commitment to interprofessional development and community engagement unites faculty and students while strengthening educational programs and serving the needs of the region, state, and nation.

The majority of our programs are housed in a $62.5 million Health Professions Building, which opened in 2019. In August 2020, the building achieved a LEED Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council. This contemporary teaching, research, and clinical facility provides a unique learning environment to foster collaboration and problem-solving across the health sciences disciplines. The 165,000-square-foot building houses classrooms, laboratories, offices, simulation labs/suites, and clinical spaces.

The Interprofessional Community Clinics provide a range of healthcare and wellness services to individuals and families throughout East Central Indiana and beyond. Established in 2019, the clinics bring together clinical care, student education, and community engagement through services including audiology, counseling, speech pathology, healthy lifestyle programming, autism services, psychoeducational assessment and intervention, and family medicine primary care. The clinics provide approximately 17,000 appointments annually at their campus location, along with about 10,000 community outreach encounters each year through the Healthy Lifestyle Center. Students gain clinical and interprofessional learning experiences alongside licensed professionals.

Ball State's Doctor of Audiology program is the country's oldest existing four-year program. Its Bachelor of Social Work program is the oldest accredited undergraduate social work program in Indiana and one of the largest in the state.

Faculty in CoH's departments have attracted competitive federal funding such as grants from the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Defense, NASA, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Numerous programs have contributed to the cultural environment and health and wellness of the community through services and events, including the Adult Physical Fitness Program, health screenings, nutrition assessments, and pediatric gait screenings.

U.S. News & World Report ranked Master's in Nursing 30th in its 2026 "Best Online Programs" in the country. **1**

Ball State offers Indiana's only advanced generalist Master of Social Work to fill the need for professionals at nonprofits, community mental health centers, hospitals, community corrections institutions, and long-term care centers. **2**

Seventy percent of the licensed certified speech language pathologists in Indiana are Ball State graduates. **3**

Engaging graduate students as trained staff, the Adult Physical Fitness Program has assessed and prescribed exercise programs for thousands of residents for nearly 60 years. **4**





College of Sciences and Humanities

The College of Sciences and Humanities (CSH) spans the physical, life, mathematical and computational sciences, the social and behavioral sciences, and the humanities. Through its majors, minors, and certificates, and by delivering three-quarters of the University Core Curriculum, CSH enhances students' abilities to think critically, solve problems creatively, and communicate clearly.

In addition to excellent academics, the University provides premier facilities, including an $87.5 million Foundational Sciences Building that opened in Fall 2021. Housing the departments of Biology and Chemistry, this five-story structure of more than 200,000 square feet consists of immersive learning classrooms, 28 teaching and 44 research laboratories, a research library, an imaging suite, conference rooms, computer labs, collaborative space, and faculty offices. Renovations to the Cooper Science Building, home to the departments of Geography and Meteorology, Physics and Astronomy, and Environment, Geology, and Natural Resources, were completed in 2025. The new facilities include a weather lab, green roofs, and state-of-the-art classrooms.

All students are provided with a progressively deeper understanding of disciplinary and interdisciplinary content, theories, and methods. The college ensures its graduates have "learned how to learn" and understand the value of lifelong intellectual development as preparation for success in the private, public, and nonprofit sectors.

Faculty scholarship, often accomplished in collaboration with students, expands human knowledge and contributes to the solution of contemporary problems. Together, faculty and staff model behaviors promoting team collaboration, human respect, and engaged citizenship for students.

CSH is the University's liberal arts college. It is developing basic and applied research and engaged public service programs to challenge both students and faculty to become innovative leaders in the expansion and application of knowledge for the benefit of humankind. The college strives to develop alumni who embrace creative risks as they confront today's rapidly changing, globally competitive world.

1 The Charles W. Brown Planetarium has 148 seats and a 52-foot-diameter dome, making it the largest in Indiana. The state-of-the-art projector can simulate a night sky with 10 million stars, and its audience can take a virtual trip through space—they can "fly" through Saturn's rings, land on Mars, or travel to distant stars and galaxies.

2 The Compass Advantage is an integrated approach to helping humanities majors find their "True North." The Compass Advantage assists students in navigating from college to career by providing them with alumni connections, visible post-college career pathways, exploratory curriculum, events, and workshops.

