



PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

# THE UNIVERSITY

Ball State University serves approximately 20,000 undergraduate and graduate students across seven academic colleges with about 190 undergraduate programs. Ball State offers more than 140 certificates and master's, doctoral, and specialist degrees, many of which rank among the best in the nation. Originally founded to meet the need for more and better teachers, Ball State has earned a Community Engagement Classification from the Carnegie Foundation and serves as one of Indiana's public research institutions while remaining committed to empowering its graduates to have fulfilling careers and meaningful lives.

For 104 years, Ball State has had an unwavering belief in an education rooted in innovation, values, and intellectual curiosity. The institution was founded on the beneficence and tenacity 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 small set of strategic imperatives to be executed by 2024.

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





## **National Recognition for Ball State University**

Ball State is designated a Doctoral University: Higher Research Activity by The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. Respected organizations have recognized the University's academic programs, cutting-edge facilities and technology, and commitment to sustainability. Here is a sampling:

- The Princeton Review has named Ball State one of the best universities in the Midwest for 18 years.
- U.S. News & World Report ranked Ball State among its 2021
   Top 100 public universities in the country.
- Ball State earned the Community Engagement Classification from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.
- Ball State has received a Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) Award from *Insight into Diversity* for seven years running. This honor is for exemplary initiatives focusing on all aspects of diversity and inclusion, including gender, race, ethnicity, veterans, people with disabilities, and members of the LGBTQ+ community.
- For 12 years, Ball State has been named a Military Friendly School by VIQTORY. In 2019, VIQTORY also ranked our online programs seventh in the country.
- Forbes in 2023 ranked Ball State University as the fourthbest midsized employer—and the only recognized education institution—in the State of Indiana.
- In 2023, Ball State President Geoffrey S. Mearns was named the recipient of the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE) Career Champion Award.
- In 2019, DesignIntelligence's national ranking of architecture and related programs gave high marks to three Ball State programs. Among schools of similar size, Interior Design was No. 3 and Architecture was No. 13. Among all schools nationwide, Landscape Architecture was No. 8.
- Ball State students, faculty, and staff have won 55 regional Emmy® Awards and 42 Student Production Awards from the Lower Great Lakes Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

- 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.
- The U.S. Department of Energy declared Ball State's
  R. Wayne Estopinal College of Architecture and Planning
  (ECAP) as the 2023 International Build Challenge winner in
  the Solar Decathlon competition. The team of students and
  faculty from Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Urban
  Planning, Interior Design and Construction Management
  designed and built an affordable house near downtown
  Indianapolis that excelled across 10 energy and design
  categories.
- 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% 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.
- Ball State is considered an environmentally responsible school and is featured in The Princeton Review Guide to Green Colleges: 2021 Edition.
- 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.

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Ball State University seeks an exceptional, transformational academic leader and administrator to serve as the University's next Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Reporting directly to President Geoffrey S. Mearns, the next Provost will have the opportunity to advance a unified vision for the University's future and join a high-performing executive leadership team as Ball State continues to implement its <u>Destination 2040</u> strategic plan.

Located in Muncie, Indiana, Ball State University serves approximately 20,000 graduate and undergraduate students across seven academic colleges with 190 undergraduate programs. Ball State offers more than 140 master's, doctoral, certificate, and specialist degrees, many of them ranking among the best in the nation. Originally founded to fill a need for more and better teachers, Ball State has earned a Community Engagement Classification from the Carnegie Foundation, and it serves as one of Indiana's public research institutions while remaining committed to graduating scholars who are leaders in their professions and communities.

Inclusive excellence is an integral part of Ball State's mission and strategic plan. As the University recruits and develops diverse leaders, faculty, staff, and students, it strives to ensure that its students are prepared to engage and succeed in increasingly diverse environments. Ball State is and will continue to be recognized for its positive climate—one in which all stakeholders know that their contributions are essential to the University's success.

As Ball State University's chief academic officer and second ranking officer, the Provost is responsible for overseeing Academic Affairs at the University, including the R. Wayne Estopinal College of Architecture and Planning, Miller College of Business, College of Communication, Information, and Media, College of Fine Arts, College of Health, College of Sciences and Humanities, and Teachers College.

The next Provost will provide institutional leadership and stewardship, supporting and advocating for faculty, staff, and student success. The Provost will play a pivotal role partnering with the deans and colleges as they transition fully to a decentralized, incentive-based budget model that aligns financial resources with strategic institutional priorities.

Ball State seeks in its next Provost a collaborative, courageous leader who will advance diversity, equity, and inclusion, champion community engagement, and inspire societal impact. The Provost will model an unwavering commitment to excellence, innovation, and social responsibility while leading the academic enterprise with courage, integrity, and gratitude.

Candidates are expected to have prior successful administrative leadership experience within a complex organization, sophisticated financial acumen and budget management experience, and a demonstrable commitment to advancing inclusive excellence. A PhD or terminal degree is required. The successful candidate will merit a tenured faculty appointment at the rank of professor at the University.



## PROCEDURE FOR CANDIDACY

All applications, nominations, and inquiries are invited. Applications should include a CV and letter of interest addressing the themes in this leadership profile.

