

# FRESHMAN ADMISSION SUMMARY 2016

Division of Enrollment Management and Marketing

Dear colleagues,

I am happy to present the following report on the fall 2016 freshman class at DePaul University.

As anyone who follows college admissions knows, these are most interesting times in our profession. DePaul, like several of our competitor institutions, saw an all-time record number of applications for the freshman class; at the same time, a declining yield rate due to market pressures and increasing financial need means our class is slightly smaller than last year.

Still, this year's class should be considered an enrollment success story, as there is much good news. Diversity continues to be strong, with 39 percent of freshmen identifying as American students of color. Academic measures are all also strong, with ACT and GPA steady with the last several years. And consistent with our mission, almost 30 percent of new freshmen qualified for the Pell Grant, the federal program for the neediest students in America.

Our geographic mix continues to evolve. Forty percent of new freshmen are from outside Illinois, a percentage stable with last year, and up from about 20 percent 15 years ago. While California continued to be our largest supplier of out-of-state applications, Michigan regained its spot atop the states outside Illinois sending us the most enrolling students.

Our Pathways Program with Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science continues to grow. Pathways enrolled 94 new freshmen interested in a career in one of the many growing areas of health sciences. We believe pathways will continue to reinforce our strong and growing reputation in health science, the area that will see the largest growth in jobs in the next 20 years.

We know going forward there will be challenges, as evidenced by the growing need among our students for financial aid. This year, almost a third of enrolling freshmen received more than \$20,000 in institutional grant aid, a significant increase over last year, and an indicator that the country has still not fully recovered from the economic difficulties of almost 10 years ago. Despite this challenge, our history of successfully navigating changing market conditions gives us confidence in our ability keep doing it in the future.

I thank you for your efforts on behalf of DePaul and look forward to many successful years in the future.

Sincerely,

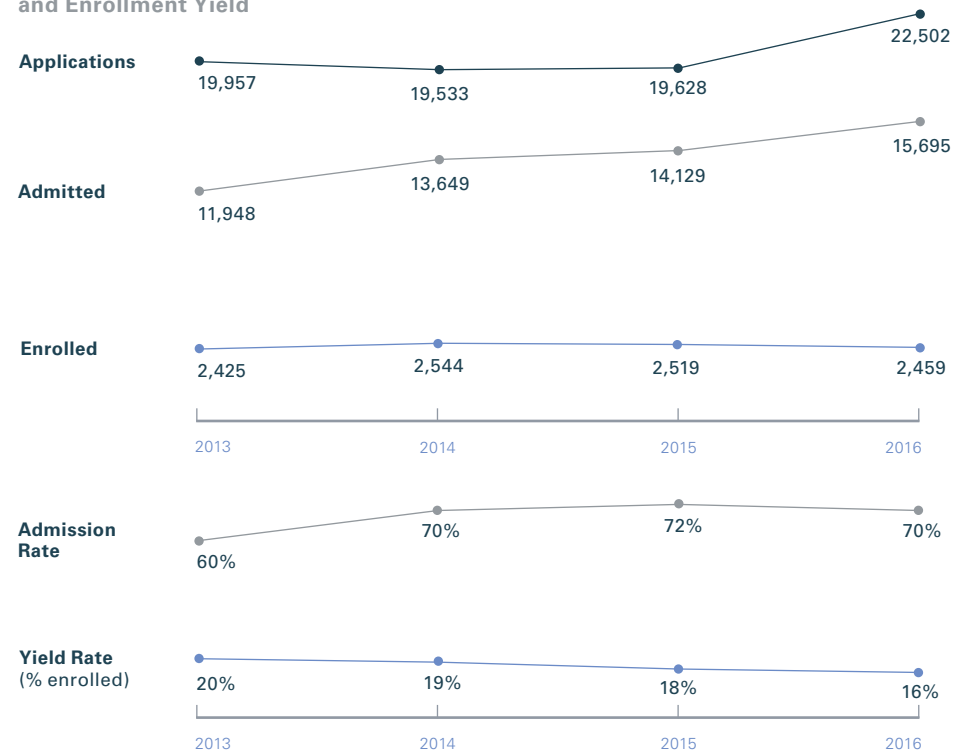


Jon Boeckenstedt  
Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management

## FRESHMAN ADMISSION TRENDS: 2013-2016

Freshman applications increased from 2015 to the highest level ever. The greatest numbers of out-of-state applicants were again from California, Michigan and Ohio. The number of applications from California has more than tripled since 2010.

