General Information

WKU AT A GLANCE

Profile of Western Kentucky University
Academic Year 2019/20

Founded: 1906
Location: Bowling Green, Kentucky
Carnegie Classification: Doctoral/Professional Universities
Highest Degree Offered: Doctorate

WKU at a Glance

Western Kentucky University is part of the public Kentucky postsecondary education system, which includes eight four-year institutions and a community and technical college system comprised of 16 institutions. By statute, Western Kentucky University is governed by its Board of Regents. The Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education (CPE) serves as a coordinating board for the system.

WKU’s undergraduate division provides four-year programs leading to the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and Bachelor of Social Work degrees. Ninety-three academic majors that lead to the baccalaureate degree and 77 academic minors are available. A number of professional and pre-professional advising tracks provide additional options.

Six associate degree programs are also offered leading to the Associate of Arts, Associate of Interdisciplinary Studies, Associate of Science, and Associate of Science in Nursing degrees. Twenty-one undergraduate certificate programs are also offered.

The Graduate School at WKU offers graduate education in 92 degree and certificate programs. The university confers the Master of Accountancy, Master of Arts, Master of Arts in Education, Master of Arts in Teaching, Master of Business Administration, Master of Fine Arts, Master of Health Administration, Master of Music, Master of Public Administration, Master of Public Health, Master of Science, Master of Science in Nursing, Master of Social Work, Specialist in Education, Doctor of Education, Doctor of Nursing Practice, Doctor of Physical Therapy, and Doctor of Psychology. WKU also offers non-degree Rank I and II and certification-only teacher education programs.

Mission

Western Kentucky University (WKU) prepares students of all backgrounds to be productive, engaged, and socially responsible citizen-leaders of a global society. The University provides research, service and lifelong learning opportunities for its students, faculty, and other constituents. WKU enriches the quality of life for those within its reach.
WKU’s GREEN HIGHLIGHTS

Western Kentucky University earned a Silver rating from The Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education through their Sustainability Tracking, Assessment, and Rating System (STARS).

WKU was listed as a Cool School by the Sierra Club for the second year in a row, ranking #150 out of 269 schools.

For the tenth year in a row, WKU was profiled in Princeton Review’s Guide to Green Colleges. WKU received this award for demonstrating a strong commitment to sustainability in academic offerings, campus infrastructure, activities, and career preparation.

Statement of Purpose

WKU is engaged in internationally acclaimed, student-and-learning-centered academic programs. The WKU experience occurs on several unique campus environments and through an overarching spirit which attracts an intellectually exciting and diverse family of the nation's best students. WKU provides students of all backgrounds with rigorous academic programs in education, the liberal arts and sciences, the health sciences, and business, with emphasis at the baccalaureate and masters levels, complemented by relevant associate and doctoral level programs. The University places a premium on student learning; it is committed to ensuring value in a holistic learning experience through high standards for student achievement and conduct, a strong faculty, technological innovation, personalized attention, broad access, and public accountability for actions and outcomes. Out-of-the-classroom and study abroad experiences enhance learning, promote diversity, and contribute to the success of students.

The University encourages engaged research and public service in support of economic development, quality of life, and improvement of education at all levels. WKU faculty contribute to the identification and solution of key social, economic, scientific, health, and environmental problems. An inspiring and talented faculty promotes a high level of creative activity and diverse scholarship and an entrepreneurial attitude designed to expand knowledge, improve instruction, increase learning, and provide applied solutions toward high-quality service to the state and nation.

The University directly supports its constituents in its designated service areas of Kentucky with professional and technical expertise, cultural enrichment, and educational assistance.

Maintaining a campus of distinctive history and character, WKU sustains a student population of increasing quality. It fulfills its responsibility for access through its main and regional campuses, and through extensive distance learning opportunities. WKU recognizes that its mission continues to evolve in response to regional, national, and global changes, and the need for lifelong learning.
University Leadership

2019/20

**Board of Regents:** Comprised of eight members appointed by the governor, as well as peer-elected faculty, staff, and student representatives. Governor-appointed members can serve up to two six-year terms, faculty and staff representatives serve three-year terms, and the student representative—who is the President of the Student Government Association—is elected to a one-year term.