3 Ball State's Field Station and Environmental Education Center, comprising six properties totaling 425 acres, provides hands-on learning and observation of nature and encourages exploration of natural processes by students of all ages. Our research activities are directed toward understanding human impact on ecological processes and communities, and we share our resources and data. The Dr. Joe and Alice Rinard Orchid Greenhouse is part of the Field Station and hosts visitors from regional schools, garden clubs, alumni groups, and more.

4 The Bowen Center for Public Affairs at Ball State University conducts the annual Hoosier Survey to provide Indiana policymakers with a measure of public opinion on current issues facing our state and nation. The results are delivered to every member of the Indiana General Assembly at the beginning of the calendar year so that lawmakers can gauge public views about issues they are likely to face in the coming session.



Charles W. Brown Planetarium

Miller College of Business

Miller College of Business embraces the future by exposing students to an innovative, collaborative learning experience. The college's vision is to create a nationally recognized model for being student-centered, community-engaged, innovative, and entrepreneurial—known for its undergraduate and graduate programs through the accomplishments of its students, faculty, and alumni.

Miller College has maintained consistent annual undergraduate enrollment for several years; its largest majors are Accounting, Finance, and Marketing. The Logistics and Supply Chain major, which requires student internship experience, achieved 100% placement at graduation.

Ball State's Property Management (RPM) program, one of only 12 such programs in the country, is supported by the National Apartment Association. The Bachelor of Science in Finance participates in the CFA (Chartered Financial Analyst) Institute University Recognition Program.

Miller College students complete the SOAR Professional Development Program (Success, Opportunity, Acumen, and Readiness), where they have the opportunity to build confidence and gain an edge in the competitive job market. This program incorporates alumni volunteers as speakers and mentors.

The Entrepreneurial Management Program prepares students for career fulfillment through its business plan development process. Students present their plans to a board of alumni and entrepreneurs who assess the plan's strengths and weaknesses.

National recognitions include:

- Our Master of Business Administration (MBA) program was ranked 14th in *U.S. News & World Report*'s 2026 "Best Online Programs."
- The Center for Professional Selling has been named a top sales program in the country by the Sales Education Foundation for 20 consecutive years.
- Ball State is one of only 37 universities worldwide to be designated a Global Center of Insurance Excellence by the International Insurance Society.

Alumni and donor engagement is a top priority. Miller College seeks to engage alumni and business leaders to sponsor site visits, experiential learning projects within and outside of courses, and to provide internships.



Miller College is accredited by AACSB International and was the first state-supported institution in Indiana to hold separate AACSB accreditation for the Accounting program. The Fashion Industry Studies program is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

1

Miller College offers a robust Executive Education program that addresses real-world needs and challenges to enable meaningful, measurable improvements in organizations. It delivers a mix of customized online modules and in-person workshops. Consulting is also offered to help solve unique problems such as improving financial acumen, stimulating innovation, enhancing communication effectiveness, and creating custom programs.

2

The Center for Professional Selling is one of only 49 full-member schools with the University Sales Center Alliance. The center's annual Sales Career Fair is one of the largest in the country.

3

Teachers College

Teachers College (TC) is committed to excellence in P–12 and adult/higher education through its student-centered and community-engaged preparation of outstanding professional educators and human service providers, supporting their induction and continuing education, promoting research and development, and influencing policy that enables high-quality educational outcomes.

Our college faculty, staff, and students make an indelible impact on their surrounding communities through our graduate and undergraduate programs. They play an integral role in the University's historic partnership with Muncie Community Schools, providing support and student enrichment both in and outside the classroom. More than 97 percent of Ball State University graduates received an "effective" or "highly effective" rating on the state-required evaluation in their first three years.

Teachers College students are engaged through programs such as Schools Within the Context of Community, which immerses preservice teacher candidates in a historically African-American neighborhood. Matched with community mentors who serve as cultural ambassadors, students participate authentically in the life of the community, enabling them to enact culturally responsive pedagogy. The program has received national awards as an exemplary model of community-engaged teacher preparation, including the C. Peter Magrath Community Engaged Scholarship Award, a W.K. Kellogg North Central Community Engagement Scholarship Award, and the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education's Best Practice Award in Support of Multicultural Education and Diversity.

