

Contact Us

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20 25 Profile

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY



Students walk to class on the first day of the 2024 fall semester.

Published January 2025

Higher purpose.

Greater good.

Founded in 1818, Saint Louis University is one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious Catholic research institutions. Rooted in Jesuit values and its pioneering history as the first university west of the Mississippi River, SLU offers more than **15,300** students a rigorous, transformative education that challenges and prepares them to make the world a better place. As a nationally recognized leader in research and innovation, SLU is a **Research-1 (R1) university**, advancing groundbreaking, life-changing discoveries that promote the greater good.

OUR MISSION

The mission of Saint Louis University is the pursuit of truth for the greater glory of God and for the service of humanity. The University seeks excellence in the fulfillment of its corporate purposes of teaching, research, health care and service to the community.

The University is dedicated to leadership in the continuing quest for understanding of God's creation and for the discovery, dissemination and integration of the values, knowledge and skills required to transform society in the spirit of the Gospels. As a Catholic, Jesuit university, this pursuit is motivated by the inspiration and values of the Judeo-Christian tradition and is guided by the spiritual and intellectual ideals of the Society of Jesus.



**SAINT LOUIS
UNIVERSITY™**

— EST. 1818 —

YEAR FOUNDED
1818

RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION
Roman Catholic, Jesuit

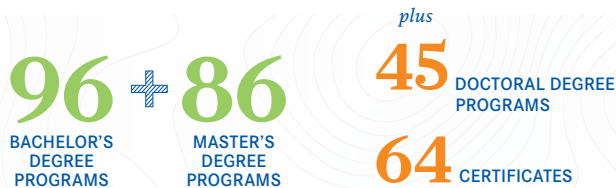
LOCATIONS
St. Louis, Missouri
Madrid, Spain

PRESIDENT
Fred P. Pestello, Ph.D.
through June 30
Edward J. Feser, Ph.D.
starting July 1

The Doisy Research Center

All photos by Sarah Conroy, unless otherwise noted.

Programs, Colleges + Schools



Students studying at SLU's Pius XII Memorial Library

SLU'S COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS TIMELINE

1818	COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
1836	SCHOOL OF MEDICINE
1843	SCHOOL OF LAW
1889	COLLEGE OF PHILOSOPHY AND LETTERS
1910	RICHARD A. CHAIFETZ SCHOOL OF BUSINESS
1927	SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING
1928	TRUDY BUSCH VALENTINE SCHOOL OF NURSING
1930	SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK
1979	DOISY COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES
1991	COLLEGE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL JUSTICE
1996	SCHOOL FOR PROFESSIONAL STUDIES
1998	SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

DEGREE-GRANTING CENTER

1994	CENTER FOR ADVANCED DENTAL EDUCATION
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Rankings + Honors

A LEADING CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

SLU is recognized as one of the nation's best values in higher education and one of the leading Catholic universities in the country.

BEST VALUE

U.S. News & World Report named SLU a "Best Value School" for the eighth consecutive year in its 2025 Best Colleges rankings for undergraduate education.

No. 13 BEST CATHOLIC COLLEGE IN AMERICA
— *Niche.com*

UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION

GRADUATE EDUCATION

No. 157

among the top 400 universities in the country

The Wall Street Journal

No. 2

Health Care Law Program

U.S. News & World Report 2024 Best Law Schools

No. 105

out of nearly 1,500 national universities for 2025

U.S. News & World Report

No. 12

in Entrepreneurship and International Business

U.S. News & World Report 2024 Best Business Schools

Top 15%

of America's four-year colleges

Princeton Review's Best 390 Colleges 2025 edition

No. 24

in Health Care Management

U.S. News & World Report 2024 Best Health Schools

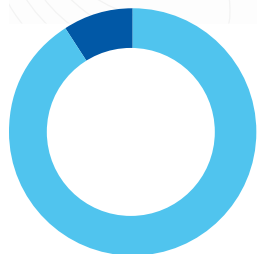
Our Students

2024 Freshman Class

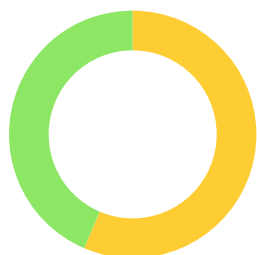
15,334
STUDENTS

plus
3,025
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN
SLU'S 1818 ADVANCED
COLLEGE CREDIT PROGRAM

