

Freshman Admission Summary 2019

Division of Enrollment Management

Dear colleagues,

At DePaul, our track record of success in freshman enrollment has been rooted in continuous improvement. From the early adoption of non-cognitive variables in admission to our recent expansion in national recruitment, we have built upon our accomplishments through innovation and strategic initiatives to improve our outcomes each year. And through this approach, we achieved record-breaking success in 2019.

This fall, DePaul enrolled 2,627 freshmen—the largest freshman class in university history—34 students more than the previous record set in 2012 and 52 more than last fall. By generating a record number of applications (26,895) and holding our admit rate steady, the average high school GPA of enrolled freshmen increased slightly while test scores held steady, resulting in the most academically prepared class in recent memory.

While the size and academic credentials of the class are critical, DePaul's mission is to also serve the needs of students traditionally underrepresented in higher education. To that end, we delivered one of the most diverse classes in university history: a record 44% of freshmen are students of color, 33% are first-generation students, 30% are Pell-eligible and 18% are from the city of Chicago.

One of the key drivers of these accomplishments is test-optional admission. Test-optional continues to expand as a share of the class, generating 4,277 applications and a record 363 enrolled students, or 14% of the entire cohort. The growth of test-optional since it was first piloted in 2011, and the success of test-optional students, reinforces what we know to be true: high school performance in a rigorous, college-preparatory curriculum is the best predictor of academic success for DePaul freshmen.

While admission serves as the face of the institution to prospective freshmen, we know enrolling a class is a collective effort. It requires contributions from institutional partners like financial aid, housing and first-year programs (and many more) to community partners like counselors, teachers and other key influencers. We are incredibly grateful for all that you do in helping a DePaul education become reality for our students.

On behalf of everyone at DePaul, thank you.

Sincerely,

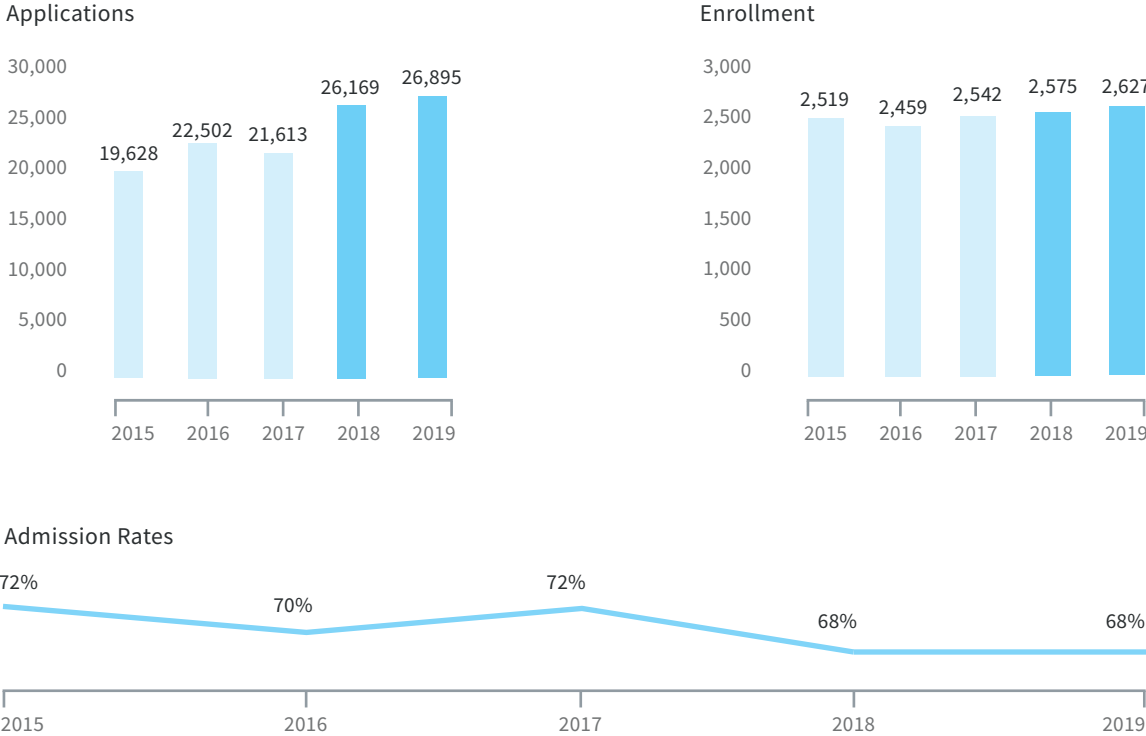
A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Carlene Klaas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Carlene" and last name "Klaas" clearly distinguishable.