WittKieffer is assisting Ball State University in this search. For fullest consideration, candidate materials should be received by August 15, 2023.

Application materials should be submitted using WittKieffer's <u>candidate portal</u>.

Nominations and inquiries can be directed to: Zachary A. Smith, PhD, Philip Tang, and Natalie Song BallStateProvost@wittkieffer.com

## **Expectations for Leadership**

Working in close partnership with the President, executive academic leadership team, and deans, the Provost will foster a vibrant, diverse community of faculty, students, and staff and strengthen relationships with alumni, community members, elected officials, and other stakeholders. The Provost will model an unwavering commitment to excellence, innovation, and social responsibility while leading the academic enterprise with courage, integrity, and gratitude.

The next Provost will be expected to:

#### Advance a strategic vision for the University's future

The Provost will steward the ongoing pursuit of the University's aspirations, goals, and objectives as outlined in the <u>Destination 2040</u> strategic plan. The Provost will play a critical role in assessing Ball State's progress in advancing the strategic plan imperatives and informing the next iteration of long-term planning for the institution.

#### Provide institutional leadership and stewardship

The next Provost will be an engaged, inspiring leader with a demonstrated commitment to Ball State's heritage, mission, and core values. The Provost will advance those values by building on the University's traditions and strengths, actively seeking consensus among all its constituencies, and exercising superb management and decision-making skills. The Provost will communicate effectively with both internal and external constituencies, articulating clearly and passionately Ball State's mission and strategic aspirations. The Provost will work effectively with the President in pursuit of the strategic imperatives that will further strengthen the University and the community.

## Support and advocate for faculty, staff, and student success

The Provost will advance Ball State's commitment to providing exceptional and immersive educational experiences for undergraduates, graduate students, and lifelong learners, and steward a comprehensive enrollment management strategy. To ensure student success, the Provost will also be a strong advocate for the professional development and success of faculty and staff. The Provost will have a sophisticated understanding of and appreciation for different kinds of faculty positions and the important roles each plays in pursuit of Ball State's mission.

#### Facilitate the transition to a decentralized budget model

The Provost will work closely with and support the deans and colleges on the ongoing implementation of an incentive-based budget model, which aligns financial resources with strategic priorities and encourages innovation and effective resource management. While offering academic units greater accountability and strategic focus, this shift also reflects a departure from the University's historical budget planning processes. As such, the incoming Provost should have financial and budgetary acumen and change management experience in help the colleges and deans leverage resources to incentivize innovation, entrepreneurialism, philanthropy, creativity, and, ultimately, student success.

## Model an authentic commitment to community engagement and societal impact

The Provost will serve as a critical ambassador on behalf of Ball State throughout the Muncie community, stewarding relationships and partnerships that support the success of current and future students, faculty, and programs. This includes representing Ball State's historic partnership with Muncie Community Schools, which is transforming the city's public school district into a national model for innovative, holistic education, and the University's long-term investment in The Village, which is becoming a thriving hub for students, faculty, staff, and community members alike. The Provost will leverage strategic communications across a variety of platforms to elevate the reach and reputation of the University both regionally and nationally.

#### Foster a culture of honesty, transparency, and inclusion

Ball State's culture is distinctly collaborative and collegial, relational and respectful. Faculty and staff take a genuine interest in high quality teaching and learning outcomes, research, and the success of our students. The next Provost will embrace an inclusive team-oriented approach to leadership and management anchored by honesty, integrity, and gratitude. The Provost will model open dialogue and transparent communication and decision-making, ensuring productive, collaborative, and constructive relationships with the deans, faculty, fellow University leaders, and all campus constituents and community members.



## **Roles and Responsibilities**

#### The Provost's principal duties are to:

- Articulate and advance the mission and core values of Ball State University;
- · Lead a dynamic academic enterprise;
- Ensure that the University pursues and achieves excellence in its academic endeavors, including but not limited to quality undergraduate and graduate academic offerings, regional and national recognition of scholarly and creative activities of the faculty, and the achievement and success of its students;
- Work closely and collaboratively with Ball State's executive leadership and governance units, regularly reviewing and refining Ball State's strategies for continued success.

In addition to the University's seven academic colleges, the Provost oversees several units, including the following:

- Graduate School
- Honors College
- Lifetime Learning
- Online and Distance Education
- Rinker Center for Global Affairs
- Sponsored Projects Administration
- University College
- University Libraries

The Provost also is ultimately responsible for several University centers and institutes such as the Center for Medical Education and Virginia B. Ball Center for Creative Inquiry, which are home to innovative and interdisciplinary research that make an impact not only on the local community but on the State of Indiana, the nation, and the world.

## **Qualities and Qualifications**

Candidates should possess the following minimum qualifications:

- A PhD or terminal degree from an accredited institution of higher learning;
- Evidence of scholarly or professional achievement that merits a tenured faculty appointment at the rank of professor at the University;
- Prior successful administrative leadership experience within a complex organization, preferably at an academic or research institution:
- Experience developing and managing a budget aligned with strategic priorities;
- Demonstrable commitment to advancing inclusive excellence.

