



Admission to Big Public Flagship Universities

Tuesday, September 20, 2022
Tuesday, September 27, 2022
Webinar: Thursday, Sept 29, 2022

An overview of this presentation

- Consideration of this statement -- some students believe that “bigger is better!”
- Analysis of admission to five big public flagship universities
- Questions to ask in researching programs at a big state university, with tips for admission
- Final comments

So -- Bigger is better!?!

- Minnetonka High School has over 3500 students (with a senior class of 894), and for many students, their college list includes only schools that are bigger. Some want to attend a place that is much bigger – usually for financial or geographical reasons.
- All universities of 20,000+ students have departmental divisions, which provide a more personal experience to the students.

Bigger is better!?!

- At many institutions, the application is straightforward, with mostly objective questions
- Essay might be optional!
- Recommendation letters might not be needed
- There may be a numerical academic index for selection – admission can be predicted
- Rolling admission, with a fairly quick turnaround

Campuses with the largest (full and part time enrollment in the United States

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| • Southern New Hampshire Univ | 113,514 |
| • Grand Canyon University | 96,211 |
| • University of Phoenix | 94,724 |
| • Liberty University | 85,586 |
| • University of Central Florida | 69,402 |
| • Texas A&M University | 68,726 |
| • The Ohio State University | 61,391 |
| • Arizona State University | 53,286 |

Almanac Issue, August 2021, *Chronicle of Higher Education*

Big Ten enrollment from MHS Classes of 2021 & 2022

| | |
|--|-----|
| • University of Minnesota, Twin Cities | 173 |
| • University of Wisconsin, Madison | 88 |
| • University of Iowa | 27 |
| • Indiana University | 26 |
| • University of Nebraska, Lincoln | 17 |
| • Purdue University | 7 |
| • University of Michigan | 5 |

Big Ten enrollment, continued

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| • Northwestern University | 3 |
| • University of Illinois | 2 |
| • University of Maryland | 1 |
| • Michigan State University | 1 |
| • Penn State University | 1 |
| • Ohio State University | 0 |
| • Rutgers University | 0 |

University of Minnesota – Twin Cities

For fall 2021

Early Action deadline: Nov 1
Regular Decision deadline: Jan 1

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Applicants: | 35,905 |
| Admitted: | 26,295 (57%) |
| Enrolled: | 6,883 |
| Undergrads: | 30,784 |
| % in-state: | 71% |
| % graduate in 6 yrs | 83% |

U of M, continued

Admitting colleges for freshman enrollment and average ACT score (for those students who submitted a test score)

- College of Biological Sciences 28-32
- College of Design 25-29
- College of Education and
Human Development 23-28
- College of Food, Agricultural and
Natural Resource Sciences 25-29

U of M, continued

Admitting colleges for freshman enrollment and average ACT score (for those who submitted)

- | | |
|--|-------|
| • College of Liberal Arts | 26-30 |
| • Carlson School of Management | 29-32 |
| • College of Science and Engineering (formerly Institute of Technology) | 30-34 |
| • School of Nursing | 28-31 |

No more General College – phased out in 2006-07

U of M, continued

Admissions statistics:

- 83% of admitted students have a 3.75 gpa or better
- Mid-50th percentile on ACT: 27-32
- Note: test-optional for 2023
- In-state comprehensive fee: \$30,573
- No required essay/no recommendation letters. Self-reported academic record (SRAR). No transcript required. Golden Gopher app or Common Application.

U of M, continued

Admissions statistics from MHS:

| Class | Apply | Admit | Enroll |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 2022 | 309 | 237 | 84 |
| 2021 | 356 | 261 | 89 |
| 2020 | 348 | 293 | 103 |
| 2019 | 313 | 233 | 101 |

University of Wisconsin - Madison

For fall 2021

Early Action deadline: Nov 1
Regular Decision deadline: Jan 15

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Applicants: | 53,829 |
| Admitted: | 32,466 (54%) |
| Enrolled: | 8,465 |
| Undergrads: | 33,506 |
| % in-state: | 50% |
| % graduate in 6 yrs | 88% |

U of Wisconsin, continued

Admitting colleges for freshman enrollment:

- College of Letters and Science (60% of the first-year students)
- College of Agricultural and Life Sciences
- School of Education
- School of Human Ecology
- Wisconsin School of Business (with about 66% of first-year students having direct admit)

U of Wisconsin, continued

Sophomore admission to:

- College of Engineering (to their specific major)
- Wisconsin School of Business

Junior admission to:

- School of Pharmacy
- School of Nursing (after the pre-nursing program)

U of Wisconsin, continued

Admissions statistics:

- 89% of admitted students have a 3.75 gpa or better
- Mid-50th percentile on ACT: 28-32
- Note: test-optional for 2023
- Out-of-state* comprehensive tuition fee: \$30,573
- Two essays/recommendation letter required
- Apply Wisconsin app or Common Application

* Tuition reciprocity with Minnesota

U of Wisconsin, continued

Admissions statistics from MHS:

| Class | Apply | Admit | Enroll |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 2022 | 194 | 83 | 50 |
| 2021 | 175 | 88 | 38 |
| 2020 | 157 | 93 | 46 |
| 2019 | 131 | 67 | 35 |