Fall 2024

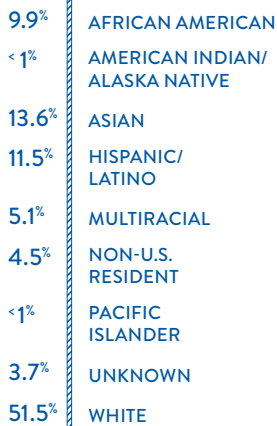


● 13,958 Full-time
● 1,376 Part-time



● 8,669 Undergraduate
● 6,665 Graduate

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT DIVERSITY



from all

50
U.S. STATES

60.4%
OF SLU UNDERGRADUATE
STUDENTS are from outside
of Missouri

from

100
COUNTRIES



Students study outside on a warm winter day.

Freshman Stats

3.8

AVERAGE HIGH SCHOOL GPA

15,533

APPLICATIONS

TOP REPRESENTED STATES

40

U.S. STATES REPRESENTED

1,613

FULL-TIME, FIRST-TIME FRESHMEN ENROLLED

Missouri

Illinois

Texas

Wisconsin

Indiana

84

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Career Preparation + Outcomes



CAREER SUPPORT AT EVERY STAGE

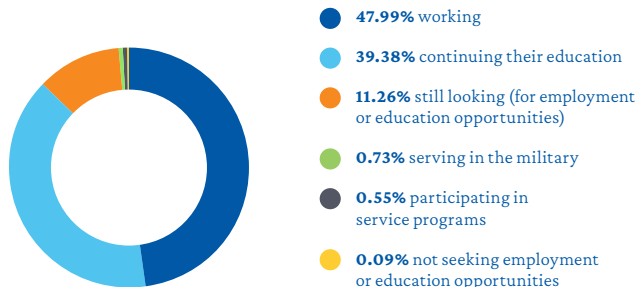
SLU’s online career database, Handshake, connects students and alumni to employers, internships and jobs. In 2024, Handshake recorded:



Career Services Handshake data from academic year 2024



WHAT ARE RECENT SLU GRADUATES DOING NOW?



First-Destination Survey responses from academic year 2023

Student Financial Support

The University offers scholarship programs recognizing academic merit, financial need, diversity, Jesuit high school graduates, multiple sibling enrollees, aptitude, athletics and more.

No. 46 IN “2025 BEST VALUE SCHOOLS”
— U.S. News & World Report

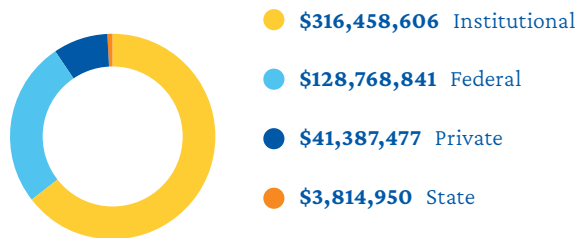
29% of first-time freshmen received a paid Pell Grant in fall 2024

\$50,178 average aid award amount for freshmen

\$27,650 average aid award amount that doesn't need to be repaid (all students)

43% of undergraduate students graduate without student loan debt

SOURCES OF AID TO STUDENTS



TOTAL **\$490,429,874**

STUDENTS RECEIVING AID



Fiscal year 2024

Living Our Faith

Guided by the Catholic Church and the Society of Jesus, SLU encourages students, faculty and staff to explore their faith and deepen their understanding of its role in their lives. People from every religious identity, practice and tradition are welcome at Saint Louis University.

12 + + + + +
+ + + + +

STUDENT RETREATS

are offered by Campus Ministry during the academic year.

200+ + + + + +
+ + + + +

FREE CUPS OF COFFEE

are shared at Java with the Jesuits every Friday morning.

15 + + + + +
+ + + + +

SACRED SPACES

located throughout campus are open to SLU students, faculty and staff of any faith tradition for prayer, meditation and reflection.

Student groups that encourage the spirituality of all members of the SLU community include:

SLU InterFaith Alliance

Jewish Student Association

420+ + + + + +
+ + + + +

STUDENTS

attend Sunday evening Mass at St. Francis Xavier College Church each week.