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

Commitment to academic excellence and student success. High standards for academic quality and pedagogical excellence, shaped by an appreciation for and understanding of the teacher-scholar model that is the foundation of Ball State's academic

enterprise. Experience recruiting, retaining, and ensuring the success of both tenured/tenure-track faculty and non-tenure track faculty. Familiarity with online education, immersive learning, lifetime learning, and alternative credentials.

**Executive leadership.** Ability to inspire others with a compelling vision and to build consensus around that vision. Prior experience developing and implementing a strategic plan or initiative. Successful academic administration experience at the college/school or university level.

**Team building and management.** Capacity to build, lead, and function within high-performing teams. Ability to set high goals for personal and group accomplishment and to assess progress and outcomes using metrics. The humility, work ethic, commitment, and gratitude to engender respect from peers, colleagues, and subordinates.

**Student orientation.** A holistic approach to education, student formation, and the student experience that places learners at the center of programs, policies, and operations and prioritizes student success.

**Advanced financial acumen.** Direct experience working in and comfort with responsibility center management or incentive-based budget models.

Record of advancing inclusive excellence. Demonstrable, significant achievements in strengthening an institutional commitment to inclusive excellence, which at Ball State is defined as a commitment "to respect and embrace equity, inclusion, and diversity in people, ideas, and opinions." Ability to articulate the critical importance of these core values to Ball State's educational mission. A record of actively and effectively recruiting and retaining diverse faculty and staff.

**Innovation and entrepreneurism.** Ability to identity or seize new opportunities and encourage new approaches to surmounting challenges. Willingness to explore, evaluate, and change organizational practices in support of institutional goals and objectives. Experience developing or managing innovative academic programs that generate resources.

Community engagement and advocacy. An authentic interest in and commitment to community engagement. Successful experience establishing and stewarding relationships with community members and external constituents. Ability to articulate the distinctiveness of Ball State University and represent its unique brand, value, and impact.

Facility with university governance. A nuanced understanding of university and academic governance practices, and the ability to make timely, fair, and difficult decisions while respecting the tenets of academic freedom and shared responsibility. Capacity to encourage constituent engagement in institutional matters.

**Communication and interpersonal skills.** Ability to inspire and energize others and articulate ideas and messages clearly and compellingly. Inclination to collaborate, listen and learn, seek input and feedback, and communicate with transparency.

Sophisticated understanding of the higher education landscape. Familiarity with and fluency in emerging trends and issues in higher education, particularly those relevant to public research institutions, such as access and affordability, enrollment trends, changing learner preferences, instructional delivery modalities and technologies, and alternative credentials, among others.

# **WEFLY**

Ball State is home to seven colleges. Throughout the University, nearly 3,600 faculty and staff deliver excellent instruction, pursue world-class research and creative endeavors, and provide exemplary service.

We spark intellectual curiosity. Spirited and motivated, we learn, grow, and take flight. Our faculty and staff—everyone in our community—treat students as partners, from day one. In classrooms and labs, on the sports fields, in immersive learning projects—with agility and perseverance—Cardinals fly. We are grounded in our values, lifted by our knowledge, and go confidently upward toward ever greater opportunities. Ours is a simple promise: to challenge each other to excel. And with *Beneficence* as our guide—We Fly.



## **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 be 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 enjoyed consistent annual undergraduate enrollment for several years; its largest majors are accounting, finance, and marketing. The college boasts an innovative curriculum in business analytics—the only standalone undergraduate program in the region. The logistics and supply chain major, which requires student internship experience, achieved 95% placement at graduation.

Ball State's Property Management (RPM) program, one of only nine 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 17th in *U.S. News* & World Report's 2021 "Best Online Programs."
- The Entrepreneurial Management program was ranked 28th in the nation in 2021 by The Princeton Review and Entrepreneur magazine.
- Ball State is one of only 34 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 statesupported 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.

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.

The Center for Professional Selling is one of only 37 full member schools with the University Sales Center Alliance. The center's annual Sales Career Fair is one of the largest in the country.



## **Honors College**

Ball State's <u>Honors College</u> provides a stimulating and comprehensive academic, leadership, and social experience for high-ability students in any major. This innovative and selective program inspires highly curious, intellectually engaged, and motivated scholars to challenge themselves and expand their thinking.

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.

Education in the Honors College is built around a specially designed, four-year liberal arts curriculum that rivals top private schools. 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

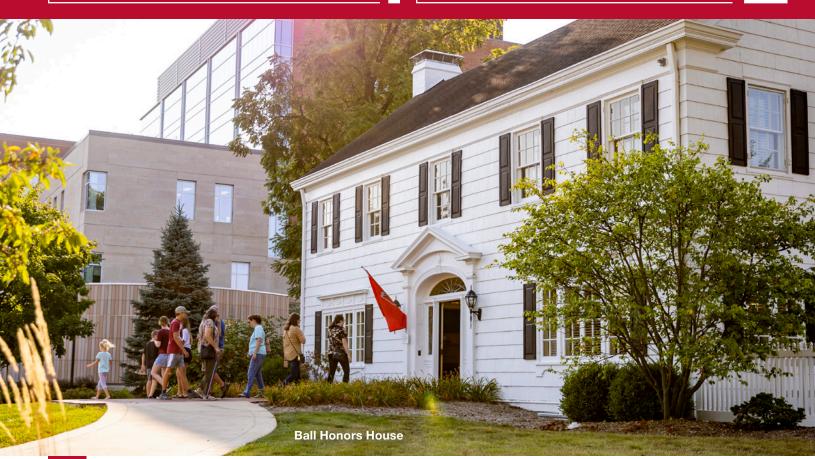
get to express their opinions, debate important ideas, consider the perspectives of others, and steer course work in a direction that interests them.

