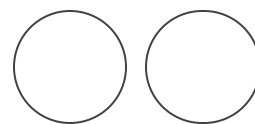# LinkedIn Top Colleges 2025: The 50 best colleges for long-term career success in the U.S.

LinkedIn News
19,407,600 followers

August 12, 2025

The decision to attend college — and where — is one of the most important financial and life choices a student and their family will ever make. A four-year bachelor's degree is a significant investment of time and money, especially as tuition costs rise and the job market shifts. For millions of Americans, the return-on-investment is worth it. Those who earn the degree can see an enduring impact on their earning potential and overall career trajectory.

And *where* they earn that degree can have an even bigger impact: graduates of top programs often land jobs sooner, build strong professional networks and advance into leadership faster. That's why it's so important for prospective students to know which programs are worth the investment.

LinkedIn's first-ever Top Colleges ranking identifies the 50 U.S. schools that best set graduates up for long-term success. The ranking is built on exclusive LinkedIn data looking at career outcomes of alumni, such as job placement rates and advancement into senior-level positions, or how many alumni held an internship during their degree or started their own company post-grad. *You can read our full methodology at the bottom of this article*.

If you're not sure a traditional degree is the right choice for you, LinkedIn editor Taylor Borden breaks down alternative paths to success (in fact, nearly one-fifth of jobs on LinkedIn today don't require a college degree). But if you're considering

heading to campus, this list can help you identify the best school for your career goals.

Here are this year's 50 Top Colleges in the U.S. — and join the conversation using #LinkedInTopColleges.

Looking for the top schools in a specific area of interest? You can also check out the top public universities, liberal arts colleges and HBCUs.

Undergraduate enrollment numbers are rounded to the nearest five. "🏆 Where they stand out" insights indicate the schools that scored in the top 5 on each of our methodology pillars.

An earlier version of this article included "student hotspots" for each school, drawn from Lyft data on popular student destinations. This information has been removed following feedback that the locations did not accurately reflect student culture.

1. Princeton University

◢◣	**Princeton University**	Follow
	Princeton, NJ	

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $65,210 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 5,670 | 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for job placement and entrepreneurship or C-suite experience

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Financial Services, Business Consulting & Services | 📍 **Top locations:** New York City, San Francisco Bay Area, Washington, D.C. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Development Tools (OCaml, Go, AMPL), Scientific Computing, Web Development

See alumni you may know

2. Duke University

Duke	**Duke University** Durham, North Carolina	Follow

Type: Private | **Tuition:** $66,326 | **Undergraduate enrollment:** 6,525

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Financial Services, Business Consulting & Services | 📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Washington, D.C., Raleigh, N.C. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** MATLAB, Web Development, AI Engineering

See alumni you may know

3. University of Pennsylvania
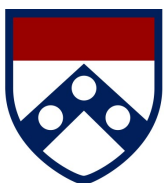
	University of Pennsylvania Philadelphia, PA	Follow

Type: Private **| Tuition**: $63,204 **| Undergraduate enrollment**: 10,500

🏭 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Technology & Internet, Business Consulting & Services **|** 📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C. **|** 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Scientific Computing, Data Science, Industrial Design

[See alumni you may know](#)

4. Massachusetts Institute of Technology

MIT logo	**Massachusetts Institute of Technology**	**Follow**
	Cambridge, MA	

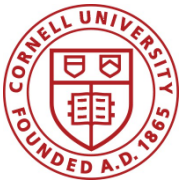**Type**: Private **| Tuition**: $64,310 **| Undergraduate enrollment**: 4,535 **|** 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for entrepreneurship or C-suite experience, internships and recruiter demand

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Manufacturing, Research Services **|** 📍 **Top locations:** Boston, San Francisco Bay Area, New York City **|** 🧠 **Most notable skills:** AI Engineering, Robotics, Web Development

[See alumni you may know](#)

5. Cornell University

Cornell University

Follow

Ithaca, NY

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $48,010 (in-state); $71,266 (out-of-state) | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 16,130

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Financial Services, Higher Education |
📍 **Top locations:** New York City, San Francisco Bay Area, Boston | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Scientific Computing, Aerospace Engineering, Animation

See alumni you may know

6. Harvard University

Harvard University

Follow

Cambridge, Massachusetts

Type: Private | **Tuition:** $59,320 | **Undergraduate enrollment:** 7,100 | 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for entrepreneurship or C-suite experience

🏭 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Business Consulting & Services, Technology & Internet | 📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Boston, San Francisco Bay Area | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Data Science, Mathematics, C