**Freshman Applications, Admission and Enrollment Yield**



**In 2016, 22,502 high school students applied to DePaul for freshman admission.**

- » 43 percent were from outside Illinois; 29 percent were from Chicago's suburbs; 25 percent were from Chicago.
- » 1,056 international students (F1 and J1 Visas) applied; 74 enrolled.
- » Applications came from almost 4,500 high schools across the nation.
- » 60 percent of applicants were women and 40 percent were men.
- » 2,053 students applied under the test-optional pilot program; 172 enrolled.

# NEW FRESHMEN ACADEMIC PROFILE

Measures of high school preparation remain strong in the freshman class and consistent with prior years. An increasing number of freshmen are interested in communication-related fields, and interest in technology, design and cinematic arts programs remains strong in the College of Computing and Digital Media (CDM), our second-largest college for new freshmen.

## High School Academic Profile

### ACT Composite\*



### High School GPA



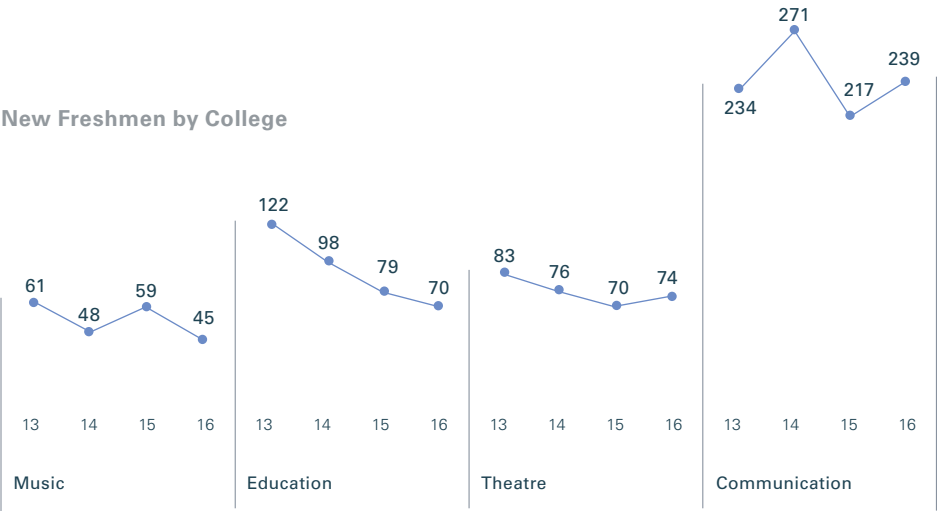
\*ACT averages from 2013-2016 include scores for students who applied through the test-optional program and submitted scores post-admission for research purposes.

## Most Popular Majors for New Freshmen

	Students Enrolled
Film and television	181
Health sciences	138
Accounting	126
Psychology	122
Computer science	110
Finance	101
Biological sciences	96
Marketing	92
Management	82
Political science	66

In addition, 361 students are undecided.

