About Temple University


Our 17 schools and colleges, eight campuses, hundreds of degree programs and more than 38,000 students combine to create one of the nation’s most comprehensive and diverse learning environments. In neighborhoods, across disciplines and on a global stage, members of the Temple community are making things happen.

Mission Statement

Temple University is a national center of excellence in teaching and research with an international presence.

Temple’s talented faculty and its broad curriculum of approximately 400 academic programs provide superior educational opportunities for academically talented and highly motivated students, without regard to their status or station in life. Temple’s richly diverse student population and the dramatic growth of Temple’s residential campus community of student scholars enrich the educational and extracurricular life of all Temple’s people.

While the University especially serves students from Greater Philadelphia, it is enlivened by a rapidly increasing number of students from across Pennsylvania, throughout the nation, and around the world. Temple maintains an international presence with campuses in Tokyo and Rome and prestigious programs in London, Beijing, and six other locations worldwide.

A long-time leader in professional education, Temple prepares the largest body of practitioners in Pennsylvania and is among the nation’s largest educators in the combined fields of medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, podiatry and law. In addition, Temple offers more than five dozen doctoral and more than 150 master’s degree programs that contribute to research and scholarship. Temple seeks to create new knowledge that improves the human condition and uplifts the human spirit. To achieve this goal, Temple maintains its commitment to recruiting, retaining, and supporting outstanding faculty that prize diversity of thought, excel in scholarly endeavors, and support the aspirations of capable students.

Temple University’s Aspirations for a New Century

Striving to fulfill its mission in this new century, Temple will continue to provide access to superior education for committed and capable students of all backgrounds and to develop its main campus as a residential community of student scholars. A new generation of exceptionally qualified and talented faculty will be recruited to join the University’s current roster of fine teacher-scholars.

Temple will enhance existing centers of academic excellence, advance additional targeted programs to national leadership, broaden knowledge through research and creative endeavors for the benefit of society, and expand the Honors program and other special learning opportunities for undergraduates.

The creation and renovation of facilities will support research and creative work, advance instruction and marshal knowledge to enhance the quality of life for Temple’s fellow citizens in North Philadelphia. The University will develop stronger bonds with its alumni, whose success embodies the transformational power of a Temple education.

Accreditation

Temple University is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation. Additionally, Temple has numerous academic programs accredited or reviewed by external professional organizations, as noted in each school and college’s section of this Bulletin as well as in the Temple University Fact Book (http://temple.edu/about/public-information/facts-about-temple).

President

Temple’s president is the public face of the University and is responsible for supporting and managing all of its academic, administrative and financial operations. The President works closely with faculty, administrators, trustees, students and alumni to set the university’s goals and uphold its mission. Learn more about the president of Temple University (https://www.temple.edu/about/president).

Trustees

The Board of Trustees is Temple’s governing body, responsible for the educational mission and fiscal policies of the university. The trustees also are responsible for electing the university president, adopting an annual plan of financial operation and establishing degrees to be awarded. Learn more about the Board of Trustees (https://www.temple.edu/about/board-trustees).

History

In 1884, Reverend Russell Conwell began tutoring a young man who could only study at night because of his job. It wasn’t long before Conwell was teaching dozens of students in similar circumstances. He soon convinced the members of his congregation and others in the community to start “an educational institution intended primarily for the benefit of working men.” In 1888, “The Temple College” received a charter of incorporation.
The university has since evolved into one of the nation's premier institutions for higher education. Learn more about Temple's history (https://www.temple.edu/about/history-traditions).

**Community**

Temple's ties to its community are strong and deep, dating back to its founding in 1888 as an institution that served working people in the local community. Today, the university has not strayed from its original mission and remains a beacon of public service, social activism and community engagement. Learn more about Temple's community (https://www.temple.edu/about/government-community).

**Momentum**

Temple's academic rankings ascent, top faculty recruitment and progressive enrollment paths have made the university one of the fastest up-and-coming institutions in the country. With growing research expenditures and a booming entrepreneurial culture, Temple's surge is only beginning. Learn more about Temple's momentum (https://www.temple.edu/about/temple-momentum).

**Temple Health**

Temple Health encompasses all of the health, education and research activities carried out by the affiliates of the nationally ranked Temple University Health System and Lewis Katz School of Medicine. Learn more about Temple Health (https://www.temple.edu/about/temple-health).

**News and Media**

Temple believes in communicating openly and often with its students, faculty, staff and community. The university offers a number of different ways to stay up to date with news and advancement from the Temple community. Learn more about Temple news and media (https://www.temple.edu/about/news-media).

**Offices**

Operating a large, complex institution like Temple involves many people in many fields working together. The university's many offices and departments stand ready to help you. Learn more about Temple's offices (https://www.temple.edu/about/offices).

**Public Information**

It is Temple's policy to provide convenient and timely access to all public information about the university and its policies, budget, faculty and students. Through voluntary participation, you can also view our College Portrait (http://www.voluntarysystem.org/PA/TU), which presents information about Temple in a standard, easy-to-read format. Find out more about Temple's public information (https://www.temple.edu/about/public-information).

**Campus Development**

Temple is investing millions of dollars into new and upgraded facilities as part of the Visualize Temple (https://news.temple.edu/topics/visualize-temple) campus plan and the complementary Verdant Temple (https://campusoperations.temple.edu/sites/campusoperations/files/file_downloads/VERDANTTEMPLEFinalRevisedReducedSizeOct2015.pdf) landscaping plan. Temple's vibrant residential campus continues to evolve, with exciting new academic and recreation spaces, as well as significant renovations and upgrades. Learn more about Temple's changing campus (https://www.temple.edu/about/campus-development).