Carlene Klaas
Dean of Undergraduate Admission

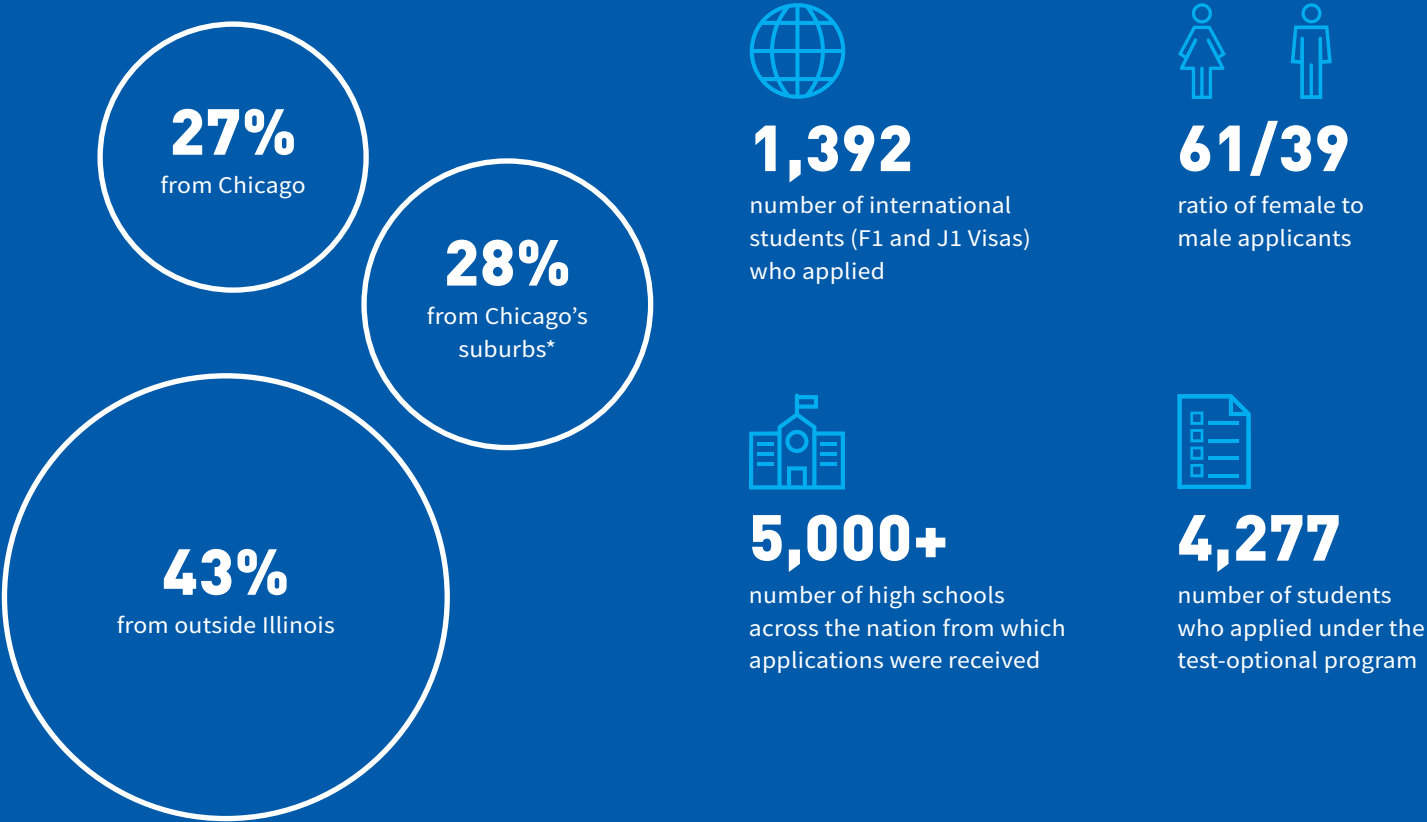
Freshman Admission Trends

Both freshman enrollment and the freshman application total were the largest in university history. Enrollment broke the previous record set in 2012; applications broke the record set last year.