See alumni you may know

7. Babson College

Babson College

Babson Park, MA

Follow

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $58,560 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 2,800+ | 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for network strength and entrepreneurship or C-suite experience

🏭 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Technology & Internet, Business Consulting & Services | 📍 **Top locations:** Boston, New York City, Miami | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Data Science, Human Computer Interaction, Entrepreneurship

[See alumni you may know](#)

8. University of Notre Dame

University of Notre Dame

Notre Dame, in

Follow

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $65,025 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 8,925 | 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for job placement

🏭 **Top industries:** Business Consulting & Services, Financial Services, Technology & Internet | 📍 **Top locations:** Chicago, New York City, Washington, D.C. | 🧠 **Most**

notable skills: Scientific Computing, Economics, Architecture

9. Dartmouth College

Dartmouth College

Hanover, NH

Follow

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $66,123 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 4,450 | 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for network strength

🏭 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Technology & Internet, Business Consulting & Services | 📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Boston, San Francisco Bay Area | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** MATLAB, SOLIDWORKS, Human Computer Interaction

10. Stanford University

Stanford University

Stanford, CA

Follow

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $65,127 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 7,555 | 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for entrepreneurship or C-suite experience

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Research Services, Financial Services | 📍 **Top locations:** San Francisco Bay Area, New York City, Los Angeles | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** AI Engineering, MATLAB, Industrial Design

See alumni you may know

11. Northwestern University

N	**Northwestern University** Evanston, IL	Follow

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $67,158 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 8,000

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Business Consulting & Services, Financial Markets | 📍 **Top locations:** Chicago, New York City, San Francisco Bay Area | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** MATLAB, SOLIDWORKS, Human Computer Interaction

See alumni you may know

12. University of Virginia

University of Virginia

Follow

Charlottesville, VA

Type: Public | **Tuition**: $21,123 (in-state); $58,014 (out-of-state) | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 17,900

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Business Consulting & Services, Financial Services | 📍 **Top locations:** Washington, D.C., New York City, Charlottesville, Va. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Stata, Data Science, 3D Modeling

See alumni you may know

13. Vanderbilt University

Vanderbilt University

Follow

Nashville, Tennessee

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $61,618 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 7,220 | 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for network strength

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Business Consulting & Services, Financial Services | 📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Nashville, Tenn., Washington, D.C. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** MATLAB, Chemical Engineering, Technical Communication

14. Brown University

Brown University

Providence, Rhode Island

Follow

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $71,700 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 7,270

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Financial Services, Business Consulting & Services | 📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Boston, San Francisco Bay Area | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Development Tools (OCaml, Scala, Racket), Economics, AI Engineering

15. Bentley University

Bentley University

Waltham, Massachusetts

Follow

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $63,390 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 4,350 | 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for internships and recruiter demand

🏭 **Top industries:** Accounting, Financial Services, Technology & Internet | 📍 **Top locations:** Boston, New York City, Hartford, Conn. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Data

Storage Technologies, Investment Banking, Project Management

16. Tufts University

Tufts University

Follow

Medford, Massachusetts

Type: Private **|** **Tuition**: $71,982 **|** **Undergraduate enrollment**: 6,660

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Business Consulting & Services, Financial Services **|** 📍 **Top locations:** Boston, New York City, Washington, D.C. **|** 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Stata, MATLAB, Animation

17. Lehigh University

LEHIGH

Lehigh University

Follow

Bethlehem, PA

Type: Private **|** **Tuition**: $66,810 **|** **Undergraduate enrollment**: 5,910

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Accounting, Financial Markets | 📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Philadelphia, Boston | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** SOLIDWORKS, Scientific Computing, Scala

See alumni you may know

18. Columbia University

[Columbia crown logo]	**Columbia University** New York, NY	Follow

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $71,170 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 9,750

🏭 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Technology & Internet, Business Consulting & Services | 📍 **Top locations:** New York City, San Francisco Bay Area, Washington, D.C. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Stata, AI Engineering, Foreign Languages

See alumni you may know

19. Yale University

[Yale Y logo]	**Yale University** New Haven, CT	Follow

Type: Private **| Tuition**: $67,250 **| Undergraduate enrollment**: 6,740

🏭 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Business Consulting & Services, Technology & Internet **|** 📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Boston, Washington, D.C. **|** 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Racket (Programming Language), Stata, Foreign Languages

See alumni you may know

20. Carnegie Mellon University

Carnegie Mellon University	Pittsburgh, PA	Follow

Type: Private **| Tuition**: $67,020 **| Undergraduate enrollment**: 7,450 **|** 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for internships and recruiter demand