## New Freshmen by College

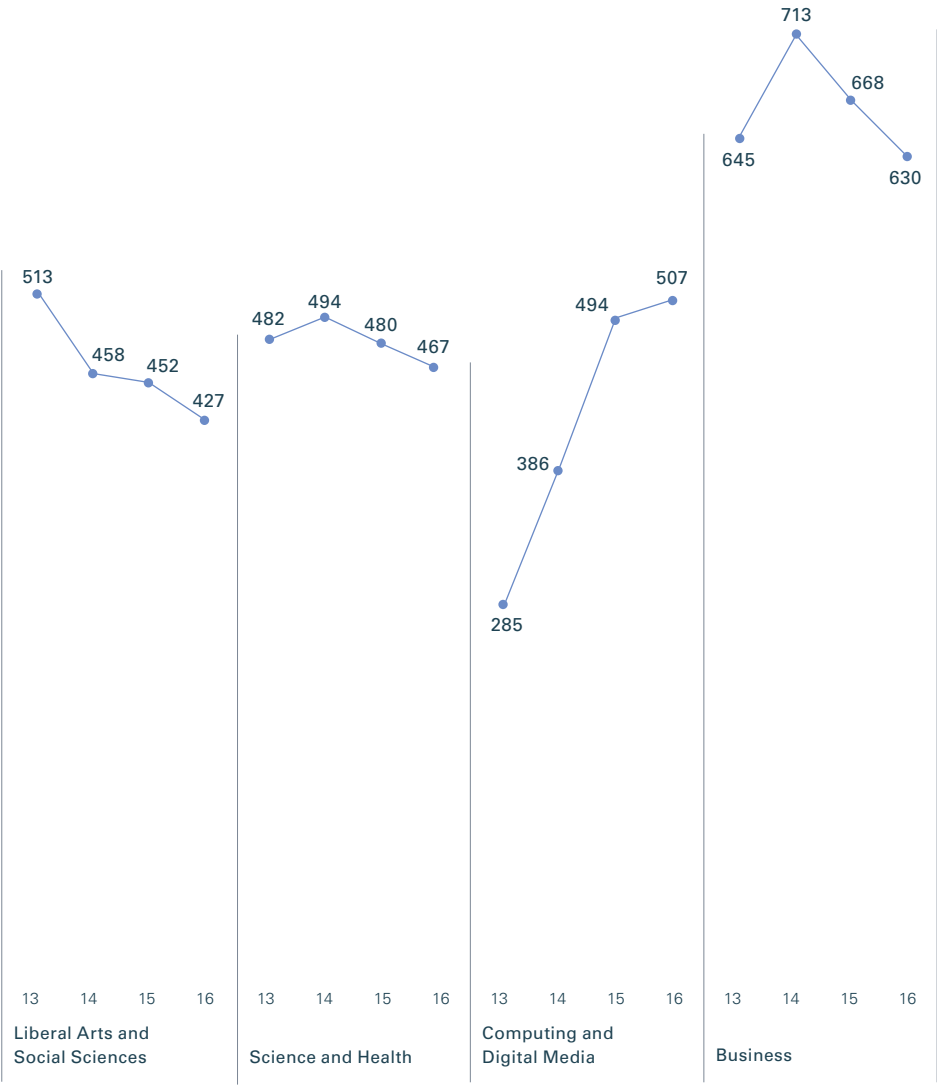


## Academic Highlights for New Freshmen

- » 1,134 freshmen (46 percent of the class) entered DePaul with AP coursework.
- » 29 freshmen were from International Baccalaureate (IB) programs in Chicago Public Schools.
- » 48 new freshmen began their first quarter at DePaul with enough AP, IB or dual-enrollment credits to earn sophomore or junior status.

**118 FRESHMEN (5% OF THE CLASS) SCORED 32 OR HIGHER ON THE ACT, A 12% INCREASE OVER LAST YEAR**

An ACT score of 32 ranks in the top 3 percent of all students nationwide.



