

RANKINGS AND FACTS

The University of Iowa is among the top public research institutions in the nation — offering a world-class education in over 200 areas of study. From the most prestigious creative writing program in the United States to a nationally recognized academic medical center, our balanced excellence in the arts and sciences encourages innovation and creative exploration across the disciplines.



32,000+

students
enrolled in
fall 2025



15:1

student-to-
faculty ratio



600+

student
organizations



311,000+

alumni living and
working in 141
countries and all
99 Iowa counties



45+

Pulitzer Prize
winners among
UI faculty
and alumni



20

NCAA
Division 1
athletic teams

Most notable U.S. News & World Report rankings

#49 Best public university

#1 Public university for writing
across the disciplines

#1 Hospital in Iowa for 36 years

#5 Public nursing program

#21 Best public business program

21 Graduate programs ranked
among the top 25 in the nation

Firsts

1st institution of higher education
in the state of Iowa (1847)

1st public university to admit men
and women on an equal basis (1860)

1st college of law west of the
Mississippi (1868)

1st coeducational medical
school (1870)

1st institution to award MFA
degrees (1940)

Research

\$533.7 million raised in external
research funding in FY 2025

2,300+ projects secured research
funding in FY 2025

150+ centers and institutes devoted
to research and discovery

1 in 3 undergraduate students
participate in research

Around Campus

Top 10 college town (USA Today)

Iowa City is one of 53 UNESCO
Cities of Literature in the world,
and one of only two in the U.S.

50+ parks, natural areas, and
open spaces surrounding campus

1,700-acre, bicycle-friendly main
campus with 18 major bus routes

Outcomes and Impact

91% first-year retention rate

96% placement rate: employed/
continuing education/not seeking
job within six months of graduation

4,300+ employers have hired Iowa
graduates in the past three years

On Money's 2025 Best Colleges list,
recognized for quality and affordability