

your **VALUES**
our **VALUE**





It is hard to put a price tag on a life of worth and purpose

But you can choose a college that delivers educational and vocational value in accordance with your personal convictions. That's why, every year, students choose Lutheran colleges and universities for their opportunities in leadership, volunteer service, off-campus study, athletics, music and academic research – and when they arrive at college in the fall, they find friends with similar priorities.

The colleges and universities of the Lutheran Educational Conference of North America are uniquely positioned to provide results-based career preparation, well-connected networks, and challenging academic environments, while recognizing the role of faith and spirituality in your life.

- LECNA has conducted several major research initiatives on behalf of our member colleges and universities, providing data to support the exceptional value of Lutheran higher education for students and alumni. We've highlighted some of those findings here, and you can learn more by visiting lutherancolleges.org/resources.



College was effective in helping you develop moral principles that guide your actions:

77 **35**

College helped you integrate your faith into other aspects of your life:

54 **13**

You learned more about your faith during your college years:

58 **18**

Percent Lutheran college and university graduates vs. **Flagship public** graduates

Love your daily life: Lutheran colleges and universities excel at inspiring student engagement

- Students at Lutheran colleges and universities are more likely to be involved in varsity athletics, music, volunteer activities and off-campus study than students at public institutions.
- Students at Lutheran colleges and universities are involved in more activities on campus, and also involved to a greater degree, than their counterparts at public universities.

► We asked graduates, “Were you involved in any of the following?”

Volunteer/service activities



Varsity athletics



Music or theatre performances



Flagship public graduates vs. Lutheran college and university graduates



Make strong connections: Lutheran college and university students and parents have meaningful connections within the college community

- Lutheran college and university students are more likely to meet a mentor or role model during their freshman year, and to develop supportive relationships with faculty and staff during their education.
- Parents of Lutheran college and university students are more likely to meet the college president and hear him/her speak on multiple occasions than parents of students at public institutions, which parents say leads to a stronger relationship with their student's education.

► Role models and faculty-student connections

Professor was a mentor



Conversations with professors outside of class



Small classes with fewer than 20 students



Flagship public graduates vs. Lutheran college and university graduates



► What do Lutheran colleges and universities mean when they talk about “vocation”?

Lutheran colleges and universities are known for their successes in helping students find a career path that utilizes their natural talents while also serving the common good. Under this broad definition, “vocation” is a word that guides the career center programming and undergraduate curriculum at many Lutheran colleges and universities.





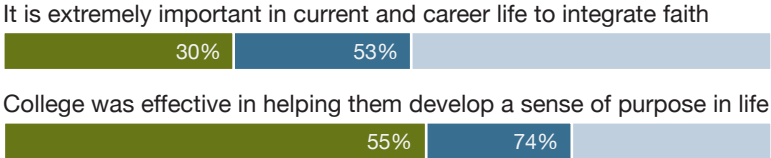
Challenge yourself: Lutheran college and university graduates are leaders in national organizations, corporations and congregations alike

- The quality of curriculum and breadth of study at Lutheran colleges and universities naturally incorporate discussions of ethical leadership, service, and hands-on experience through classes and internships.
- Lutheran college and university graduates are far more likely to be servant-leaders within their churches in both staff and volunteer positions.
- Graduates of Lutheran colleges and universities have continued their studies as Rhodes Scholars at Oxford University, law students at Yale and Harvard, and at business schools like Wharton and Berkeley, as well as graduate schools within Lutheran universities.

Find what you're looking for: Lutheran colleges and universities specialize in helping students find a sense of purpose in their lives and careers

- Lutheran institutions outperform traditional institutions in the integration of faith and ethics in academics and daily life.
- Students at Lutheran colleges and universities benefit from one-on-one attention from professors, which can be crucial for references and letters of recommendation upon graduation.

► We talked to graduates and they said ...



Flagship public graduates vs. Lutheran college and university graduates

► Involved in the past five years with a church or religious organization:



Realize your potential: Lutheran higher education pays off in career success

- Small classes, strong relationships with professors, and opportunities for research and off-campus study are commonly listed as strong factors in post-graduate success, and integral to the Lutheran college and university tradition.
- Lutheran college and university alumni are more likely to say they are able to balance a career and family life while still being involved in their community and church.