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Financial Services, Advertising Services **|** 📍 **Top locations:** San Francisco Bay Area, New York City, Pittsburgh **|** 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Development Tools (SML, Ruby on Rails, C), 3D Modeling, MATLAB

See alumni you may know

21. Bucknell University

Bucknell University

Bucknell University

Follow

Lewisburg, PA

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $69,976 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 3,920 | 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for job placement

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Financial Services, Legal Services | 📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Washington, D.C., Boston | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Materials Science, MATLAB, Environmental Science

See alumni you may know

22. Boston College

Boston College

Follow

Chestnut Hill, MA

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $72,180 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 9,655

🏭 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Technology & Internet, Hospitals & Healthcare | 📍 **Top locations:** Boston, New York City, Washington, D.C. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Stata, OCaml, Applied Psychology

See alumni you may know

23. Villanova University

Villanova University

Villanova, PA

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $69,846 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 6,700

🏭 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Accounting, Hospitals & Healthcare | 📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Philadelphia, Boston | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Scientific Computing, Capital Markets Analysis, Data Science

See alumni you may know

24. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Champaign, IL

Type: Public | **Tuition**: $18,046 (in-state); $38,398 (out-of-state) | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 37,140 | 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for knowledge breadth

🏰 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Higher Education, Accounting | 📍 **Top locations:** Chicago, San Francisco Bay Area, Urbana, Ill. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** SystemVerilog, MATLAB, Data Storage Technologies

See alumni you may know

25. Wake Forest University

	Wake Forest University Winston-Salem, NC	Follow

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $70,332 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 5,490

🏰 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Technology & Internet, Legal Services | 📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Washington, D.C., Charlotte, N.C. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Stata, Data Science, Foreign Languages

See alumni you may know

26. University of Chicago

|		
	University of Chicago Chicago, IL	Follow

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $71,325 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 7,540

🏭 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Business Consulting & Services, Technology & Internet |📍 **Top locations:** Chicago, New York City, San Francisco Bay Area |🧠 **Most notable skills:** Development Tools (Racket, Haskell, SML), Data Science, Public Policy

See alumni you may know

27. University of Southern California
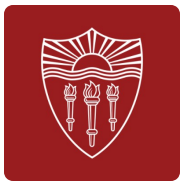
🛡️	**University of Southern California** Higher Education Los Angeles, CA	Follow

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $73,260 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 21,000

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Advertising Services, Media & Telecommunications |📍 **Top locations:** Los Angeles, San Francisco Bay Area, New York City | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Video Production, Avid Media Composer, Game Development

See alumni you may know

28. Fairfield University

Fairfield University

Follow

Fairfield, CT

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $59,460 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 5,100

🏭 **Top industries:** Hospitals & Healthcare, Financial Services, Accounting |📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Boston, Hartford, Conn. |🧠 **Most notable skills:** AI Engineering, Aerospace Engineering, Behavioral Finance

See alumni you may know

29. Washington and Lee University

Washington and Lee University

Follow

Lexington, va

Type: Private | **Tuition:** $66,800 | **Undergraduate enrollment:** 1,885 | 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for job placement and network strength

🏭 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Business Consulting & Services, Financial Services |📍 **Top locations:** Washington, D.C., New York City, Atlanta | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Stata, Data Science, Research

See alumni you may know

30. University of California-Berkeley

UC Berkeley	**University of California, Berkeley** Berkeley, CA	**Follow**

Type: Public **| Tuition:** $16,832 (in-state); $51,032 (out-of-state) **| Undergraduate enrollment:** 33,070

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Higher Education, Research Services **|**
📍 **Top locations:** San Francisco Bay Area, Los Angeles, New York City **|** 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Scheme (Programming Language), Data Science, AI Literacy

See alumni you may know

31. Rice University

🦉	**Rice University** Houston, TX	**Follow**

Type: Private **| Tuition:** $66,540 **| Undergraduate enrollment**: 4,800

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Business Consulting & Services, Higher Education **|** 📍 **Top locations:** Houston, San Francisco Bay Area, New York

City | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** MATLAB, Engineering Design, Data Science

## 32. Georgetown University

Georgetown University

Follow

Washington, DC

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $64,896 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 7,970

🏭 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Business Consulting & Services, Legal Services | 📍 **Top locations:** Washington, D.C., New York City, Boston | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Stata, Policy Research, Government & International Relations

