

Drake University

Des Moines, IA

Niche: Mid-sized school with city access but compact campus. Students seeking a job in the insurance field (specifically as an actuary) or in political science (home to the Iowa Caucuses) will have ample real world experience.

5 Things to Remember
1. Des Moines is the home of many major companies, specifically in the insurance industry. The city is clean, safe, and modern without being an overwhelming metropolis. There are more internship opportunities than students seeking them (2018).
2. Drake Relays (2018) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Occur in late April right before finals- Weeklong olympic track qualifying events- Basically turns the whole town into a weeklong party- their homecoming
3. One of the top-rated Actuarial Science Program in the country (2018).
4. STEM - Science, Technology, Education , and Mathematics (despite the new STEM building, they do not have Engineering offerings) (2018)
5. Des Moines is actually a great place to study politics due to being the capital city where the caucuses start the elections (2024) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- may do as many as 10 different internships- Every presidential candidate will come through this campus- Some of the highest voter registration and voter turnout rates for college campuses- Not limited to students majoring/studying politics- If you spend 4 years at Drake, you are guaranteed to experience a presidential election cycle while on campus

ADDRESS: 2507 University Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50311 **WEBSITE:** www.drake.edu

PHONE: Main University Line: 515-271-2011 or 1-800-44DRAKE; Office of Admission (515) 271-3181

DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS: Dr. Joel A. Johnson, Dean of Admission

ILLINOIS/CHICAGOLAND REP:

- Quad Cities - **Madi Fear**, madison.fear@drake.edu

SETTING: Urban

TYPE: Private, non-religious, coed

MALE TO FEMALE RATIO: 38% male / 62% female

ENROLLMENT): 4,884 total students, 2,954 undergraduate and 1,930 graduate

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS:

- Free application
- Average GPA = 3.68
- Drake has been test optional for some time now dating back to before the COVID-19 pandemic.
For those that submit test scores:
 - ACT = 27 (median score), 24 - 31 (mid-50% range)
 - SAT = 1260 (median score), 1120 - 1370 (mid-50% range)
- Class rank (of those reporting):
 - 68% graduated in the top 25% of their class
 - 90% graduated in the top 50% of their class

DIVERSITY %: 25% ethnically diverse, geographic diversity - 49 states & 26 countries represented

FIRST-GEN %: 20%

PELL ELIGIBLE %: 22%

FRESHMAN TO SOPHOMORE RETENTION %: 84%

GRADUATION RATE % (4,5 & 6 year if available):

- 4yr = 67% (86% for *students who began and completed their bachelor's degree at Drake*)
- 5yr = 73%
- 6yr = 79% ([*national average = 64%*](#))

SPECIALTY PROGRAM ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS: At this time, Drake does not have any specialty program admission requirements. When a student is admitted, they are admitted into the university. Satisfactory academic progress (can vary by major) is needed to advance toward degree requirements.

HIGH SCHOOL COURSE REQUIREMENTS/RECOMMENDATIONS: College prep curriculum is recommended for success at Drake:

- 4 years of English
- 3 years of Math, Science, & Social Sciences (History)
- 2 years of World Language is encouraged but not required for admission

When available, students should consider rigorous coursework aligned to their individual academic ability (i.e. advanced, honors, IB, AP, dual enrollment).

TUITION & FEES, BOARD & ROOM: Drake is a private school so the cost is the same for in-state & out-of-state students:

Tuition	\$51,444
Room & Meals	\$12,452
Fees	\$1,196
TOTAL	\$65,092 (After financial aid, average net direct costs = \$25,409)

4-year Tuition guarantee program

100% of students get a minimum scholarship of \$26,000 plus departmental scholarship options

OUTSTANDING MAJORS (3-7): Drake University is made up of 7 colleges including a law school and offers over 100 academic majors. Outstanding majors in alphabetical order include:

- Accounting
- Actuarial Science
- Advertising
- Artificial Intelligence
- Biology
- Business
- Computer Science
- Data Analytics
- Education (Elementary or Secondary)
 - Three & Teach program (accelerated degree program)
- Finance
- Health Science
- Journalism
- Law (pre-professional)
- Law, Politics, & Society
- Marketing
- Magazine and Brand Media
- Occupational Therapy (pre-professional)
- Pharmacy (pre-professional)
- Psychology
- Public Relations
- Strategic Political Communication
- Zoo & Conservation Science

Bright College Associates Degree Program

- about 40 students
- Take a series of 12-credit seminars as a cohort for 2 years
- Project based learning of interdisciplinary studies
- Practicum project included
- 60-70% of students will go on to complete their bachelor's degree at Drake

Journalism school (SJMC)

- classes are capped at 20
- Nearly 100% of students will do an internship - more opportunities available than students to fill them
- Hands on experience starting freshman year
- Public Relations majors will have a professional portfolio by graduation
- Dot dash Meredith is the world's largest magazine publisher and is less than a mile away
- Nearly 100% job placement rate over the past 7 years
- About 80% will double major

College of Pharmacy & Health Sciences

- New nursing program coming
- Everyone starts in Health Sciences major and can declare a pre-professional pathway
- All students are required to do some version of experiential learning

Music, Art, Theater and Arts & Sciences

- J-term will take 20 or so theater students to New York or London for exclusive training options and programs
- 50% will double major

MISCELLANEOUS (NEW DEVELOPMENTS, UNIQUE PROGRAMS OR FEATURES):

- [Drake University Athletics](#) compete at the NCAA Division I level and offer 16 men's & women's sports. Drake is one of four Division I institutions in the state of Iowa and the ONLY private Division I institution in the state.
 - 380 of the 3000 undergraduate students on campus are athletes
 - football is a "non-scholarship" sport
- Drake's [Crew Scholars Program](#) is an academic excellence and leadership development program for incoming students of color. The program has [proven successful in increasing students of color retention and graduation rates](#) (both surpassing rates for any other group of non-Crew Drake students of any racial or ethnic demographic).
- Drake offers a number of [centers and institutes](#) that provide experiential learning opportunities for students across a number of academic disciplines.
- May 2024, Drake University earned its first [Missouri Valley Conference All-Sports Championship](#) in school history, becoming just the second private institution in MVC history to earn the honor (and first private institution in 63 years).
- Opening January 2025, [Johansen Student Center](#) which will house a number of student-focused entities including Drake's first dedicated intercultural space, The Sammons Intercultural Center.

5 full time therapists on staff with free unlimited sessions

Mini-bus travels around campus to provide free safe rides

About 150 student organizations

- 7 fraternities and 4 sororities

****The opinions expressed in this document are those of the counselor who wrote these notes. Readers are welcome to use the written feedback as a guide, but are encouraged to do their own research, talk with college/university staff, and visit the schools themselves to formulate their own opinions.*