Through the Muncie P3 program, faculty and students partner with a local elementary school serving a significant population of low-income students to provide after-school enrichment, weekend field trips, and a three-week summer program to help them meet a state standard of reading proficiently before fourth grade.

During the past decade, the project has garnered nearly $2.5 million in support from the Indiana Department of Education, the Ball Brothers Foundation, and the Heart of Indiana United Way.

Teachers College has a century-long legacy of preparing educators across Indiana through student-centric learning experiences. It is home to groundbreaking research advancing the field of education. The college has launched several new undergraduate and graduate degree and certificate programs on campus and online to meet the changing needs of both the job market and adult learners.

As Ball State University's Educator Preparation Provider (EPP), Teachers College is accredited through the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) Continuous Improvement (CI) model at the initial preparation level and is accredited at the initial and advanced preparation level through the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE). Full accreditation has been granted through 2032.

1 The Department of Special Education has the only deaf education teacher-training program in Indiana. Students complete a one-year residency at the Indiana School for the Deaf in Indianapolis. TC also offers programs specializing in autism, with course content approved by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board.

2 The college includes two public schools: Burris Laboratory School, a K–12 school for approximately 670 students that provides a model clinical setting for preservice teachers at Ball State, and the Indiana Academy for Science, Mathematics, and Humanities, a residential high school for approximately 215 gifted and talented juniors and seniors from across the State of Indiana.

3 A $1.45 million commitment from a Ball State University alumna and her husband in 2020 represents the largest single gift in the history of Teachers College. To date, Michelle (Asby) and Jim Ryan have committed approximately $2 million. They established the Michelle A. and James T. Ryan Family Scholarship and the Ryan Family Navigators Program. The initiatives assist students from economically challenged backgrounds by providing them with financial assistance and comprehensive services.



Honors College

Ball State's Honors College provides a stimulating and comprehensive academic, leadership, and social experience for students in any major. This innovative program inspires highly curious, intellectually engaged, and motivated scholars from all academic colleges to challenge themselves and expand their thinking.

The Honors College serves more than 1,600 students and welcomes approximately 600 new first-year students annually. Students are supported by a dedicated team of 10 full-time Honors faculty members, three in-house academic advisors, student success and first-year program leadership, two administrative staff members, and an associate dean. The college also benefits from a diverse network of affiliate faculty from academic departments throughout the University, reinforcing its interdisciplinary mission.

At its core, the Honors College is a vibrant living-learning community that connects bright, inquisitive students who have diverse interests and backgrounds but share a passion for learning. They live together in a residence hall, build relationships with one another and with the faculty who teach them, and integrate academic programming with social and recreational activities. The college's model aligns closely with *Destination 2040: Our Flight Path*, including Ball State's commitment to relationship-rich undergraduate education, purpose exploration, high-impact learning practices, and culminating experiences that prepare students for fulfilling careers and meaningful lives.

Honors Curriculum

The Honors College curriculum is focused on interdisciplinary critical thinking and high-impact practices. Small, highly interactive classes explore meaningful themes in the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, literature, and popular culture through lively discussion and creative projects rather than lectures and exams. Students get to express their opinions, debate important ideas, consider the perspectives of others, and steer course work in a direction that interests them. Before graduation, they complete an individualized capstone project or thesis working in-depth with a professor on a chosen topic.

Embedded in the engaging curriculum is a robust co-curricular learning structure. Students in their first semester with the Honors College participate in a freshman seminar guided by an upper-class peer mentor, which helps students situate themselves both academically and socially as they transition to college. Honors students can apply to be a peer mentor beginning in their second year, and experienced peer mentors may be selected as lead mentors. This program augments the student-driven, peer-learning environment that is unique to the Honors College.

Honors College students gain important skills for personal and professional growth, boosting their career advancement and leadership potential. With personalized support and advising from day one, they graduate on time and earn a special designation on their transcripts that is highly regarded by employers and sets them apart from their peers.