33. Purdue University
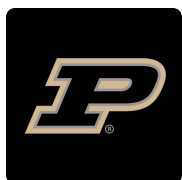
Purdue University

Follow

West Lafayette, in

Type: Public | **Tuition**: $9,992 (in-state); $28,794 (out-of-state) | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 44,170 | 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for knowledge breadth

🏭 **Top industries:** Manufacturing, Technology & Internet, Higher Education | 📍 **Top locations:** Indianapolis, Chicago, Lafayette, Ind. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Aerospace Engineering, MATLAB, SOLIDWORKS

See alumni you may know

34. University of Michigan-Ann Arbor

	University of Michigan	Follow
	Ann Arbor, Michigan	

Type: Public | **Tuition**: $17,736 (in-state); $60,946 (out-of-state) | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 34,455

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Transportation Equipment Manufacturing, Medical Practices | 📍 **Top locations:** Detroit, New York City, Chicago | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** MATLAB, Manufacturing Operations, Rhino 3D

See alumni you may know

35. Miami University

	Miami University	Follow
	Oxford, OH	

Type: Public **| Tuition**: $18,162 (in-state); $40,822 (out-of-state) **| Undergraduate enrollment**: 20,445

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Medical Practices, Business Consulting & Services **|**📍 **Top locations:** Cincinnati, Chicago, Columbus, Ohio **|**🧠 **Most notable skills:** Data Science, Scientific Computing, Advertising

See alumni you may know

36. Colgate University

C	# Colgate University Hamilton, N.Y.	Follow

Type: Private **| Tuition**: $73,206 **| Undergraduate enrollment**: 3,275 **|**🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for network strength

🏭 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Technology & Internet, Legal Services **|**
📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Boston, Washington, D.C. **|**🧠 **Most notable skills:** Stata, Ruby on Rails, Foreign Languages

See alumni you may know

37. Southern Methodist University

Southern Methodist University

Dallas, TX

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $61,880 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 7,285

🏭 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Business Consulting & Services, Technology & Internet | 📍 **Top locations:** Dallas, New York City, Los Angeles | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** AMPL, Avid iNews, Data Science

[See alumni you may know]

38. Bryant University

Bryant University

Smithfield, RI

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $51,780 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 3,240 | 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for internships and recruiter demand

🏭 **Top industries:** Accounting, Financial Services, Insurnace | 📍 **Top locations:** Boston, New York City, Hartford, Conn. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Data Science, AI Engineering, Design Thinking

39. Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Follow

Worcester, Massachusetts

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $61,790 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 5,455

🏭 **Top industries:** Transportation Equipment Manufacturing, Technology & Internet, Research Services | 📍 **Top locations:** Boston, Hartford, Conn., New York City | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** SOLIDWORKS, Robotics, Manufacturing Operations

40. The Pennsylvania State University

Penn State University

Follow

University Park, pa

Type: Public **| Tuition**: $20,644 (in-state); $41,790 (out-of-state) **| Undergraduate enrollment**: 42,225 **|** 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for knowledge breadth

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Transportation Equipment Manufacturing, Medical Practices **|** 📍 **Top locations:** Philadelphia, New York City, Washington, D.C. **|** 🧠 **Most notable skills:** MATLAB, Architecture, Materials Science

See alumni you may know

41. California Institute of Technology

Caltech Pasadena, CA		Follow

Type: Private **| Tuition**: $65,622 **| Undergraduate enrollment**: 990 **|** 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for job placement and internships and recruiter demand

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Research Services, Transportation Equipment Manufacturing **|** 📍 **Top locations:** San Francisco Bay Area, Los Angeles, New York City **|** 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Development Tools (OCaml, Haskell, x86 Assembly), AI Engineering, Robotics

See alumni you may know

42. Trinity College

Trinity College-Hartford

Hartford, CT

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $67,650 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 2,160

🏭 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Technology & Internet, Legal Services |
📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Boston, Hartford, Conn. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:**
MATLAB, Financial Modeling, Foreign Languages

See alumni you may know

43. Boston University

Boston University

Boston, MA

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $69,870 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 17,745

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Higher Education, Advertising Services |
📍 **Top locations:** Boston, New York City, Los Angeles | 🧠 **Most notable skills:**
OCaml, Avid Media Composer, Foreign Languages

See alumni you may know

44. University of Richmond

University of Richmond

University of Richmond, VA

[Follow]

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $67,840 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 3,055

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Financial Services, Business Consulting & Services | 📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Washington, D.C., Richmond, Va. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Data Science, Web Development, Research

See alumni you may know

45. Stevens Institute of Technology

Stevens Institute of Technology

Hoboken, NJ

[Follow]

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $63,010 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 4,235