Freshman Applications, Enrollment and Admission Rates



In 2019, 26,895 high school students applied to DePaul for freshman admission



* 2% are from other parts of Illinois.

New Freshman Academic Profile

Measures of high school preparation are among the strongest in university history. The most popular 10 majors enrolled nearly half of new freshmen, and interest in technology, design and cinematic arts programs continues to grow in the College of Computing and Digital Media, now our largest college for new freshmen.

High School Academic Profile



The average GPA for the freshman class is the highest in university history.

New Freshmen by College

Computing and Digital Media	Students Enrolled
2017	522
2018	555
2019	674
Business	
2017	644
2018	632
2019	570
Science and Health	
2017	505
2018	504
2019	507

Liberal Arts and Social Sciences	Students Enrolled
2017	439
2018	496
2019	471
Communication	
2017	197
2018	168
2019	176
Theatre	
2017	79
2018	88
2019	104
Education	
2017	89
2018	73
2019	72
Music	
2017	67
2018	59
2019	53

*Average SAT composite includes scores for students who applied through the test-optional program and submitted scores post-admission for research purposes. Due to the transition of Illinois high schools from ACT to SAT testing, the DePaul average represents students with SAT scores and does not include those students who provided only ACT scores.

Most Popular Majors for New Freshmen

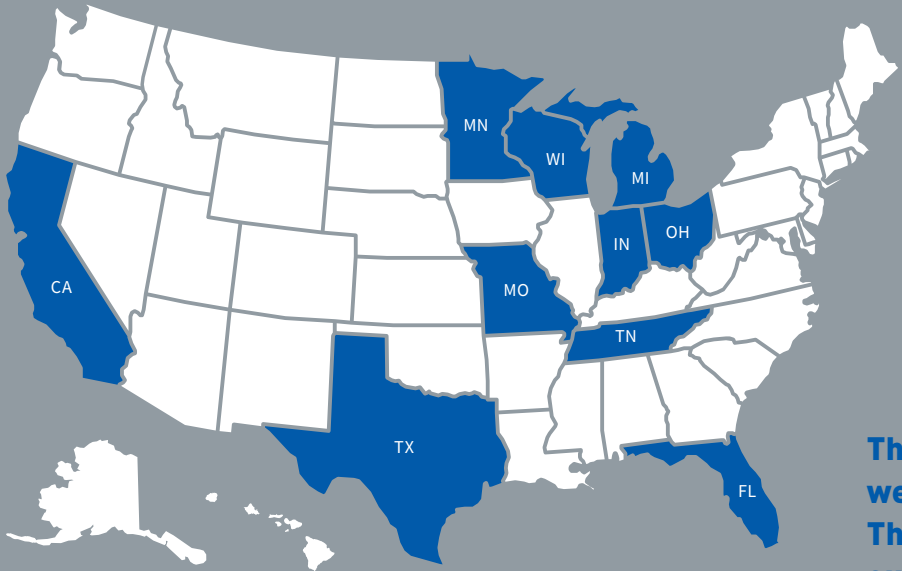
Major	Students Enrolled
Film and television	313
Health sciences	153
Accounting	141
Psychology	123
Computer science	111
Marketing	91
Finance	90
Political science	87
Biology	83
Business administration	79

In addition, 295 students are undecided

Sixty-four new freshmen began their first quarter at DePaul with enough AP, IB or dual-enrollment credits to earn sophomore or junior status.

Top Feeder States Outside Illinois

California, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin and Texas



Top 10 Feeder States	2017	2018	2019
California	106	118	130
Michigan	109	86	106
Ohio	86	81	80
Wisconsin	60	73	72
Texas	43	48	71
Minnesota	65	75	65
Indiana	53	43	62
Missouri	57	37	49
Florida	29	28	38
Tennessee	19	20	26

The greatest number of out-of-state freshmen were from California, Michigan and Ohio. These three states represent 32% of out-of-state freshmen.

New Freshmen by Geographic Diversity

Out-of-state

25+

freshmen came from California, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, Texas, Minnesota, Indiana, Missouri, Florida, Tennessee

6+

freshmen sent from these top out-of-state feeder high schools: Lake Central (Mich.), Notre Dame (Calif.), Homestead (Wis.) and Munster (Ind.). Eight other schools outside Illinois sent five freshmen each

In-state

25+

freshmen sent from seven Illinois high schools: Lane Tech, Stevenson, Niles West, Lyons Township, Glenbrook South, Maine South and Niles North

New Freshman 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.