The Honors College also offers students exclusive opportunities for paid research fellowships with faculty, special study abroad programs, immersive learning experiences, and scholarly publications and presentations. Before graduation, they complete an individualized capstone project or thesis working in-depth with a professor on a chosen topic.

Honors College students gain important skills for personal and professional growth, boosting their career advancement and leadership potential. They also win major national and international scholarships and fellowships to fund advanced study and research in their major, including prestigious Fulbright and National Science Foundation awards. 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.

New students in the Honors College compete for some of Ball State's most prestigious freshman scholarships, including the Whitinger, Presidential, and Emens Leadership awards, which may cover one-half to full tuition and more. The college also offers several other special scholarships. 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.

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## R. Wayne Estopinal College of Architecture and Planning

The nationally recognized and highly ranked R. Wayne Estopinal College of Architecture and Planning (ECAP) brings together professional degree programs in Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Urban Planning, 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 to give students a feel for the power of design, confidence in their abilities, and connections to the real world.

Students gain substantial experience in the latest areas of environmental design and planning 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.

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

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 University Design Center, Interior Design students gain practical experience while creating attractive and functional environments for commercial clients.

ECAP is committed to sustainability. The Center for Energy Research/Education/ Service (CERES) 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.

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.

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

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.



## **College of Communication, Information, and Media**

The College of Communication, Information, and Media (CCIM) creates challenging educational experiences that prepare students for careers as ethical practitioners and scholars. CCIM redefines the intersection of communication and technology while emphasizing the importance of human interaction.

CCIM's vision is to produce graduates who are leaders and entrepreneurs at heart. They will procure the best jobs prior to graduation and will know how to adapt quickly to a diverse and everchanging global job market to ensure fulfilling careers.

CCIM is the home of a new Esports venue which is the central element in an integrated, University esports engagement strategy that includes recreation, club and varsity competition, curriculum, and community/industry partnerships.

The space supports a new major in Esports Production; recreational play; the current Cardinal Esports Club, which has grown from approximately 200 to over 800 members; and its varsity esports team, which in January 2021 became a founding member of the Esports Collegiate Conference.

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. It also strengthens CCIM's efforts to provide a meaningful educational experience through unparalleled immersive learning opportunities for students.

This expanded vision of media aligns with the University's mission to provide the community with purposeful, deliberate content on topics and issues that matter most including local news, entertainment, and compelling storytelling.

CCIM's outreach beyond campus includes:

- Two Communication Studies classes engaged in a project called Community Career Building. Students prepared disadvantaged members of the Muncie community for employment interviews. The career fair community partner was the Muncie Public Library.
- Students in the Center for Information and Communication Sciences (CICS) were involved with the Rural Broadband Working Group (RBWG), created by the lieutenant governor. Their efforts impacted every county in Indiana, with two legislative bills becoming law based on the research put forward to the RBWG.

The School
of Journalism
and Strategic
Communication
is one of two
Indiana programs
accredited by the
Accrediting Council
on Education in
Journalism and Mass
Communication.

The Center for Information and Communication Sciences (CICS) is leading the way in high-impact, accessible graduate technology education. It is ranked 12th for online graduate IT programs by *U.S. News and World Report*. In 2021, the CICS Master of Science was rated the nation's No. 1 ROI program by *The Wall Street Journal*, based on the debt-to-income of graduates. With a 90% placement rate, the CICS has 2,000 alumni globally, many in Fortune 500 companies.

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Students, faculty, and staff have won 55 Emmy awards, and students have won 42 student production awards.

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The speech and debate teams have a history of success. The speech team won the 2022 Indiana State Tournament for the 13th year in a row. Ball State's students competed in 61 individual events, advancing 58 to the final rounds and winning 16 state titles. The speech team also placed ninth out of 55 schools at the National Forensics Association's national tournament in Spring 2023. The debate team placed third overall and third in the Novice Division at the 2022 Indiana State Tournament. They also placed second in the Varsity Division and third in the Novice Division at the National Educational Debate Tournament in the Spring 2023 semester.