🏭 **Top industries:** Transportation Equipment Manufacturing, Financial Services, Technology & Internet | 📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Philadelphia, Washington,

D.C. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** SOLIDWORKS, Scientific Computing, Aerospace Engineering

46. The University of Texas at Austin

TEXAS	**The University of Texas at Austin** Austin, TX	Follow

Type: Public | **Tuition**: $10,858 (in-state); $42,554 (out-of-state) | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 42,445 | 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for knowledge breadth

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Medical Practices, Advertising Services | 📍 **Top locations:** Austin, Texas, Dallas, Houston | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** SOLIDWORKS, Architecture, Avid Media Composer

47. Indiana University Bloomington

Indiana University Bloomington

Bloomington, Indiana

Type: Public | **Tuition**: $12,386 (in-state); $42,728 (out-of-state) | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 36,835

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Accounting, Higher Education |📍 **Top locations:** Chicago, Indianapolis, Bloomington, Ind. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Human Computer Interaction, Foreign Languages, Nonprofit Management

See alumni you may know

48. Lafayette College

Lafayette College

Easton, pa

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $64,496 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 2,730

🏭 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Technology & Internet, Legal Services |
📍 **Top locations:** New York City, Philadelphia, Boston | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Ansys Products, Stata, Data Science

See alumni you may know

49. Providence College

	Providence College	Follow

Providence, RI

Type: Private | **Tuition**: $64,870 | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 4,365

🏰 **Top industries:** Financial Services, Accounting, Technology & Internet | 📍 **Top locations:** Boston, New York City, Hartford, Conn. | 🧠 **Most notable skills:** FactSet, Health Policy, Foreign Languages

See alumni you may know

50. University of Wisconsin-Madison

	University of Wisconsin-Madison	Follow

Madison, WI

Type: Public | **Tuition**: $11,606 (in-state); $42,104 (out-of-state) | **Undergraduate enrollment**: 36,900 | 🏆 **Where they stand out:** Top 5 school for knowledge breadth

🏭 **Top industries:** Technology & Internet, Higher Education, Medical Practices **|**
📍 **Top locations:** Madison, Wis., Chicago, Milwaukee **|** 🧠 **Most notable skills:** Scientific Computing, SOLIDWORKS, Financial Modeling

[See alumni you may know](#)

Methodology

Our methodology uses LinkedIn data to rank U.S. colleges based on five pillars: job placement; internships and recruiter demand; career success; network strength; and knowledge breadth. **Job placement** *tracks the percentage of alumni from recent graduate cohorts (2019-2024) that start a full-time position or a graduate school program within the same year of graduating. This assessment is based on LinkedIn hiring data.* **Internships and recruiter demand** *tracks the percentage of alumni from recent cohorts who completed an undergraduate internship; and labor market demand for recent cohorts, based on InMail outreach data.* **Career success** *tracks the percentage of alumni with post-graduate entrepreneurship or C-suite experience.* **Network strength** *tracks how connected alumni of the same school are to each other, as well as how connected alumni from recent cohorts are to all past alumni and current students.* **Knowledge breadth** *tracks unique fields of study and unique skills gained among recent cohorts during their degree.*

Each of the five pillars is weighed equally. Most pillars are made up of two metrics, each accounting for half of that pillar's weight — except for job placement, which is based on a single metric accounting for the full weight of the pillar.

To be eligible, colleges must be U.S.-based, regionally accredited four-year baccalaureate programs that are actively enrolling first-year students. Programs must have at least 2,000 total alumni, with at least 500 of them graduating within the recent cohort (2019-2024), based on LinkedIn data. We exclude military service academies, for-profit colleges, highly-specialized colleges and colleges that offer only online programs or degree completion programs from our analysis. Depending on the specific metric in question, our methodology either encompasses all alumni

or recent graduate cohorts, as defined by alumni who graduated between 2019 and 2024. This analysis represents the world seen through the lens of LinkedIn data, drawn from the anonymized and aggregated profile information of LinkedIn's members around the world.

Additional insights

Data reflects aggregated public member data from active LinkedIn profiles and includes alumni profiles associated with the program on LinkedIn. **Top industries and locations** *measure the most common industries and locations associated with a member's first job position after graduating.* **Unique skills** *were derived from measuring the most frequent skills members added to their profile for a given program, while being more rare across other programs during their undergraduate degree.*

Methodology and insights by: [Caroline Liongosari](#)

Correction: Dartmouth's undergraduate population is approximately 4,450. A previous version misstated this figure by referring to the size of the Class of 2028 rather than the total undergraduate student body.