Know the value of your education: Financial aid and scholarships are available to help you finance the education you deserve

- Most students are as likely to earn their degree in four years at a private college or university as they are in six years at a state institution, thereby avoiding additional tuition and beginning their careers earlier.
- Lutheran colleges and universities are committed to affordability for all students, and at the same time are praised for the quality of education and leadership development they provide.

► Education in action ...

Completed an internship



Off-campus study



Flagship public graduates vs. Lutheran college and university graduates

You know the why. Here's the how: Attending a Lutheran college or university is more affordable than you may think

- Most students pay less than the published tuition at private colleges because our member institutions set aside hundreds of thousands of dollars each year for financial aid, based on a variety of factors, including academic ability, financial need, and other qualities such as leadership, artistic styles and athletic talents.
- Many students work to pay for college and are successful in balancing coursework with a job and social interests or athletics.
- Graduates who had student loans say they were a worthwhile investment.



► Do you have to be Lutheran to go to a Lutheran-affiliated college or university?

No. In fact, more than half of the students attending Lutheran colleges and universities practice other faiths. We welcome students from all backgrounds and believe that diversity enhances any educational experience.



Financial aid

Private colleges and universities base their need-based financial aid programs on the information captured by the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Some institutions may also request information from the College Scholarship Service PROFILE (CSS/PROFILE) and supplemental income and asset documentation, so be sure to check requirements carefully. By using the FAFSA form, colleges and universities ensure a fair and consistent approach to determining the demonstrated need of all admitted students. The FAFSA deadline falls on or around February 1 each year, and you can find more information at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Common components of a need-based financial aid package

Grants and scholarships: Funded by endowed scholarships, annual gifts from alumni, and other institutional funds. This category makes up a substantial percentage of the total financial aid distributed by Lutheran colleges and universities. Some students also qualify for additional grant aid, including federal grants (like Pell Grants, Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants and Academic Competitiveness Grants).

Educational loans: Many need-based aid packages include a long-term educational loan offered through federal loan programs, including federally-backed Subsidized Stafford and Perkins Loans and Unsubsidized Stafford Loans. Parents and students may also choose private loans, which usually require a credit-worthy co-signer for the student application.

Student employment: Financial aid packages often include a work-study component that engages students in work and service to their institutional community beyond their usual academic and extracurricular activities. The number of hours a student may work is generally based on his or her demonstrated financial need, and some colleges and universities reserve all on-campus jobs for work-study students.

For more information about financing college, visit www.lutherancolleges.org/colleges/financing.

Time-to-degree for students at four-year colleges and universities

	Private college or university	State college or university	
	4 years to degree	5 years to degree	6 years to degree
Years 1-4	Average net tuition (after grant aid): \$10,900 x 4 years = \$43,600 <i>Student earns a degree and enters the work force</i>	Average net tuition (after grant aid): \$3,400 x 4 years = \$13,600 <i>Student continues in school</i>	Average net tuition (after grant aid): \$3,400 x 4 years = \$13,600 <i>Student continues in school</i>
Year 5		Fifth year average net tuition: \$3,400 Average lost income in fifth year: \$30,000 <i>Student earns a degree and enters the work force</i>	Fifth year average net tuition: \$3,400 Average lost income in fifth year: \$30,000 <i>Student continues in school</i>
Year 6			Sixth year average net tuition: \$3,400 Average lost income in sixth year: \$30,000 <i>Student earns a degree and enters the work force</i>
	Time-to-degree 4 years	Time-to-degree 5 years	Time-to-degree 6 years
	Net tuition: \$43,600 Lost income during additional time-to-degree: \$0	Net tuition: \$17,000 Lost income during additional time-to-degree: \$30,000	Net tuition: \$20,400 Lost income during additional time-to-degree: \$60,000
	Total price of degree: \$43,600	\$47,000	\$80,400

Source: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics. Analysis by the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

- ▶ When students obtain their undergraduate degree in a timely manner it results in a major financial reward for them and their families. At private colleges and universities, 79 percent of students receive a degree in four years or less. At state four-year institutions, only 49 percent finish in four years or less.