**WKU President’s Cabinet:** Comprised of the president and seven senior administrators, the President’s Cabinet determines University policy and provides strategic leadership and oversight of institutional functions.

Federal & State Officials Representing Bowling Green

**Hon. Matt Bevin,** *Governor*

**Hon. Mitch McConnell,** *United States Senate Majority Leader*

**Hon. Rand Paul,** *United States Senator*

**Hon. Brett Guthrie,** *U.S. Representative, Kentucky’s 2nd Congressional District*

**Hon. Mike Wilson,** *Kentucky Senator, District 32*

**Hon. Steve Sheldon,** *Kentucky House of Representatives, District 17*

**Hon. Patti Minter,** *Kentucky House of Representatives, District 20*

Western Kentucky University Board of Regents

**Dr. Phillip Bale**

**Ms. Linda Ball**

**Mr. David Brinkley,** *Secretary*

**Dr. Claus Ernst,** *Faculty Regent*

**Mr. Will Harris,** *Student Regent*

**Ms. Julie Harris Hinson**

**Mr. Frederick Higdon,** *Vice Chair*

**Mr. Gillard Johnson III,** *Chair*

**Mr. Jason McKinney**

**Mr. George Nichols III**

**Mr. J. David Porter**
President’s Cabinet

Dr. Timothy C. Caboni, President
Dr. Lynne Holland, Assistant Vice President, Dean of Students
Ms. Susan Howarth, Executive Vice President for Strategy, Operations and Finance
Mr. Brian Kuster, Vice President for Enrollment and Student Experience
Dr. Cheryl Stevens, Acting Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs
Mr. Todd Stewart, Director of Athletics
Ms. Amanda Trabue, Vice President for Philanthropy and Alumni Engagement
Ms. Deborah Wilkins, General Counsel

University Deans

Dr. Gregory Arbuckle (Interim), Ogden College of Science and Engineering
Dr. Tania Basta, College of Health and Human Services
Dr. Cheryl Davis (Interim), The Graduate School
Ms. Susann deVries, University Libraries
Dr. Corinne Murphy, College of Education and Behavioral Sciences
Dr. Christopher Shook, Gordon Ford College of Business
Dr. Lawrence Snyder, Potter College of Arts & Letters
General Information

DEGREES & PROGRAMS OFFERED

Undergraduate Majors
Fall 2018

1. Nursing, B.S.N. (#586) 1,092
2. Management, B.S. (#723) 599
3. Biology (Minor Required), B.S. (#617) 551
4. Elementary Education, B.S. (#527) 510
5. Interdisciplinary Studies, B.S.I.S. (#558) 426
6. Psychology, A.B. (#760) 421
7. Exercise Science, B.S. (#554) 410
8. Marketing, B.S. (#720) 385
9. Criminology, A.B. (#627) 333
10. Accounting, B.S. (#602) 321

Undergraduate Offerings

Certificates
- Advanced Professionalism
- Applied Data Analytics
- Brewing & Distilling Arts & Sciences
- Deaf Studies
- Early Childhood Education Director
- Emergency Management Disaster Science
- Environmental & Occupational Health Science
- Financial Management
- Financial Planning
- Health Informatics
- Interactive Training Design
- Land Surveying
- Long-Term Care Administration
- Organizational Leadership
- Public Health
- Real Estate
- Strategic Sport Communication
- User Experience
- Worksite Health Promotion

Associate of Arts
- Business

Associate of Interdisciplinary Studies

Associate of Science
- Agricultural Technology & Management
- Dental Hygiene

Associate of Science in Nursing
Undergraduate Offerings (continued)

**Bachelor of Arts**
- Advertising
- Anthropology
- Arabic
- Art History
- Asian Religions & Cultures
- Broadcasting
- Chinese
- Communication Studies
- Computer Animation
- Corporate & Organizational Communication
- Criminology
- Dance
- Diversity & Community Studies
- Economics
- English
- English for Secondary Teachers
- Film
- History
- Honors Self-Designed Studies
- International Affairs
- Journalism
- Mathematics
- Music
- Paralegal Studies
- Philosophy
- Photojournalism
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Public Relations
- Religious Studies
- Social Studies
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Theatre
- Visual Studies