New Freshmen by Ethnic Diversity

Caucasian	Students Enrolled
2017	1,333
2018	1,342
2019	1,370
Hispanic/Latinx	
2017	542
2018	557
2019	564
Asian/Pacific Islander	
2017	254
2018	245
2019	277
African American	
2017	182
2018	164
2019	188

Multiracial/Non-Hispanic	Students Enrolled
2017	112
2018	168
2019	128
Other/Unreported	
2017	60
2018	45
2019	34

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).

International*

2017	59
2018	54
2019	66

*Includes students with all visa types.

44% of the freshman class is students of color.

New Freshmen by Socioeconomic Diversity and Parental Attainment



30%

percentage of class eligible for the federal Pell Grant for low-income students



88%

proportion of freshmen who filed for financial aid (completed the FAFSA)



33%

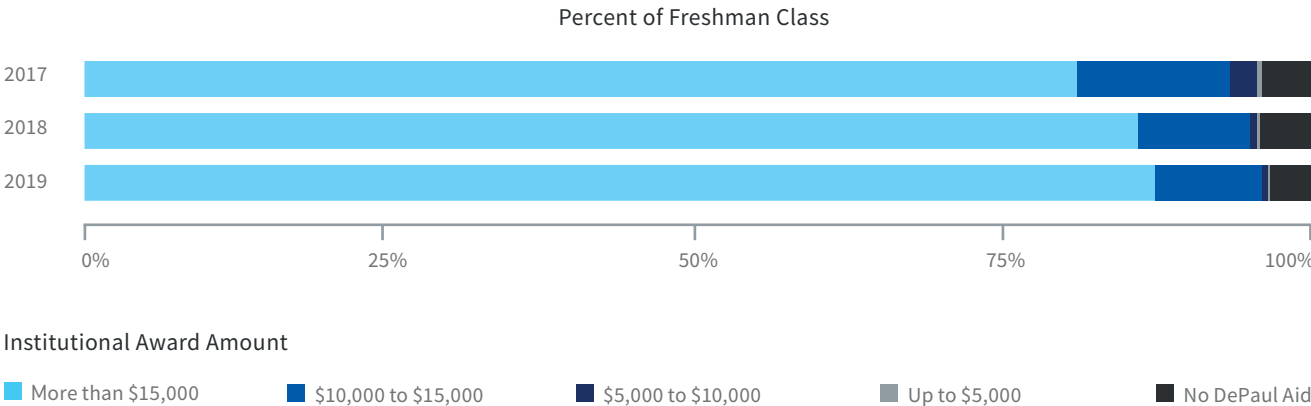
share of freshmen who are first-generation college students


New Freshman 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 are otherwise unable to afford attending a selective, private institution.

Institutional Aid Distribution by Amount

DePaul has intentionally responded to the increasing affordability challenges of parents and students.



 **57%**
proportion of enrolling students who received more than \$20,000 in financial aid from DePaul University sources in 2019

Financial Aid Profile

DePaul prides itself on making a high-quality educational experience accessible to students of all socioeconomic backgrounds.



\$55M+

amount DePaul awarded in institutional grants and scholarships to enrolling freshmen

30%

percentage of freshmen (780 students) receiving a Pell grant

44%

proportion of freshmen from Illinois receiving a Pell grant and/or an Illinois MAP award



28%

proportion of enrolling freshmen where the cost of attendance at DePaul is greater than the parental adjusted gross income (AGI)

44%

percentage of freshmen with parental AGI of \$100,000 or less

8%

share of freshmen from families with parental AGI of \$20,000 or less

University Honors Program

DePaul enrolled 289 freshmen in the University Honors Program this fall. The 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 scholarly community engaging in transformative experiences.

Academic Highlights for Honors Program Freshmen



4.1

average high school GPA of entering freshmen in honors



1323 points

the average SAT score for freshmen in the Honors Program is in the top 12% among all SAT test-takers nationally

About 11% of the freshman class enrolled in the Honors Program in fall 2019.*

* There are five other college- and discipline-specific honors programs at DePaul. The information presented here does not include those programs.
** 134 students submitted only ACT scores, and 27 enrolled through the test-optional program.