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## **College of Fine Arts**

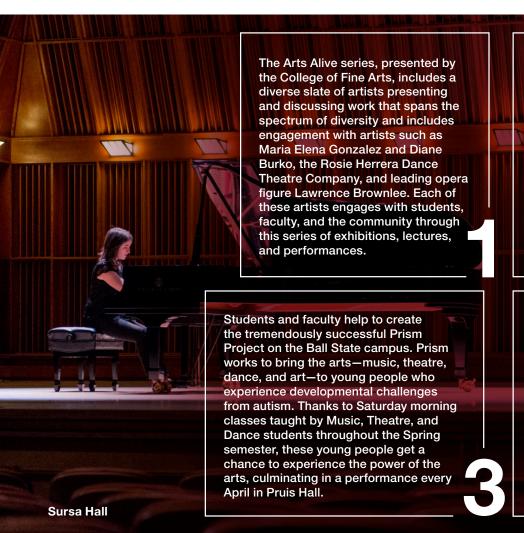
The College of Fine Arts (CFA) empowers our community to be creative as thinkers, citizens, and problem solvers. Students experience a distinctive education with nationally-recognized faculty members and staff, high-profile alumni, and curricula and programming that focuses on collaboration, empathy, inclusion, and hard work. We prepare them for their futures and career paths in, around, and beyond the arts.

CFA continues to work to identify barriers to student retention. Aligning our recruitment efforts and scholarship funds with our goal of increasing underrepresented minorities has yielded a modest improvement with additional efforts at the unit level, including the Alumni Ambassadors programs in the Department of Theatre and Dance, which matches diverse alumni with prospective students to assist them in preparation for the audition and interview season.

Enrollments have also begun to stabilize post-pandemic; we have even increased in the following majors: Art Education, Visual Arts/Animation, Music Education, and Graduate Programs in Music, including the online master's degree in Music Education. This retention and enrollment data is one of the data points used to inform our work on curricula changes and enhancements, resulting in the college investing in a new position, Director of Student Success, which will lead CFA's efforts in increasing student success, building partnerships across campus offices, and leading alumni mentorship partnerships with the Alumni Association.

Ball State has some of the state's finest venues for the performing and visual arts. Clustered in the heart of campus, these facilities-staffed by caring and committed professionals—become a second home to students while studying at Ball State. They are often cited as the

safe and inviting space they sought when arriving on campus. The facilities include the David Owsley Museum of Art, the Ned and Gloria Griner Art Gallery, Sursa Performance Hall, Emens Auditorium, and the new Brown Family Amphitheater. which will be an outdoor space for use by student organizations, CFA guest artists, and the greater Muncie and East Central Indiana communities. CFA also anticipates new and improved venues for the Department of Theatre and Dance and School of Music as the state legislature recently approved capital improvements to the Arts and Communication and Hargreaves Music Buildings. The University has also committed to a public-private partnership that will create a new performing arts center at the entrance to The Village, the commercial district adjacent to campus.



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 will extend these efforts to students and teachers from surrounding districts and counties throughout the region. Over the past year, these programs included 1,080 student and teacher participants in 29 groups from 18 schools and two homeschool groups.

The School of Art's Saturday Art Classes have experienced growth in recent years, almost doubling attendance. A recent theme of the classes was "Beauty Around Us: Art About the Environment." Student teachers design six Saturdays of lessons, focusing on how artists are inspired by nature and the spaces around them. They now work in eight visual arts classrooms every Saturday morning, with 15-22 kids per room ranging from first to sixth grade.



## **College of Health**

The <u>College of Health (COH)</u> 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.

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 the \$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 state-of-the-art classrooms, laboratories, offices, simulation labs/suites, and clinical spaces.

The Interprofessional Community Clinic provides East Central Indiana and beyond with a variety of services featuring Audiology, Counseling Practicum, Speech-Language clinics, and the Healthy Lifestyle Center. In 2021, it partnered with the Delaware County Health Department to serve as a COVID-19 vaccine clinic. These offerings provide immersive and rewarding educational experiences for students to focus on interprofessional collaboration. In addition to services provided within the Clinic, students conduct health assessments at neighborhood and other community events. All services are provided by our students under the supervision of licensed professionals.

Ball State's Doctorate in Audiology is the country's oldest existing four-year program, and the Bachelor of Social Work program is the oldest and largest accredited undergraduate program in Indiana.

Faculty in COH's departments have attracted competitive federal funding, such as grants from the National Institutes of Health, the 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 Nursing 24th in their 2023 "Best Online Programs" in the country.

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.

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

Students in the Interprofessional Community Clinics deliver more than 13,000 hours of speech pathology, audiology, and counseling services, as well as healthy lifestyle coaching to 2,300 community residents annually.



# 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 a new Foundational Sciences Building that opened in Fall 2021. Housing the departments of Biology and Chemistry, this five-story, over 200,000-square-foot structure 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 soon Environment, Geology, and Natural Resources, are underway and will be completed in 2023. The new facilities will include a weather lab, green roofs, and state-of-the-art classrooms.

Students of all majors 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.

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.

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.

Ball State's Field Station and Environmental Education Center, comprised of 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 towards 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.

Partnering with Old National Bank in Indianapolis, 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

## **Teachers College**

Teachers College (TC) is committed to excellence and equity 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. In 2019–2020, Ball State University was the largest provider of teacher preparation candidates in Indiana with 274 program completers. More than 96% 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 nine years, the project has garnered nearly \$2.5 million in support from the Indiana Department of Education, Ball Brothers Foundation, and the United Way of Delaware, Henry & Randolph Counties.