Honors College students benefit from personalized advising, faculty mentorship, and opportunities for undergraduate research, immersive learning, and study abroad. Students complete an individualized capstone project or thesis before graduation. **1**

The Honors College has been part of Ball State for more than 60 years. It began as a program in 1959 and was designated as the University Honors College in 1979. Today the college thrives in the intimate setting of the historic Edmund F. and Virginia B. Ball Honors House. **2**



Graduate School

Graduate study at Ball State supports the University's mission by seeking to develop the intellectual breadth and specialized training necessary for careers in teaching, in research, and in the professions. Graduate programs emphasize the knowledge, methods, and skills needed for scholarly teaching, problem solving and original research, creative inquiry and expression, and intellectual leadership to prepare responsible civic and professional leaders for our community, the state, the nation, and the world.

The problems facing society require new knowledge and new ways of using existing knowledge. To meet these challenges, the University provides, through its graduate programs, an atmosphere that fosters scholarship and creative activity.

The Graduate School promotes student success in a variety of ways, including providing a thorough orientation for new students; examining graduate curriculum and policies through the Graduate Education Committee (GEC); and supporting students through the Graduate Student Wellness Initiative, Pathways Project, and GOLD program.

Ball State's Fall 2026 graduate enrollment is 5,923. Our robust online enrollments have placed us in the top 4% of the largest providers of online graduate education in the country for many years. For example, the Master of Applied Behavior Analysis, for those who help children and adults on the autism spectrum and with related developmental disabilities, has shown phenomenal growth in the past five years and currently enrolls more than 2,500 students.

We have also recently partnered with Coursera to offer our Master of Data Science and Master of Computer Science programs on their platform, a move that will make our offerings even more accessible and significantly increase our graduate enrollments.

Ball State's graduate programs have earned national attention from *U.S. News & World Report*'s 2026 "Best Online Programs." Five of our programs are ranked in the Top 25:

- Master of Business Administration (Business Analytics) (8th)
- Master's in Special Education (11th)
- Master's in Educational Administration and Supervision (13th)
- Master of Business Administration (14th)
- Master's in Curriculum and Educational Technology (15th)



Students have flexibility at Ball State. The dual degree policy allows students to earn two master's degrees concurrently with shared credit. And the Accelerated Master's Program allows qualified undergraduate students to begin taking graduate courses while they complete their bachelor's degree.

1

Ball State offers more than 100 graduate degrees and certificate programs on campus, at centers in Indianapolis and Fishers, and online.

2

University College

University College is an interdisciplinary, collaborative academic unit that offers student-centered programs and services that enhance students' success.

University College serves as a hub for student academic support. It is home to Academic Advising, Student-Athlete Support Services, the Learning Center, Student Success Coaching, and the First-Year Experience. Each service area works collaboratively to provide a menu of services for students to promote academic excellence and enhance student retention and persistence.

Academic Advising

The mission of Academic Advising is to provide all the academic pieces needed to complete every student's journey, from their first registration in college to the day they apply for graduation and look ahead to applying the expertise gained from choices they have made.

Academic advisors seek to help students make those choices in the best way possible by opening the possibilities of the University's programs, putting a plan for graduation in place, helping students plan schedules, using the tools to track progress, and working with students and faculty advisors beyond the first-year experience with their freshman advisor.

First-Year Experience and First-Year Seminars

At Ball State, we recognize the importance of providing students with a solid foundation upon which to launch their collegiate experiences. Student success, year-to-year persistence, and retention through to graduation require more than foundational orientation. Thus, we intentionally focus on incoming students' first-year experiences. One way we do this is through first-year seminars designed to help students learn how to be successful in college. First-year seminars provide students with rich opportunities for deep reflection, experiential learning opportunities, and access to peer mentors.

Learning Center

The Learning Center offers drop-in, appointment-based, group, and satellite tutoring in many academic courses at Ball State. Students can also use online video workshops and other group learning experiences that will help them achieve academic success.

Each year, thousands of undergraduate and graduate students use the center's services. These students earn higher grade point averages and report being highly satisfied with the assistance they receive.

Student Athlete Support Services

Student-Athlete Support Services (SASS) coordinates advising and comprehensive academic support for student-athletes while assisting with their transition as freshmen through graduation. By focusing on integrity, accountability, transparency, and having a sense of purpose, SASS strives to build relationships with its stakeholders and across campus as well as communicate and report accurate and timely information, while remaining organized and centered on its mission.