High School Academic Profile

289 matriculants total

High School GPA

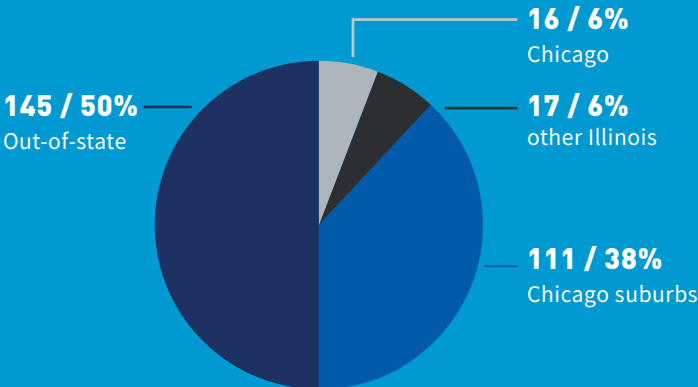
4.0 and higher	173
3.5–3.99	106
under 3.5	10

SAT Composite**

1310–1600	94
1160–1300	49
1020–1150	11
Below 1020	1

Honors Program Freshmen by Geography

289 matriculants total



221

number of high schools from which freshmen in the Honors Program come



34

number of different states from which freshmen in the Honors Program come

Proportion of Honors Program Freshmen by College



27%

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences



26%

College of Computing and Digital Media



21%

College of Science and Health



15%

Driehaus College of Business

Select Admission Initiatives

Test-Optional Admission

When DePaul announced a pilot program making 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. Approved on a permanent basis by DePaul’s Faculty Council in 2016, test-optional continues to increase as a share of the freshman class.

Fourteen percent of the freshman class, or 363 students, enrolled through the test-optional program. These students come from a wide range of geographic, socioeconomic and ethnic/racial groups.

Our research shows that the single best predictor of college success — by an overwhelming margin — is high school performance in a rigorous, college-preparatory curriculum.

The enrolling freshmen who did not submit test scores have a slightly higher average high school GPA compared with freshmen who applied with test scores (3.72 compared with 3.69).

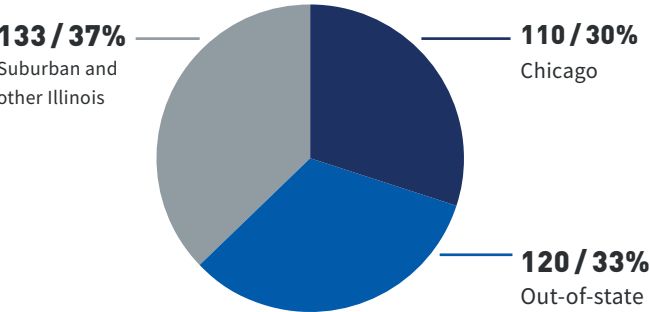
New Test-Optional Freshmen by Ethnicity

363 matriculants total

Hispanic/Latino	138
Caucasian	130
African American	51
Asian/Pacific Islander	30
Multiracial/Non-Hispanic	12
Other/Unreported	2

New Test-Optional Freshmen by Geography

363 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. These students bring drive, focus and extraordinary academic credentials.



4.02

average high school GPA



top 16%

average test score in the top two deciles of all students nationwide



34%

first students in their families to attend college

DePaul enrolled 128 new freshmen in the program, or about 5% of the entering class.

In addition, 36% come from outside Illinois, and 53% are students of color.

DePaul at a Glance

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

Students and Programs

22,064

number of students at DePaul, making it the largest Catholic university in the U.S. and the largest private, nonprofit university in the Midwest

300+

number of undergraduate and graduate programs of study offered on two campuses in Chicago

Faculty

870

full-time faculty members in 10 colleges and schools at DePaul

81%

share of faculty members who hold a PhD or the highest degree in their fields

Retention Rate and Degrees

85%

DePaul’s first-year retention rate in 2019, exceeding the national average for private universities

6,400+

number of undergraduate and graduate degrees DePaul awards annually

Graduation Rate and Post-Graduation Outcomes

74%

six-year graduation rate, exceeding the national average for private universities

93%

share of graduates from the class of 2018 employed and/or in graduate school six months after graduation

Alumni

190,000+

number of DePaul alumni living in over 90 countries

120,000

amount of DePaul alumni living and working in metropolitan Chicago

Learn more at depaul.edu

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