

Freshman Admission Summary 2020

Division of Enrollment Management

Dear colleagues,

Despite the many challenges of 2020, DePaul's new freshman enrollment is noteworthy, if not remarkable. This fall, DePaul welcomed another record-breaking freshman class, enrolling 2,774 freshmen, which was 4.7% over our budgeted headcount goal and the largest freshman class in university history.

DePaul received a record number of applications, which allowed for greater selectivity and resulted in a more academically prepared freshman cohort. This cohort has the highest average GPA ever recorded for a DePaul freshman class, as well as the largest number of Honors Program students, representing 13% of the total freshman cohort.

In addition to being the largest freshman class in university history, it was also the most diverse. DePaul's mission focuses on students who are traditionally underrepresented in higher education, and we work hard to provide the opportunity of a DePaul education to talented students of all backgrounds. To that end, a record 49% of freshmen are students of color, 34% are first-generation students, 32% are Pell-eligible and 23% are from the city of Chicago.

Select admission initiatives and university efforts, including anti-melt programs hosted by each college and value-added yield strategies designed by Enrollment Management, made the difference for a strong fall enrollment. It is clear from our fall enrollment that our decisions leading up to the first day of classes and our ability to communicate clearly with students, parents and the DePaul community contributed to our success.

This summary is a testament to our work as a whole. Welcoming another record-setting class requires contributions from many partners across the university and our community advocates. We are thankful for our colleagues and all that they do to make the DePaul education a reality for our students.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Carlene Klaas". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized initial "C" and a long, sweeping underline.

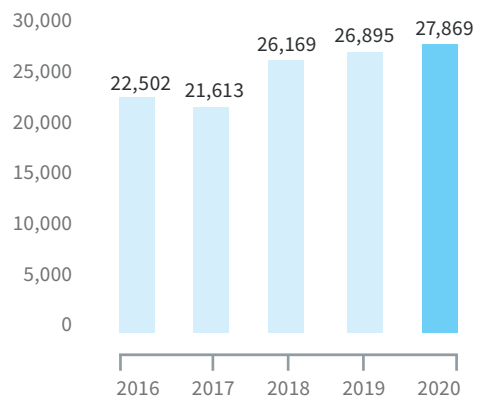
Carlene Klaas
Dean of Undergraduate Admission

Freshman Admission Trends

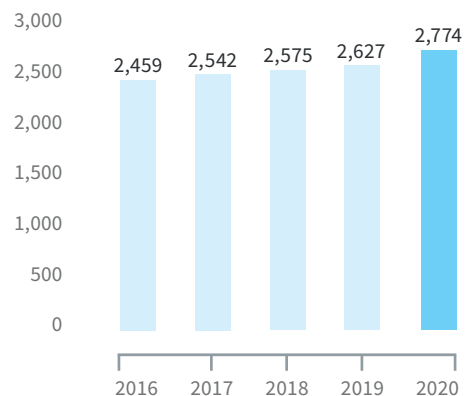
Both freshman enrollment and the freshman application totals were the largest in university history, breaking the record set in 2019.

Freshman Applications, Enrollment and Admission Rates

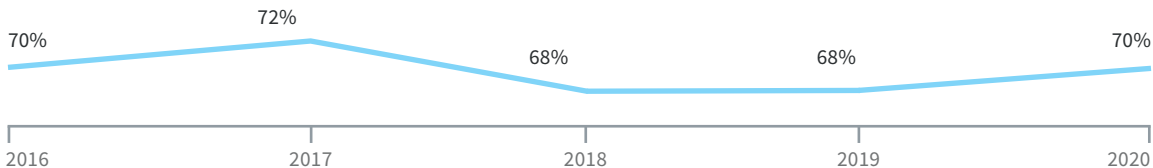
Applications



Enrollment



Admission Rates



In 2020, 27,869 high school students applied to DePaul for freshman admission.

Applications

27%

from Chicago

28%

from Chicago's
suburbs*

43%

from outside Illinois



1,465

number of international
student applications
(F1 and J1 visas) who applied



60/40

ratio of female to
male applicants



5,000+

number of high schools
across the nation from which
applications were received



5,367

number of students
who applied under the
test-optional program

* 2% are from other parts of Illinois.

New Freshman Academic Profile

Measures of high school preparation are among the strongest in university history. Enrollment grew in almost all colleges, and the most popular 10 majors enrolled nearly half of new freshmen.

High School Academic Profile



1171

average SAT composite*



3.75

average high school GPA

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

New Freshmen by College

Computing and Digital Media

Students Enrolled

2018	555
2019	674
2020	697

Business

2018	632
2019	570
2020	606

Science and Health

2018	504
2019	507
2020	568

*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 students who provided only ACT scores.

Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Students Enrolled

2018	496
2019	471
2020	480

Communication

2018	168
2019	176
2020	159

Theatre

2018	88
2019	104
2020	110

Education

2018	73
2019	72
2020	96

Music

2018	59
2019	53
2020	58

Most Popular Majors for New Freshmen

Major	Students Enrolled
Film and television	298
Health sciences	157
Computer science	145
Psychology	141
Accounting	139
Political science	105
Business administration	96
Finance	87
Biology	80
Criminology	77

In addition, 348 students are undecided.

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

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 Race/Ethnicity

	Students Enrolled
Caucasian	
2018	1,342
2019	1,370
2020	1,358
Hispanic/Latinx	
2018	557
2019	564
2020	703
Asian/Pacific Islander	
2018	245
2019	277
2020	311
African American	
2018	164
2019	188
2020	192

Multiracial/Non-Hispanic	Students Enrolled
2018	168
2019	128
2020	146

Other/Unreported

2018	45
2019	34
2020	26

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).

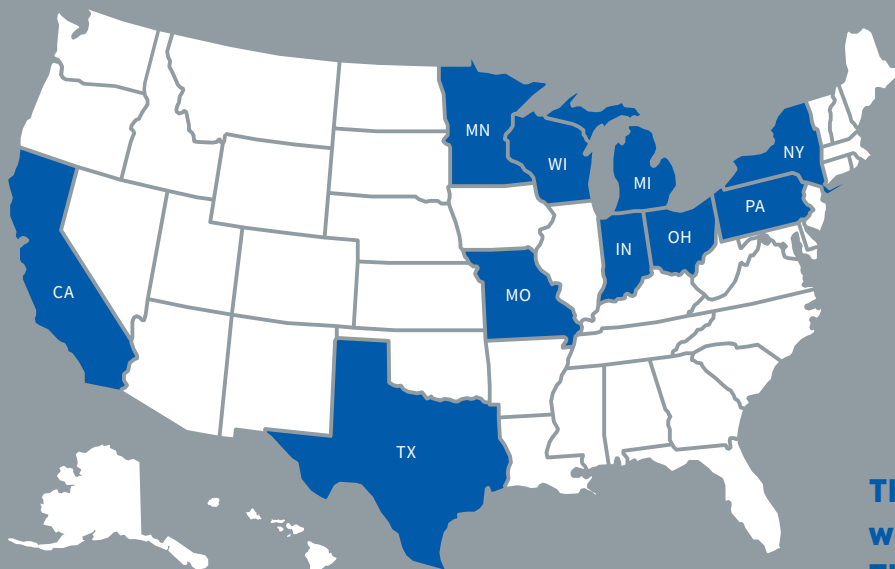
International*

2018	54
2019	66
2020	38

*Includes students with all visa types.

49% of the freshman class are students of color.

Top Feeder States Outside Illinois



Top 10 Feeder States	2018	2019	2020
California	118	130	106
Michigan	86	106	71
Minnesota	75	65	70
Wisconsin	73	72	60
Ohio	81	80	59
Texas	48	71	53
Indiana	43	62	47
Missouri	37	49	42
Pennsylvania	22	20	30
New York	18	21	29

The greatest number of out-of-state freshmen were from California, Michigan and Minnesota. These three states represent 28% of out-of-state freshmen.

New Freshmen by Geographic Diversity

40+

freshmen from each of these states: California, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Ohio, Texas, Indiana and Missouri

23%

percentage of freshmen who came from the city of Chicago

25+

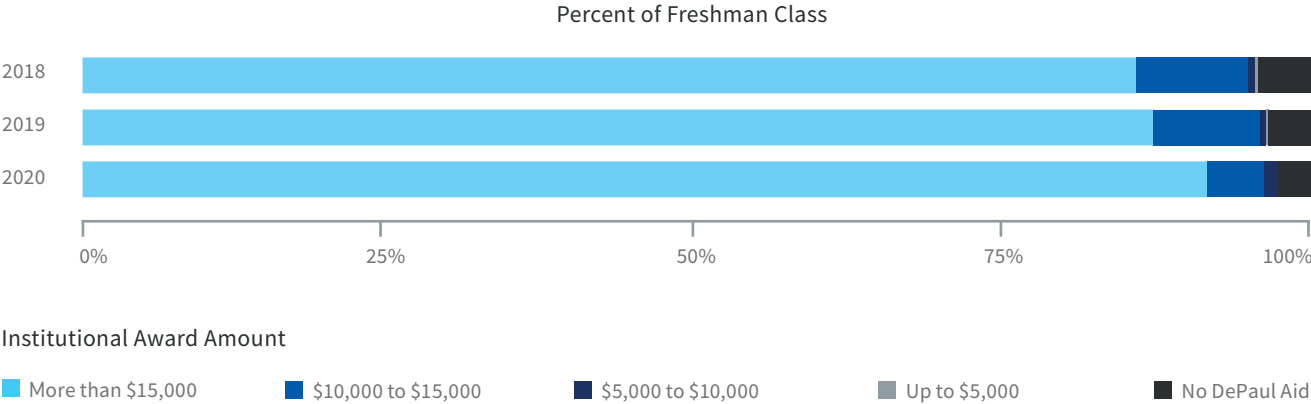
freshmen from each of these Illinois high schools: Lane Tech, Niles West, Jones College Prep, Niles North, Maine East, Stevenson, Lincoln Park, Glenbrook South, Whitney Young and Taft

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.