Student Success Coaching

The Student Success Coaching office was established in 2022 and has embraced opportunities for supporting student care and well-being through the use of positive psychology, well-being, and holistic student support. Coaches embrace a model embedded in positive psychology where students are guided through thoughtful inquiry to discover their strengths, interests, passions, and purpose. Whether through an individual appointment setting, group coaching sessions, or skill sessions, coaches work to empower students to create fulfilling results in their lives, both academically and personally. Through dialogue, self-reflection, assessments, and personal exploration, students build upon their strengths to deepen their learning and ability to thrive.



Division of Online and Strategic Learning

The Division of Online and Strategic Learning (DOSL) serves Ball State students, faculty, and staff by pursuing, developing, and providing innovative best practices in technology-enhanced teaching, learning, and service. This is done through an adaptive culture of rigorous assessment and evaluation of techniques and approaches that benefit Ball State students both near and far.

The division houses Ball State Online, which offers more than 100 online degrees, certificates, and educator licenses. With a history of offering online programs since the 1990s—and distance courses off-campus since the 1920s—Ball State now has online graduate enrollment that ranks among the largest nationally, according to EAB. And, DOSL has a growing portfolio of online undergraduate programs in high-demand fields.

DOSL serves about 5,000 online-only graduate students and nearly 1,000 online-only undergraduate students each semester. In addition, the division provides online courses that support the needs of on-campus students with busy schedules and varying needs. DOSL also has a dual credit program that allows about 1,100 Indiana high school students to earn University and high school credit via courses at their own schools or online.

Faculty have been at the center of our innovations in online education. The Division of Online and Strategic Learning empowers them with tools, skills, and pedagogical support for engaging students in quality learning experiences.



Faculty members and instructional consultants work together in the creation of exciting and meaningful online and blended courses.

The division provides a full range of services to Ball State's seven colleges including student support, advising, recruiting, and marketing services for adult learners, faculty support for onsite and online teaching, marketing support for online programs, market research and budget planning for new or significantly revised online programs, and state authorization support.

DOSL's mission is to establish an institute of good practice that faculty will find useful, formidable, and essential to their aspirations of excellence in teaching. Students will look to DOSL as advocates for their learning process. The division promotes and embodies the highest quality in educational experiences, no matter the technology and barriers, pride in the Ball State brand, and a commitment to lifelong learning.

1 Ball State has earned top rankings from *U.S. News & World Report* since it started ranking online programs in 2013. Ball State Online programs recognized for 2026 include degree programs in Business Analytics, MBA concentration (8th), Special Education (11th), Education Administration and Supervision (13th), Business Administration, MBA (14th), Curriculum and Educational Technology (15th), and Psychology Programs (25th).

2 Ball State Online has been named Military Friendly by VIQTORY Media every year since 2009—a designation given to less than 15 percent of more than 4,000 colleges nationwide and based on input from veterans and surveys of participating institutions.



Office of Immersive Learning

In alignment with Ball State's strategic plan, immersive learning is one of the high-impact practices students are encouraged to complete before graduation. This past year, participation in immersive learning courses increased from 2,700 to 3,400 students—a 25 percent increase. Immersive learning classes allow student teams and faculty mentors to partner with community organizations on projects that address local challenges.

Whether an instructor is new to immersive learning or has been teaching this way for some time, this office can provide the support needed to implement a successful class. The Immersive Learning Project Support Team assists faculty and their departments before, during, and after an immersive semester. Services include certification and individualized training, internal grant opportunities, a vast network of community partners, and access to resources available on and off campus.

Global Affairs

The Rinker Center for Global Affairs promotes cultural diversity and understanding, enriches the Ball State student experience, and encourages and supports global citizenry on all levels. With the support and engagement of faculty, staff, students, and the local community, the Rinker Center is at the heart of Ball State's commitment to global learning.

The Rinker Center comprises four teams: International Services, Study Abroad, Academic Engagement and Global Initiatives, and the Intensive English Institute.

International Services strives to create an environment that enhances the academic experience of international students, scholars, and faculty by providing the highest levels of knowledge and expertise in advising, immigration services, advocacy, and programming to the Ball State campus community. In 2025–26, Ball State hosted approximately 445 international students. From orientation to cultural acclimation, International Services facilitates students' and scholars' experiences at Ball State.

The Office of Study Abroad oversees programs that provide many opportunities to explore intercultural issues outside the classroom and around the world. Study abroad opportunities—open to all Ball State students—are available in about 50 countries, ranging from 10 days to 10 months.