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 2025.

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.

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.

A \$1.45 million commitment from a Ball State University alumna and her husband represents the largest single gift in the history of Teachers College. Michelle and Jim Ryan have established the Michelle A. and James T. Ryan Family Scholarship, the Ryan Family Navigators Program, and the Ryan Fellowship for Community Engaged Teacher Preparation. The initiatives assist students with diverse and economically-challenged backgrounds by providing them with financial assistance and comprehensive services.



## **University College**

<u>University College</u> 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 & 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. Firstyear 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 program, 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, selfreflection, assessments, and personal exploration, students build upon their strengths to deepen their learning and ability to thrive.



### **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, 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.

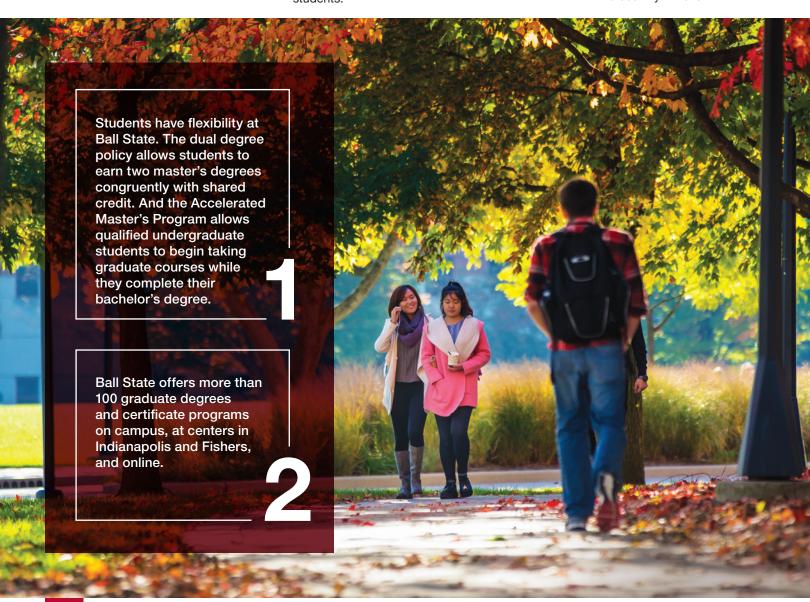
The problems facing society require new knowledge and new ways of using existing knowledge. To meet these challenges, the University provides, through its graduate programs, an atmosphere that fosters scholarship and creative activity. The Graduate School promotes student success in a variety of ways: providing a thorough orientation for new students, constantly examining graduate curriculum and policies via the Graduate Education Committee (GEC), and offering support through our Graduate Student Wellness Initiative and Pathways programs.

Ball State's Fall 2022 graduate enrollment was 5,371. 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 Behavioral Analysis, for those who help children and adults on the autism spectrum and related developmental disabilities, has shown phenomenal growth in the past five years and currently enrolls over 2,000 students.

We have also recently partnered with Coursera to offer our Master of Data Science and Master of Computer Science 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, such as:

- U.S. News & World Report's 2023
   Best Online Programs ranked six of our programs in the Top 25:
   Information and Communication Sciences (12th), Special Education (7th), Curriculum and Educational Technology (12th), Educational Administration and Supervision (12th), MBA (19th), and Nursing (24th).
- DesignIntelligence ranked the Landscape Architecture program 12th in the country in 2019.



# Division of Online and Strategic Learning

The <u>Division of Online and Strategic</u>
<u>Learning (DOSL)</u> 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 an online graduate enrollment that puts it into the largest 4% 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, toward pride in the Ball State brand and a commitment to lifelong learning.

Ball State has earned top rankings from *U.S. News & World Report* since it started ranking online program in 2013. Ball State Online programs recognized for 2021 include Curriculum and Instruction (sixth), Educational Administration (15th), and MBA and Nursing (tie for 17th).

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



## Office of Immersive Learning

According to the <u>Ball State strategic plan</u>, immersive learning is one of four high-impact practice activities students should take before graduation. 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 diversity and cultural 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 2019–2020, Ball State hosted more than 430 international students and scholars from approximately 60 countries. From

orientation to cultural acclimation, International Services facilitates students' and scholars' experiences at Ball State.

The Office of Study Abroad oversees programs that provide a myriad of 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 atrisk 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.



### **Finances**

The University has a long history of fiscal responsibility. For more than five years, notwithstanding the impact of the pandemic on enrollment state appropriations, the University produced positive operating margins every year. As a result of this record of performance, the University has created a pool of resources that is used to invest in strategic priorities.

For fiscal year 2024, the University is budgeting \$372 million in general fund revenues and expenses. One measure of institutional financial health is the expendable financial resources to operations ratio, which measures the ability of the University to cover annual operating expenses with expendable resources. This ratio was 1.15 to 1 as of June 30, 2022. The University has exceeded like rated institutions in this measure for more than five years.