72%

percentage of enrolling students who received more than \$20,000 in financial aid from DePaul University sources in 2020

Financial Aid Profile

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



\$63.5M+

amount DePaul awarded in institutional grants and scholarships to enrolling freshmen

37%

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

New Freshmen by Socioeconomic Diversity and Parental Attainment



32%

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



91%

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



34%

percentage of freshmen who are first-generation college students

University Honors Program

DePaul enrolled 364 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



1301 points

average SAT score for freshmen
in the Honors Program—
in the top 14% among all SAT
test-takers nationally

About 13% of the freshman class enrolled in the Honors Program in fall 2020.*

High School Academic Profile

364 matriculants total**

High School GPA

4.0 and higher	232
3.5–3.99	118
under 3.5	13

SAT Composite

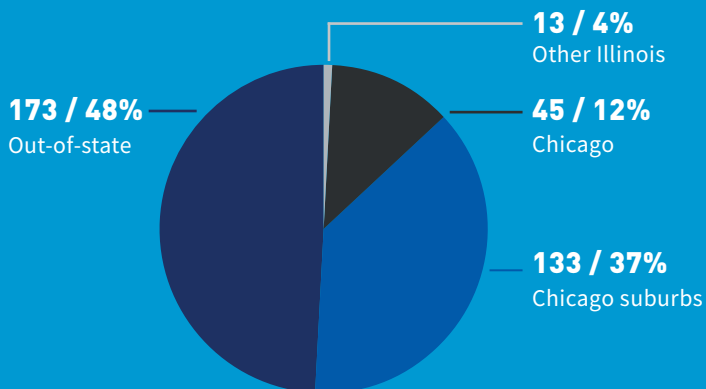
1310–1600	117
1160–1300	92
1020–1150	20
Below 1020	1

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

** Figures will not sum to 364 because students can have missing data.

Honors Program Freshmen by Geography

364 matriculants total



279

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



33

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

Proportion of Honors Program Freshmen by College



24%

College of Liberal Arts
and Social Sciences



24%

College of Science
and Health



23%

College of Computing
and Digital Media



13%

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.

Seventeen percent of the freshman class, or 479 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 high school GPA comparable with freshmen who applied with test scores—3.73 compared with 3.76.

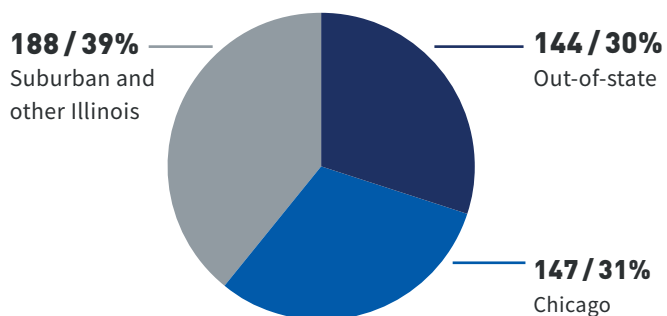
New Test-Optional Freshmen by Ethnicity

479 test-optional matriculants

Hispanic/Latinx	180
Caucasian	179
African American	58
Asian/Pacific Islander	36
Multiracial/Non-Hispanic	21
Other/Unreported	5

New Test-Optional Freshmen by Geography

479 test-optional matriculants



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.



4.11

average high
school GPA



top 20%

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



31%

first students in their
families to attend college

**DePaul enrolled 152 new freshmen in the program,
or about 5% of the entering class.**

**In addition, 29% come from outside Illinois, and
54% 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

21,922

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

874

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

83%

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

Retention Rate and Degrees

83%

DePaul's first-year retention rate in 2020, exceeding the national average for private universities

6,100+

number of undergraduate and graduate degrees DePaul awards annually

Graduation Rate and Post-Graduation Outcomes

71%

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

89%

percentage of undergraduates from the class of 2019 who are employed and/or pursuing graduate studies within six months of graduation

Alumni

195,500+

number of DePaul alumni living in over 90 countries

122,500

number of DePaul alumni living and working in metropolitan Chicago

Learn more at depaul.edu

Enrollment Management

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depaul.edu



DEPAUL UNIVERSITY