Academic Engagement and Global Initiatives (AEGI) facilitates institutional internationalization and global partnerships including cooperative enrollment linkages, curriculum, research, and development. AEGI supports the academic success of at-risk international students and students transitioning from the Intensive English Institute (IEI) to academic programs. This unit provides administrative oversight of Ball State's cooperative and dual degree programs (including the CHEPD 1+2+1 Program with partner institutions in China).

The mission of the Intensive English Institute (IEI) is twofold, with both elements having equal importance. One goal is to facilitate international students' progress in English proficiency and the knowledge of U.S. culture necessary for success in academic course work in the United States. The IEI aids students in the acquisition of English for students to begin their course work as soon as possible. The second purpose is to encourage the development and research of best practices in language teaching and learning. Therefore, participation in classroom-based research, inquiry, and reflection is encouraged for all IEI faculty. Additionally, the IEI provides University students, in appropriately related graduate programs, opportunities for hands-on teaching experience and practical training in a supportive environment.



THE FOUNDATION

Since the establishment of the Ball State University Foundation in 1951, generous alumni and friends have contributed more than $632 million through the Foundation to benefit Ball State students, enhance their learning experiences, and boost their future careers.

In 2015, the Foundation underwent an organizational unification of staff and programs to provide enhanced service to the University, students, donors, alumni, and friends. Based on best practice, the unification joined the Alumni Association, Development, and Advancement Services with the Ball State University Foundation to create the University's all-inclusive philanthropic and engagement partner.

The Foundation leads the efforts for the University's award-winning One Ball State Day, the Top 100 Student Award program, Homecoming, and other signature events that unite and engage Cardinals from around the world.

Currently, the University is in the public phase of *Our Call to Beneficence: The Campaign for Ball State University*, a comprehensive fundraising campaign that has surpassed its $350 million goal, with fundraising efforts continuing through June 30, 2027.



OUR CALL TO
Beneficence

The Campaign for

BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY



Beneficence

National Recognition for Ball State

Ball State University is nationally recognized for its academic quality, research impact, and commitment to student success. The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education has designated Ball State in three areas: Research 2 (R2), Opportunity College and University (OCU), and Community Engagement. Ball State is one of just 11 institutions nationwide—and the only one in Indiana—to hold all three recognitions. Here is a sampling:

- The Princeton Review has named Ball State one of the best universities in the Midwest for 20 years.
- *Forbes* in 2026 named Ball State University one of Indiana's best employers, ranking the University No. 45 statewide, 17th among Indiana-headquartered employers, and fourth among colleges and universities in the state.
- In 2023, Ball State President Geoffrey S. Mearns was named the recipient of the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) Career Champion Award.
- Ball State University's Speech Team won the 2026 National Speech Championship, earning both the tournament's 1st Place Team Award and Top Non-Scholarship Team Award.
- Ball State Sports Link in 2026 was named the nation's best sports media program by the Broadcast Education Association for the second year in a row.
- Recent Ball State graduates Imani Brissett and Sawyer True participated in the 2023 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival in Washington, D.C. Imani won The College of Fellows Jane Alexander Award for Acting.
- Ball State was the winner of the 2022 Ryan Moser Reilly Award for Excellence in Community Engagement Institutional Leadership award.
- The actuarial science program in the College of Sciences and Humanities has been awarded the Center of Actuarial Excellence designation by the Society of Actuaries, making Ball State one of only two universities in Indiana to hold this distinction.
- The Drawings + Documents Archive (now the Andrew Seager Archives of the Built Environment) and the Architecture Library were honored to receive the 2012 Walter S. Blackburn Award from the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Indiana Chapter. This award is given annually to a non-architect person or organization that has contributed time and service in support of the architectural profession.
- The U.S. Department of Energy named Ball State's Estopinal College of Architecture and Planning the 2023 Solar Decathlon Build Challenge overall winner. Students and faculty from Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Urban Planning and Development, Interior Design, and Construction Management designed and built an affordable house near downtown Indianapolis that excelled across 10 energy and design categories.
- For more than 15 years, Ball State has been named a Military Friendly School by VIQTORY. In 2019, VIQTORY also ranked our online programs seventh in the country.