#### Construction

The State of Indiana and the University has significantly invested in the campus physical infrastructure, since 2015, the University has completed, started construction on, or approved to begin \$621 million in projects. These projects have allowed the University to maintain its beautiful campus and invest in strategic priorities, including:

#### In Progress

- Cooper Science Renovation, \$59.9 million
- 2. North Campus Renovation, \$81.6 million

#### Completed

- Health Professions Building, \$62.5 million
- Foundational Sciences Building, \$87.5 million
- North Residential and Dining, \$150 million
- 4. Multicultural Center, \$4 million
- 5. Geothermal Conversion, \$83 million



## **University Enrollment**

Ball State University's total enrollment for Fall 2022 of approximately 20,000 has exceeded pandemic-adjusted projections, with 13,498 attending on campus. Students come from every state, 78 countries, and every Indiana county. Out-of-state students make up about 20% of enrollment, and students from traditionally underrepresented populations comprise more than 19%.

Our off-campus enrollment is 5,040 students. The Strategic Enrollment Plan guides us as we continue to enroll and retain a highly qualified and diverse student population. This includes a new policy to make submitting standardized test scores optional for undergraduate admission, resulting in 2,232 test optional new freshman enrolled, representing 64% of the class. The increase in the diversity of our freshman class is evidence of how our test optional policy removes an unwarranted barrier for some bright, ambitious students.

The profile of the Ball State Class of 2026 (3,464 full-time students) included 38% men and 62% women; 25% diversity (African American, Asian, Hispanic, Native American, Pacific Islander, and two or more races); an average SAT score of 1177; an average high school

GPA of 3.57; and 65% of the class having earned the Academic Honors Diploma.

The University's four-year graduate rate exceeds the state average. In addition, the University is closing the achievement gap. Ball State exceeds state averages with on-time graduation rates for African American, Hispanic, and low-income students

#### **Enrollment for Fall 2022**

- 19,777 total enrollment
- 13,498 undergraduate and graduate students enrolled on campus
- 3,460 freshmen enrolled
- 65% earned the Academic Honors Diploma
- Average SAT score 1177
- Average GPA 3.57
- 24% are from underrepresented populations

Ball State also administers nearly \$300 million in merit- and need-based aid each year.

#### **Retention and Graduation Rates**

The retention rate for Ball State students is 73%, with a four-year graduation rate of 50%.

#### **Enrollment by College**

(includes associate, bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees by highest degree being pursued)

Architecture and Planning 1,10	
Miller College of Business 2,5	55
College of Communication, Information, and Media1,5	10
College of Fine Arts1,45	50
College of Health2,72	27
College of Sciences and Humanities4,12	22
Teachers College4,78	33

#### Information on Career Outcomes

Students who graduated in May 2022 reported the following placement outcomes:

- 94% career placement rate
- 83% employed in their field of study
- 78% work in Indiana



## **Athletics**

Ball State sports programs continued to make excellence routine during the 2022-23 athletic year, exemplified by ten different programs participating in national postseason competition. In addition, for the first time since 2003, the Cardinals earned the prestigious Jacoby Trophy, awarded annually to the Mid-American Conference (MAC) school whose women's teams finish first in the league's cumulative standings.

The success was not limited to the women, however, as Ball State's men's teams finished second in the race for the Reese Trophy, presented annually to the league's topperforming men's department. It was the first 1-2 finish for the Cardinals in the MAC trophy hunt since 2001.

Ball State's accomplishments were bolstered by shares of regular-season conference titles in women's volleyball, gymnastics, and men's volleyball. Baseball, women's tennis, and outdoor track & field all won their respective MAC championships, while men's golf and women's basketball advanced to postseason competition. The Cardinals sent individual student-athletes to NCAA competitions in swimming & diving, as well as indoor and outdoor track & field.

While championship teams garnered headlines, it was a notable year on the hardwood for the Cardinals thanks to a pair of 20-win seasons by the Ball State basketball programs. Their play brought excitement and plenty of fans to Worthen Arena, as they combined for a 27-3 record at home. Their 46 wins on the year were the second-best combined total in school history, trailing only the 47 wins in 2001-02. The women's team (26-9) earned a berth to the WNIT for the 11th time since 2002, while the men (20-12) just missed a postseason bid of their own.

Ball State's first NCAA appearance came in the Fall when women's volleyball earned an at-large bid into the NCAA Tournament, marking its third NCAA trip in the last four years. Soccer also came tantalizingly close to an NCAA bid, advancing to the championship match of the MAC Tournamen

On the gridiron, football may have finished the year 5-7, but it picked up another win in the Bronze Stalk rivalry game versus Northern Illinois and sent three defensive backs into the NFL, including Nic Jones, who was drafted by the Kansas City Chiefs.

The Winter saw gymnastics tally nine of the ten highest team scores in program history, claim a share of the program's first-ever MAC regular season championship, and earn a team berth into the NCAA Regionals for just the second time. Suki Pfister was one of five Ball State individuals to compete in the second round of NCAA Regionals and became the first WCGA All-American in school history.