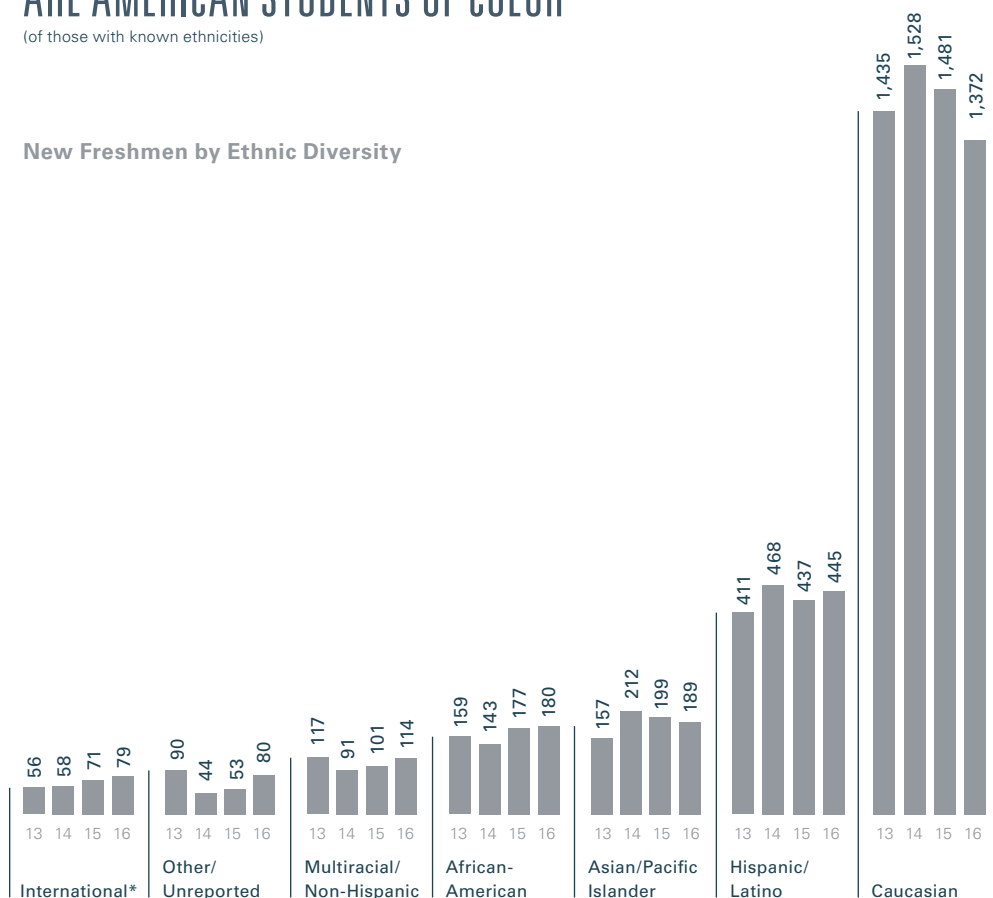
# NEW FRESHMEN DIVERSITY

DePaul continues a long-standing tradition of being among the most diverse selective institutions in the country. When measuring a combination of selectivity and diversity—including ethnic, geographic and socioeconomic diversity, as well as parental educational attainment—only a few institutions compare favorably to DePaul.

## 39% OF THE FRESHMAN CLASS ARE AMERICAN STUDENTS OF COLOR

(of those with known ethnicities)

### New Freshmen by Ethnic Diversity



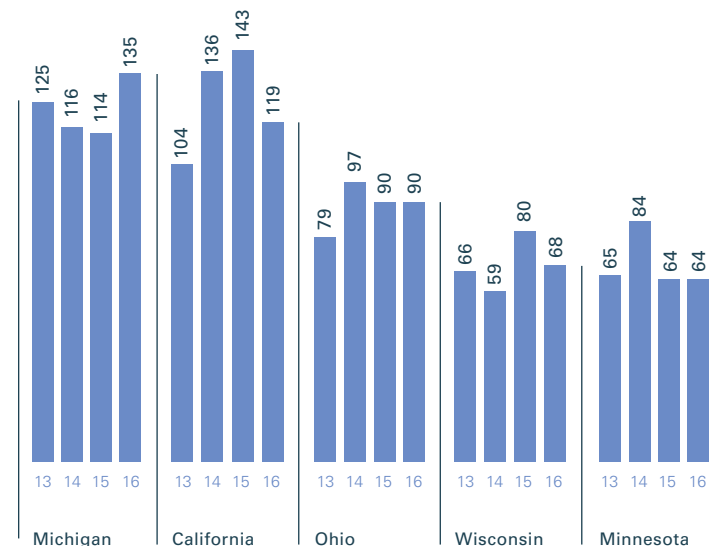
To comply with federal standards on reporting of race and ethnicity, students must identify their ethnicity and their race. For ethnicity, students must select either Hispanic or non-Hispanic. Race is then reported only for students who are non-Hispanic. A student may indicate a single race (e.g., Asian, African-American, etc.) or “two or more races” (i.e., multiracial).

\*Includes students with all visa types.

### New Freshmen by Geographic Diversity

- » The greatest numbers of out-of-state freshmen were from Michigan, California and Ohio. These three states sent us 35 percent of our out-of-state freshmen.
- » These states sent at least 25 freshmen to DePaul this year: Michigan, California, Ohio, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Indiana, Texas, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Florida and Tennessee.
- » Nine Illinois high schools sent at least 20 freshmen: Neuqua Valley, Lane Tech, Niles West, Glenbrook South, Whitney Young, Stevenson, Carl Sandburg, Maine South and New Trier.
- » From outside Illinois, the top feeder schools were Notre Dame (Calif.), Academy of the Sacred Heart (Mich.), Brother Rice (Mich.), Lake Central (Ind.), De La Salle (Minn.), Divine Child (Mich.), Ernest W. Seaholm (Mich.) and Walnut Hills (Ohio). All sent five or more freshmen. Fourteen other schools outside Illinois sent four freshmen each.
- » 71 percent of new freshmen live on campus.

### Top Feeder States Outside Illinois



### New Freshmen by Socioeconomic Diversity

- » 29 percent of new freshmen are eligible for the federal Pell Grant for low-income students.
- » 85 percent of freshmen filed for financial aid (completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid).