Spring Commencement on the Quad

- Ball State students, faculty, and staff have won 59 regional Emmy® Awards and 56 Student Production Awards from the Lower Great Lakes Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.
- The Department of Chemistry has been ranked by the American Chemical Society (ACS) as one of the largest producers of ACS-accredited chemistry majors in Indiana and in the top 10 percent in the nation in the number of graduating ACS-accredited chemistry majors.
- Schools Within the Context of Community (SCC) has won many national honors. The most recent are the inaugural Excellence in Faculty Community Engagement Award from the Engagement Scholarship Consortium and one of four regional W.K. Kellogg Foundation Community Engagement Scholarship Awards from the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities.
- The University earned a STARS Gold rating from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education (AASHE). STARS—for Sustainability, Tracking, Assessment & Rating System—takes into account, among many other factors, social responsibility and an institution's overall environmental stewardship.
- Ball State's honors for providing a healthy workplace include the Health Champion designation from the American Diabetes Association, a Fit-Friendly Worksite Gold Award from the American Heart Association, and Five Star AchieveWell recognition from the Wellness Council of Indiana.
- The Center for Professional Selling has been named a top sales program in the country by the Sales Education Foundation for 20 consecutive years.

Finances

The University has a long history of fiscal responsibility. In August 2026, S&P Global Ratings affirmed Ball State University's AA- long-term credit rating and maintained its stable outlook. S&P assessed the University's Enterprise Risk Profile as strong and its Financial Risk Profile as extremely strong, citing recent enrollment growth, sound fiscal planning, consistent operating surpluses, strong state support for debt, and healthy financial resources.

S&P also noted that Ball State has generated operating surpluses for several years and described the University's operating margins during the past six fiscal years as a key credit strength. The agency said management continues to demonstrate sound fiscal management and expects the University to maintain solid operating performance over the outlook period.

The University's financial position also reflects strong liquidity and reserves. As of June 30, 2025, cash and investments, including those held by the Ball State University Foundation, totaled approximately $855 million, equal to 155 percent of adjusted operating expenses.

Construction

The State of Indiana and the University have significantly invested in the campus physical infrastructure. Since 2015, the University has completed, begun, or approved $806 million in capital projects. These projects have allowed the University to maintain its beautiful campus and invest in strategic priorities, including:

In Progress

1. North Campus renovation (Architecture Building and Theatre and Dance Building renovations), $81.6 million
2. The Village revitalization plan, $193 million
   - Performing Arts Center, $69.9 million
   - Village Green and Martin Street Improvements, $5.4 million
3. Shebek Stadium (Baseball/Softball Clubhouse and Locker Building), $8.8 million

Completed

1. Center for Innovation and Collaboration, $21.3 million
2. Cooper Science renovation, $59.9 million
3. Eric Foss Championship Performance Center, $7.8 million
4. Health Professions Building, $62.5 million
5. Foundational Sciences Building, $87.5 million
6. Jack Beyerl Hall, $50 million
7. North Dining, $35 million
8. Northwest Residence Hall, $51.2 million
9. Vivian V. Conley and Hurley C. Goodall Jr. Multicultural Center, $4 million
10. Geothermal conversion, $83 million
11. Brown Family Amphitheater, $4.7 million



Health Professions Building

Enrollment

Ball State University's total Fall 2026 enrollment of more than 20,000 students exceeds pandemic-adjusted projections, with 14,140 attending on campus.

Students come from all 50 states, 74 countries, and every county in Indiana. Out-of-state students represent approximately 25 percent of enrolled students with 6,325 students enrolled fully online.

The Class of 2030 comprises 3,714 full-time students, of whom 37 percent are men, 63 percent are women, and 34 percent are African American, Asian, Hispanic, Native American, Pacific Islander, or identify with two or more races.

The average high school GPA was 3.54. More than 540 students enrolled in the Honors College with an average entering GPA of 4.13.

The University's Strategic Enrollment Plan guides our ongoing efforts to enroll and retain a highly qualified and diverse student population. This includes a policy to make submitting standardized test scores optional for undergraduate admission.

The retention rate for Ball State students is 78 percent. The four-year graduation rate for the Fall 2019 student cohort was 46 percent, exceeding the state average. The University continues working to close achievement gaps among the students it serves. Ball State administers $286 million in merit- and need-based aid each year.