University of Iowa – Iowa City

For fall 2021

Priority deadline: Nov 1

Rolling deadline: April 1

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Applicants: | 22,434 |
| Admitted: | 19,340 (83%) |
| Enrolled: | 4,521 |
| Undergrads: | 22,482 |
| % in-state: | 62% |
| % graduate in 6 yrs | 72% |

U of Iowa, continued

Admitting colleges for freshman enrollment:

- College of Liberal Arts & Science (70%)
- College of Engineering (15%)
- Tippie College of Business (about 50% are given direct admit)
- College of Nursing
- College of Education

Sophomore year admission to:

- Tippie College of Business
- College of Pharmacy

U of Iowa, continued

Admissions statistics:

- 61% of admitted students have a 3.75 gpa or better
- Mid-50th percentile on ACT: 22-29
- Note: Test-optional for 2023
- Out-of-state comprehensive tuition fee: \$45,269
- Self-reported academic record, with the Regent Admission Index (RAI). Students can expect a decision within 48 hours of applying. No recommendation letters. No transcript required. Common Application and U Iowa application.

U of Iowa, continued

Admissions statistics from MHS:

| Class | Apply | Admit | Enroll |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 2022 | 74 | 67 | 13 |
| 2021 | 82 | 73 | 14 |
| 2020 | 70 | 65 | 6 |
| 2019 | 44 | 42 | 7 |

Purdue University – West Lafayette, IN

For fall 2021

Scholarship deadline: Nov 1

Regular decision: Jan 15

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Applicants: | 55,311 |
| Admitted: | 33,093 (60% accepted) |
| Enrolled: | 8,195 |
| Undergrads: | 33,461 |
| % in-state: | 56% |
| % graduate in 6 yrs | 82% |

Purdue University, continued

Admitting colleges for freshman enrollment:

- College of Agriculture
- College of Education
- College of Engineering
- College of Health & Human Science
- College of Liberal Arts
- College of Science
- College of Technology
- Krannert School of Management
- Undergraduate Studies Program

Purdue University, continued

Admissions statistics:

- 70% of admitted students have a 3.75 gpa or better
- Mid-50th percentile on ACT: 25-32
- Note: **test-flexible** policy for 2023, but required for Class of 2024
- Out-of-state comprehensive tuition fee: \$39,584
- Self-reported academic record and test scores. One essay required. One recommendation letter is “recommended.” Common Application.

Purdue University, continued

Admissions statistics from MHS:

| Class | Apply | Admit | Enroll |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 2022 | 45 | 29 | 4 |
| 2021 | 32 | 24 | 3 |
| 2020 | 35 | 27 | 4 |
| 2019 | 24 | 19 | 3 |

University of Nebraska - Lincoln

For fall 2021

Priority deadline: May 1

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Applicants: | 17,775 |
| Admitted: | 14,384 (78% accepted) |
| Enrolled: | 4,736 |
| Undergrads: | 19,449 |
| % in-state: | 74% |
| % graduate in 6 yrs | 65% |

U of Nebraska, continued

Admitting colleges for freshman enrollment:

- Agriculture Sciences & Natural Resources
- Architecture
- Arts & Sciences
- Business Administration
- Education & Human Sciences
- Engineering
- Hixson-Lied Fine & Performing Arts
- Journalism & Mass Communications

U of Nebraska, continued

Admissions statistics:

- 52% of admitted students have a 3.75 gpa or better
- Mid-50th percentile on ACT: 22-28
- Note: test optional for 2023
- Out-of-state comprehensive tuition fee: \$39,349
- No essay/no recommendation letters; self-reported academic record. No transcript required. UNL application or Common Application

U of Nebraska, continued

Admissions statistics from MHS:

| Class | Apply | Admit | Enroll |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 2022 | 43 | 40 | 8 |
| 2021 | 47 | 37 | 9 |
| 2020 | 79 | 79 | 16 |
| 2019 | 76 | 76 | 18 |

Questions to research in seeking admission to a big state university:

- How does the campus feel?!
- What percent of classes have an enrollment over 100 students? How many of those classes have a “break-out” discussion section?
- How big is the Honors Program? What criteria are used for selection, or admission? Is there special housing offered to Honors students?
- When/where does course registration take place?

Questions, continued

- Housing is guaranteed for the freshman year, but then what? (On a tour, ask about where sophomores live!) When/how can you apply for housing?
- How many upperclassmen eat on campus? What are the plans/options?
- What credit is given for AP/IB courses?
- Is there preferred admission to a graduate program?
- How easy/difficult is it to conduct research?

Questions, continued

- How many students study abroad?
- How early do students make use of the career center?
- Who helps students set up an internship?
- How much does parking really cost?
- How many tickets can each student buy for the football game?

A few important final thoughts:

- Our priority in the college counseling program at Minnetonka High School – helping the student to find the right fit!
- “College is a match to be made, not a prize to be won!” Frank Sachs, retired from The Blake School, Minneapolis
- Every student is encouraged to follow this application guideline:
“You apply for admission to a college because you would like to go there!”

The final word!

The general rule about applying to a big state university: you should apply as soon as you've discovered the school is the **right choice for you**.

Phillip Trout
College Counselor
Minnetonka High School
952-401-5746
collegeguy@minnetonkaschools.org
Twitter: @MHScollegeguy

9-20-22