**Bachelor of Fine Arts**
- Performing Arts
- Visual Arts

**Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies**

**Bachelor of Music**

**Bachelor of Science**
- Accounting
- Agriculture
- Architectural Science
- Biochemistry
- Biology
- Business Data Analytics
- Business Economics
- Chemistry
- Civil Engineering
- Communication Disorders
- Computer Information Technology
- Computer Science
- Dental Hygiene
- Electrical Engineering
- Elementary Education
- Engineering Technology
- Management
- Entrepreneurship
- Environmental and Occupational Health Science
- Exercise Science
- Family & Consumer Sciences
- Finance
- Geology
- Health Care Administration
- Health Sciences
- Honors Self-Designed Studies
- Hospitality Management & Dietetics
- Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education
- Interior Design & Fashion Merchandising
- International Business
- Management
- Manufacturing Engineering Technology
- Marketing
- Mathematical Economics
- Mechanical Engineering
- Medical Laboratory Science
- Meteorology

**Bachelor of Science (continued)**
- Middle Grades Mathematics
- Middle Level Education in Social Studies & Language Arts
- Middle School Science Education
- Military Leadership
- Molecular Biotechnology
- Organizational Leadership
- Physical Education
- Physics
- Psychological Science
- Public Health
- Recreation Administration
- Science & Mathematics Education
- Special Education (LBD) and Elementary Education
- Sport Management
- Workforce Administration

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

**Bachelor of Social Work**
Graduate Offerings

Certificates
• Addictions Education
• Adult Education
• Advanced Behavior Management
• Biology
• Brewing & Distilling Arts & Sciences
• Business Core Competencies
• Business Sustainability
• Career Services
• College & Career Readiness
• Communicating in Healthcare
• Communicating in Organizations
• Dietetic Practice
• Economic Data Analytics
• Elementary Math Specialization, P-5
• Emergency Management Disaster Science
• Environmental Health & Safety
• Facility & Event Management
• Family Nurse Practitioner
• Gender & Women’s Studies
• Global Health Administration
• Health Education
• Instructional Design
• Intercollegiate Athletic Administration
• International Student Services
• Lean Sigma
• Literacy in Post-Secondary Settings
• Local Government Administration
• Measurement, Evaluation, & Research
• Nonprofit Administration
• Organizational Leadership
• Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
• Scientific Data Analytics
• Strategic Sport Communications
• Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
• Workplace Health Promotion

Master of Accountancy

Master of Arts
• Applied Economics
• Criminology
• English
• Folk Studies
• History
• Mathematics
• Organizational Communication
• Organizational Leadership
• Psychology
• Social Responsibility & Sustainable Communities
• Sociology

Master of Arts in Education
• Adult Education
• Counseling
• Elementary Education-Teacher Leaders
• Gifted Education and Talent Development
• Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education, Birth to Primary - Teacher Leaders
• Literacy Education
• Middle Grades Education-Teacher Leaders
• Secondary Education-Teacher Leaders
• Special Education-LBD - Teacher Leaders
• Special Education-MSD - Teacher Leaders
• Student Affairs in Higher Education

Master of Arts in Teaching
• Interdisciplinary Early Childhood Education, Birth to Primary - Initial Certification
• Middle Grades Education - Initial Certification
• Secondary Education - Initial Certification
• Special Education-LBD - Initial Certification

Master of Business Administration

Master of Fine Arts
• Creative Writing

Master of Health Administration

Master of Music

Master of Public Administration

Master of Public Health

Master of Science
• Agriculture
• Biology
• Chemistry
• Child and Family Studies
• Computer Science
• Engineering Technology Management
• Environmental & Occupational Health Science
• Geoscience
• Homeland Security Sciences
• Instructional Design
• Kinesiology
• Libraries, Informatics, & Technology in Education
• Mathematics
• Psychology
• Recreation & Sport Administration
• Speech-Language Pathology

Master of Science in Nursing

Master of Social Work

Specialist in Education
• Gifted Education and Talent Development
• School Psychology

Doctor of Education
• Educational Leadership

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Doctor of Physical Therapy

Doctor of Psychology
• Applied Psychology
General Information

ACCREDITATION

University Accreditations

The Southern Association of Colleges & Schools, Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)

Western Kentucky University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate, baccalaureate, master’s, specialist, and doctorate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Western Kentucky University.