Fall 2026 Enrollment

- 20,465 total students
- 14,542 undergraduate and 5,923 graduate students
- 3,714 first-year students
- 42% earned the Academic Honors Diploma
- 3.54 average GPA

Enrollment by College

(includes associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees by highest degree being pursued, undeclared and non-degree-seeking not shown)

Estopinal College of Architecture and Planning 1,330
College of Communication, Information, and Media 1,480
College of Fine Arts 1,702
College of Health 3,097
College of Sciences and Humanities 4,289
Miller College of Business 2,631
Teachers College 5,501

Career Outcomes

Students who graduated in May 2025 reported the following placement outcomes:

- 93% career placement rate
- 84% employed in their field of study
- 80% work in Indiana



THE STATE



About Muncie

With a population of about 70,000, Muncie is a dynamic midsize city 55 miles northeast of Indianapolis. Consistently ranked by realtor.com as the No. 1 most affordable college town and described by several national studies as a typical American community, Muncie offers the advantages of larger cities without the hassles and costs of living in major metropolitan areas.

Ball State's cultural venues—including Emens Auditorium, Sursa Performance Hall, the David Owsley Museum of Art, the Charles W. Brown Planetarium, the Dr. Joe and Alice Rinard Orchid Greenhouse, Brown Family Amphitheater, and the Marilyn K. Glick Center for Glass—provide ample opportunities for arts and entertainment. The campus and surrounding community benefit from thought-provoking art exhibitions, top-flight theatrical performances, prominent speakers, and visits by well-known musical acts.

Muncie is home to many unique attractions including Minnetrista and Oakhurst Gardens, the National Model Aviation Museum, and Cardinal Greenway—a recreational trail for athletes of all kinds. The Muncie Symphony Orchestra offers first-rate programs featuring nationally known artists, and the Muncie Civic Theatre produces plays for all audiences. Downtown Muncie offers a lively arts scene along with shops and dining.

For outdoor enthusiasts, Prairie Creek Reservoir is a 1,252-acre man-made lake surrounded by 3,000 acres of rolling hills. The lake is stocked with a variety of fish. Boat docks are available, and a beach provides a popular summer swimming spot. Residents also have easy access to big cities. Muncie is about an hour away from Indianapolis. Other cities within a few hours of driving include Chicago, Cincinnati, Dayton, Detroit, Louisville, and St. Louis.



Prairie Creek Reservoir



Minnetrista Cultural Center



Downtown Muncie



Indiana Statehouse

Indianapolis

Indianapolis, the capital of Indiana, is the 16th-largest city in the United States. Located on land set aside for a state capital in the early 19th century, it was modeled after Washington, D.C., with streets radiating outward from the seat of government. Although it is not situated on a navigable body of water, the city's central location—in relation to the state and to much of the country—has made it an important transport and distribution center since the 19th century.

Since the 1970s, Indianapolis, home to the NFL's Colts, the WNBA's Fever, and the NBA's Pacers, has established a reputation as a sports center by constructing major athletic and visitor facilities and energetically promoting itself as a venue for a wide variety of amateur sporting events. The city has hosted the NCAA Division I men's and women's basketball championships and the 2012 Super Bowl. However, its most famous athletic event remains the Indianapolis 500, held annually at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

The city is also known for its outstanding dining and cultural options. Among its offerings are The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, Newfields—A Place for Nature and the Arts, White River State Park, the Indianapolis Zoo and White River Gardens, the Eiteljorg Museum of American Indians and Western Art, the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, and the Murat Theatre.



Our Enduring Values

Excellence. We commit to excel in all that we do.

Innovation. We commit to be creative, responsive, and progressive.

Courage. We commit to set ambitious goals and to take the risks necessary to achieve those goals.

Integrity. We commit to be honest, ethical, authentic, and accessible.

Inclusiveness. We commit to respect different cultural experiences and intellectual perspectives in all people.

Social responsibility. We commit to act for the benefit of society at large.

Gratitude. We commit to express appreciation to other people and to demonstrate our gratitude through our actions.

BALL STATE
UNIVERSITY



Beneficence, Ball State's institutional icon, symbolizes the generosity of the five Ball brothers whose land donation to the State of Indiana allowed the University to flourish.