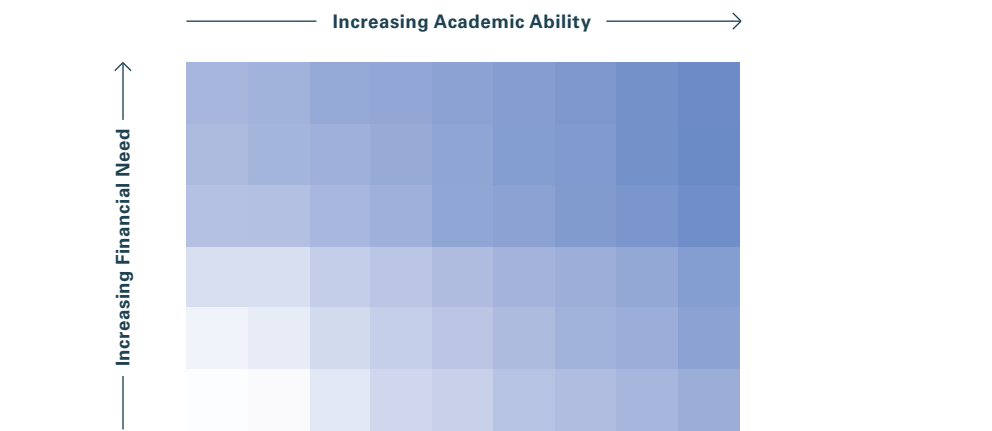
32% OF FRESHMEN ARE FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS

# NEW FRESHMEN FINANCIAL AID PROFILE

DePaul awards its institutional aid in a manner consistent with mission-based principles of making a high-quality education available to promising students, including those who cannot otherwise afford to attend a selective, private institution.

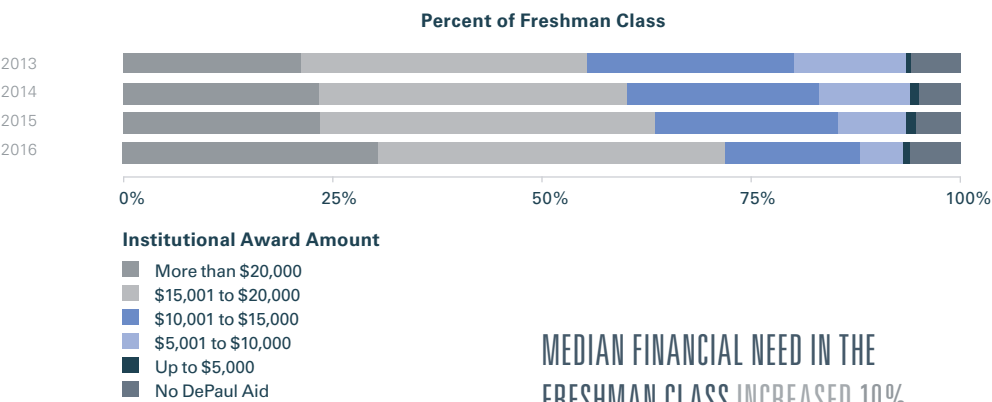
## Institutional Aid Distribution by Need and Ability

Below, the darker colors represent the higher average institutional award amounts (DePaul grants and scholarships), with an increase from left to right with academic ability, and from bottom to top with financial need.



## Institutional Aid Distribution by Amount

DePaul has intentionally responded to the increasing affordability challenges of parents and students in light of the nation’s economy. In 2016, 31 percent of enrolling students received more than \$20,000 in financial aid from DePaul University sources.



MEDIAN FINANCIAL NEED IN THE FRESHMAN CLASS INCREASED 10% FROM 2013 TO 2016

# UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

The DePaul University Honors Program brings students together in an interdisciplinary curriculum that integrates a well-designed liberal arts education with the cultural resources of the global city of Chicago. Working in small seminars under the direction of dedicated faculty, honors students join a lively and challenging scholarly community.

About 11 percent of the freshman class, or 267 students, enrolled in the Honors Program in fall 2016.\*

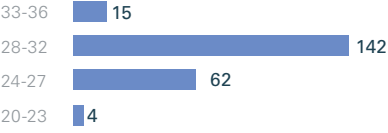
## High School Academic Profile

267 matriculants total

### High School GPA



### ACT Composite\*\*

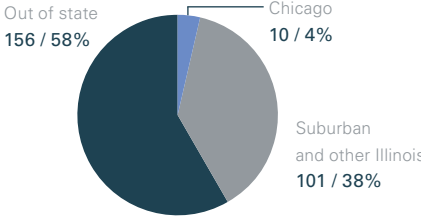


## Academic Highlights for Honors Program Freshmen

- » The Honors Program freshman average GPA is 4.0; the freshman class average GPA is 3.55.
- » The average ACT score for freshmen in the Honors Program is four points higher than the freshman class as a whole.