It was also a banner year for the women's track & field program, which followed a runner-up finish at the MAC Indoor Championship by claiming its first MAC Outdoor Championship title since 2001. The program saw Charity Griffith earn All-American honors at the 2023 NCAA Indoor Track & Field Championships, while Griffith—who claimed the national high jump championship—and Jenelle Rogers garnered All-American accolades at the NCAA Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

Men's golf swung its way to a second-place finish at the MAC Championship and earned a spot in the first-ever National Golf Invitational, where sophomore Kash Bellar earned his first tournament championship as the first winner of the inaugural NGI. The same week Bellar won the NGI, women's tennis competed in its third straight NCAA Tournament after winning its second consecutive MAC Tournament title.

The Spring also saw the Cardinals baseball team slam its way to the MAC Tournament title and earn an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament for the first time since 2006.

No matter the season, the Cardinals were excellent—raising a standard and lifting expectations.



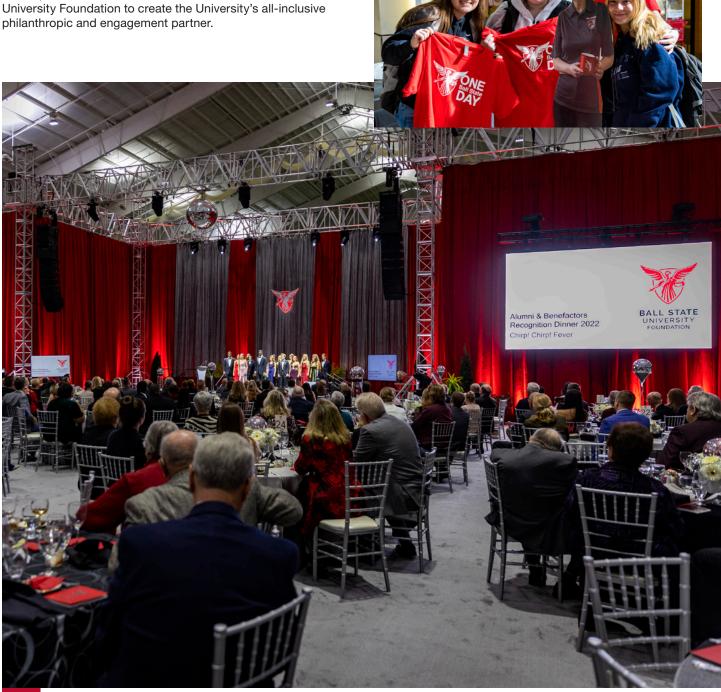
## THE FOUNDATION

Since the establishment of the <u>Ball State University Foundation</u> in 1951, generous alumni and friends have contributed more than \$597 million through the Foundation to benefit Ball State students, enhance their learning experiences, and boost their future careers. In fiscal year 2022, the Foundation secured more than \$44 million in commitments, which accounted for the largest fundraising year on record, and contributed to a current endowment balance of more than \$240 million.

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 24-time 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 Foundation is in the silent phase of a comprehensive fundraising campaign with a target goal of \$300 million.



## THE STATE

## **About Muncie, Indiana**

With a population of about 70,000, <u>Muncie</u> 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, 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.

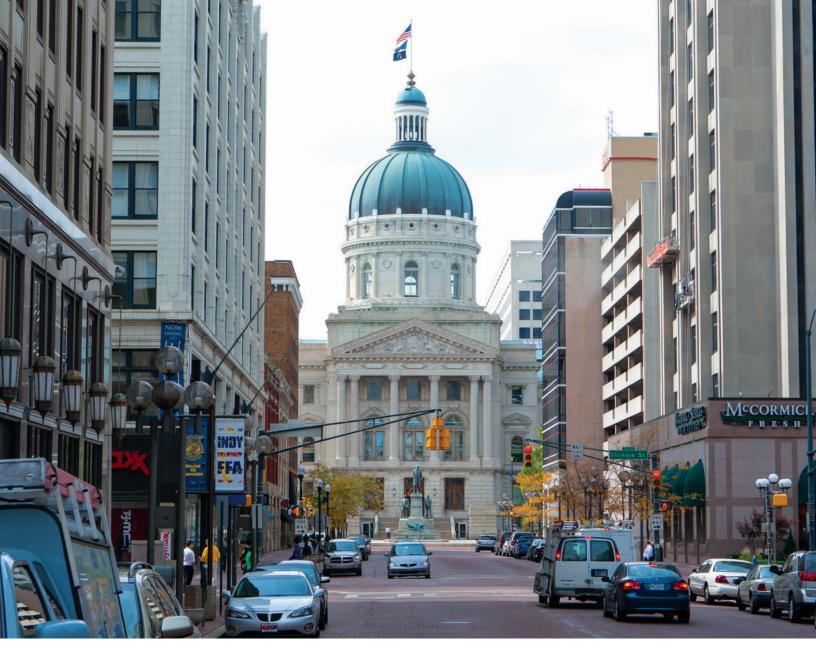
For outdoor enthusiasts, Prairie Creek Reservoir is a 1,252-acre man-made lake surrounded by 3,000 acres of rolling hills. The lake is stocked with a variety of fish. Boat docks are available, and a beach provides a popular summer swimming spot. Residents also have easy access to big cities. Muncie is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











## **Indianapolis**

Indianapolis, the capital of Indiana, is the 12th-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 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.