Program Accreditation

Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN)
Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND)
Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC)
Association of University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA)
Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM)
Commission on Accreditation in Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE)
Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)
Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) of American Dental Association (ADA)
Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA)
Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP)
Council on Accreditation of Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Related Professions (COAPRT)
Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)
Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)

Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)
Kentucky’s Educational Professional Standards Board (EPSB)
National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
National Association of Long Term Care Administrator Boards (NAB)
National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) Commission on Accreditation
National Association of Schools of Dance (NASD) Commission on Accreditation
National Association of Schools of Music (NASM) Commission on Accreditation
National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST) Commission on Accreditation
National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)
National Environmental Health Science and Protection Accreditation (EHAC)
Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA)
The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International)
The Association of Technology, Management, and Applied Engineering (ATMAE)
### Benchmark University Comparison

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benchmark Institution</th>
<th>Fall 2018 Enrollment</th>
<th>AY 2017/18 Degrees Awarded</th>
<th>Freshman Retention Rate</th>
<th>Number of Full-Time Faculty</th>
<th>Student/Faculty Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Western Kentucky University</td>
<td>17,030 2</td>
<td>3,038 859</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>708</td>
<td>18 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Appalachian State University, NC</td>
<td>17,381</td>
<td>3,894 688</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>1,004</td>
<td>16 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Ball State University, IN</td>
<td>16,160</td>
<td>3,361 1,815</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>1,046</td>
<td>16 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Bowling Green State University, OH</td>
<td>14,858</td>
<td>2,817 893</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>744</td>
<td>18 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Central Michigan University, MI</td>
<td>16,432</td>
<td>3,777 1,663</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>754</td>
<td>20 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. East Carolina University, NC</td>
<td>23,071</td>
<td>4,953 1,411</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>1,215</td>
<td>18 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. East Tennessee State University, TN 3</td>
<td>11,268</td>
<td>2,442 628</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>799</td>
<td>16 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Florida Atlantic University, FL</td>
<td>24,569</td>
<td>5,822 1,574</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>906</td>
<td>21 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Illinois State University, IL 1</td>
<td>18,107</td>
<td>4,478 677</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>892</td>
<td>17 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Indiana State University, IN</td>
<td>10,951</td>
<td>2,021 547</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>20 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. James Madison University, VA</td>
<td>19,923</td>
<td>4,450 778</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>1,062</td>
<td>16 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Middle Tennessee State University, TN</td>
<td>19,251</td>
<td>4,002 752</td>
<td>76%</td>
<td>942</td>
<td>17 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Northern Illinois University, IL 1</td>
<td>12,788</td>
<td>3,502 1,406</td>
<td>73%</td>
<td>847</td>
<td>15 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Ohio University, OH</td>
<td>22,275</td>
<td>7,030 1,868</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>988</td>
<td>17 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Towson University, MD</td>
<td>19,818</td>
<td>4,609 906</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>903</td>
<td>17 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. University of North Carolina at Charlotte</td>
<td>24,387</td>
<td>5,305 1,571</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>1,169</td>
<td>19 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. University of North Carolina at Greensboro</td>
<td>16,641</td>
<td>3,277 812</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>842</td>
<td>17 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. University of South Alabama, AL</td>
<td>10,293</td>
<td>2,080 1,202</td>
<td>74%</td>
<td>590</td>
<td>18 to 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. University of Southern Mississippi, MS</td>
<td>11,920</td>
<td>2,369 721</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>657</td>
<td>18 to 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1Western Kentucky University benchmarks itself against 18 institutions to gauge progress toward its strategic goals. Information was obtained from each institution's 2018 Common Data Set, unless separately footnoted.
2WKU enrollment figure excludes audit-only students.
3Because a Common Data Set was unavailable, statistics were obtained from the website of the institution's Office of Institutional Research.
**General Information**

**Western Kentucky University**

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate</td>
<td>Graduate</td>
<td>Baccalaureate</td>
<td>Master’s</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17,030</td>
<td>2,426</td>
<td>3,038</td>
<td>859</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Data obtained from each institution’s 2018-2019 Common Data Set and Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education Data Tables, unless separately footnoted.
2. WKU enrollment figure excludes audit-only students.
3. Faculty and student/faculty ratio data provided by the institution’s Office of Institutional Research.