## New Honors Program Freshmen by Geography

267 matriculants total



FRESHMEN IN THE HONORS PROGRAM CAME FROM 224 DIFFERENT HIGH SCHOOLS AND 36 STATES

## New Honors Program Freshmen by College

- » 21 percent enrolled in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.
- » 21 percent enrolled in the College of Computing and Digital Media.
- » 19 percent enrolled in the College of Science and Health.
- » 18 percent enrolled in the Driehaus College of Business.
- » 14 percent enrolled in the College of Communication.

\* There are five other college- and discipline-specific honors programs at DePaul. The information presented here does not include those programs.

\*\* 44 students submitted only SAT scores or enrolled through the test-optional program.

## NEW ADMISSION INITIATIVES

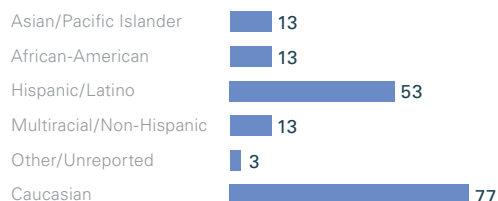
### Test-Optional Admission

When DePaul announced a pilot program that made it the largest private test-optional university in the nation in 2011, it was on the brink of a nationwide shift in university policies on standardized testing in admission. Now, fully 50 percent of U.S. News and World Report Top Tier Liberal Arts Colleges and 240 schools listed in their respective top tiers are test-optional or test-flexible. And just this past spring, DePaul's Faculty Council adopted test-optional as a permanent change in policy.

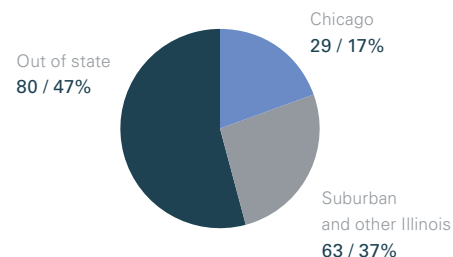
Seven percent of the freshman class, or 172 students, enrolled through the test-optional program. These students come from a wide range of geographic, socioeconomic and ethnic/racial groups. The enrolling freshmen who did not submit test scores have a nearly identical average high school GPA to freshmen who applied with test scores (3.54, compared with 3.55).

It is important for students to understand that the single best predictor of college success—by an overwhelming margin—is high school performance in a rigorous, college-preparatory curriculum.

### New Test-Optional Freshmen by Ethnicity 172 matriculants total



### New Test-Optional Freshmen by Geography 172 matriculants total



### Pathways Program in Health Sciences

In October 2012, DePaul announced an agreement with Rosalind Franklin University of Medicine and Science that included opportunities for DePaul students interested in pursuing a career in one of the rapidly growing professions in health sciences. The Pathways Program was developed specifically for entering freshmen to take advantage of this exciting partnership.

DePaul enrolled 94 new freshmen in the program, an increase from 80 last year, or about 4 percent of the entering class. These students bring drive, focus and extraordinary academic credentials, with an average high school GPA over 4.0 and an average standardized test score in the top 10 percent of all students nationwide. In addition, 51 percent come from outside Illinois, 37 percent are American students of color, and 28 percent are the first students in their families to attend college.

## DePAUL AT A GLANCE

With more than 23,000 students, DePaul is the largest Catholic university in the United States and the largest private, nonprofit university in the Midwest. The university offers over 300 undergraduate and graduate programs of study on two campuses in Chicago and two suburban locations.

DePaul is known for providing a high-caliber education to students from a broad range of backgrounds, with particular attention to first-generation students. It is nationally recognized for incorporating service learning throughout its curriculum and for delivering real-world knowledge in an urban, multicultural environment.

There are over 930 full-time faculty members in 10 colleges and schools at DePaul. More than 85 percent of our faculty hold a PhD or the highest degree in their fields.

DePaul's first-year retention rate in 2016 is 85.1 percent. The six-year graduation rate is 72.5 percent. Both rates exceed the national averages for private universities.

Of the class of 2015, 92 percent of graduates were employed and/or in graduate school six months after graduation. DePaul awards over 6,000 undergraduate and graduate degrees annually.

DePaul has an alumni network of more than 176,000 across 90 countries. Two-thirds of alumni live and work in the metropolitan Chicago area.



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