Source: www.naicu.edu/special_initiatives/accountability/enrollment_persistence_graduation/id.538/default.asp

Connect with a Lutheran college or university

In the United States:

ALABAMA

Concordia College-Selma
www.concordiaselma.edu
334.874.5700

CALIFORNIA

California Lutheran
University
www.callutheran.edu
877.258.3678

Concordia University, Irvine
www.cui.edu
800.229.1200

ILLINOIS

Augustana College
www.augustana.edu
800.798.8100

Concordia University
Chicago
www.cuchicago.edu
708.209.3100

INDIANA

Valparaiso University
www.valpo.edu
888.GO.VALPO

IOWA

Grand View University
www.grandview.edu
800.444.6083

Luther College
www.luther.edu
800.458.8437

Wartburg College
www.wartburg.edu
800.772.2085

KANSAS

Bethany College
www.bethanylb.edu
800.826.2281

MICHIGAN

Concordia University-
Ann Arbor
www.cuaa.edu
888.734.4237

Finlandia University
www.finlandia.edu
877.202.5491

MINNESOTA

Augsburg College
www.augsburg.edu
800.788.5678

Concordia College,
Moorhead
www.cord.edu
800.699.9897

Concordia University,
St. Paul
www.csp.edu
800.333.4705

Gustavus Adolphus
College
www.gustavus.edu
800.487.8288

St. Olaf College
www.stolaf.edu
800.800.3025

NEBRASKA

Concordia University,
Nebraska
www.cune.edu
800.535.5494

Dana College
www.dana.edu
800.444.3262

Midland Lutheran College
www.mlc.edu
800.642.8382

NEW YORK

Concordia College-
New York
www.concordia-ny.edu
800.937.2655

Wagner College
www.wagner.edu
800.221.1010

NORTH CAROLINA

Lenoir-Rhyne University
www.lr.edu
800.277.5721

OHIO

Capital University
www.capital.edu
866.544.6175

Wittenberg University
www.wittenberg.edu
877.206.0332

OREGON

Concordia University,
Portland
www.cu-portland.edu
800.321.9371

PENNSYLVANIA

Gettysburg College
www.gettysburg.edu
800.431.0803

Muhlenberg College
www.muhlenberg.edu
484.664.3200

Susquehanna University
www.susqu.edu
800.326.9672

Thiel College
www.thiel.edu
800.248.4435

SOUTH CAROLINA

Newberry College
www.newberry.edu
800.845.4955

SOUTH DAKOTA

Augustana College
www.augie.edu
800.727.2844

TEXAS

Concordia University Texas
www.concordia.edu
800.865.4282

Texas Lutheran University
www.tlu.edu
800.771.8521

VIRGINIA

Roanoke College
www.roanoke.edu
800.388.2276

WASHINGTON

Pacific Lutheran University
www.plu.edu
800.274.6758

Trinity Lutheran College
www.tlc.edu
800.843.5659

WISCONSIN

Carthage College
www.carthage.edu
800.351.4058

Concordia University
Wisconsin
www.cuw.edu
888.628.9472

In Canada:

ALBERTA

Concordia University
College of Alberta
www.concordia.ab.ca
866.479.5200

SASKATCHEWAN

Luther College, University
of Regina
www.luthercollege.edu
306.585.5333

Discover a group of colleges that has faith in your future

At www.lutherancolleges.org, you can research the colleges that interest you and request more information – all on one site. You'll also find information about Lutheran College Fairs in your area, advice on preparing your application, and answers to your questions about financial aid and scholarships.



This publication, and the research highlighted within, were supported in part by a grant from:

 **Thrivent Financial**
for Lutherans®



Lutheran Educational Conference of North America
2601 South Minnesota Avenue | Suite 105
Postal Mail Box 377 | Sioux Falls, SD 57105-4750

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