40 + + + + +
+ + + + +

JESUITS

teach, study and minister at SLU. Five serve as chaplains for SLU's athletic teams.

30+ + + + + +
+ + + + +

STUDENTS

attend Campus Ministry's Community Nights each month.

Muslim Student Association

Hindu Student Alliance

Creating a Culture of Belonging

SLU is committed to ensuring that every student, from every background, feels welcomed, develops their unique strengths and thrives – now and in the years ahead.



Students pet a Duo Touch Therapy Dog during Wellness Day.

25.2%

OF FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS are Black, Hispanic, American Indian or Alaskan Native, Pacific Islander, or multiracial

20%

OF FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS are first-generation college students

RISE PROGRAM

Students who meet certain admission criteria, including Federal Pell Grant recipients, engage with a community of peers with similar lived experiences.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

More than 30 student organizations – founded and led by students – provide opportunities for community and celebration of diverse backgrounds, cultures, identities and perspectives. Through these organizations, students develop leadership skills, build meaningful connections and gain hands-on experience beyond the classroom.

ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL CONNECTIONS

Students from all backgrounds build their networks through numerous organizations and events that create community, inspire academic achievement, and foster mentorship on campus and in their future professions. These experiences help students develop essential skills and increase their competitiveness in the job market.

Global Reach



SLU-Madrid students in Parque del Buen Retiro, one of the largest parks in Madrid, Spain. Photo courtesy of Saint Louis University Madrid

SLU-MADRID

Founded in 1967, Saint Louis University's international campus in Madrid, Spain, offers a welcoming, multicultural environment where students can expand their horizons, discover new cultures and deepen their knowledge in the context of an interconnected world.

SLU-Madrid
is home to

1,246
STUDENTS



from

78
COUNTRIES



12:1
STUDENT-
FACULTY RATIO

200+
ACCREDITED
COURSES
are taught in
English each
semester.

60+
SUMMER
COURSES

500+
SLU STUDENTS
from the St. Louis
campus spend a
semester or
academic year
at SLU-Madrid
each year.

20
UNDERGRADUATE
DEGREES

and

2
GRADUATE
DEGREES
can be completed
entirely in Madrid.

Students can start
one of more than

40
UNDERGRADUATE
DEGREES
at SLU-Madrid
and finish at
SLU's St. Louis
campus.

STUDY ABROAD

In addition to SLU-Madrid, Saint Louis University offers a full range of study-abroad destinations all over the world.

Top destinations
include:



GOLD COAST,
Australia

LONDON,
England

SEOUL,
South Korea

GALWAY,
Ireland

SORRENTO,
Italy

40

PARTNER PROGRAMS IN 37 CITIES ON
SIX CONTINENTS ARE AVAILABLE TO STUDENTS.

75+

SLU STUDENTS SPEND A SEMESTER OR YEAR
STUDYING ABROAD THROUGH THESE PARTNER
PROGRAMS.

100+

STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN SHORT-TERM
INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES EVERY YEAR.
(winter break, spring break and short-term summer trips)



New international students chat at a welcome party during International Student Orientation.

GLOBAL GRADUATE INITIATIVE

Launched in 2020 as a collaborative effort between multiple departments and divisions, the University's Global Graduate Initiative, or Global Grad, connects graduate students from all over the world with SLU's sought-after business, technology and engineering programs. As the University's international graduate enrollment grows, SLU supports students in pursuing their professional goals at the St. Louis campus while helping them make the most of the University's job placement resources, support and extensive opportunities.

Student Involvement + Well-Being

407,122

VISITS TO SIMON
RECREATION CENTER
IN ACADEMIC YEAR 2023-2024

20+

GREEK LETTER
ORGANIZATIONS

200+

STUDENT CLUBS
AND ORGANIZATIONS



MORE THAN 900 STUDENTS of all skill levels belong to nearly 30 sports clubs, including individual and team sports that range from baseball and volleyball to ultimate Frisbee, kayaking and horseback riding.

5 WELLSPACE LOCATIONS across campus provide students with a designated space for creativity, rest and self-care.

856 STUDENTS AND 690 FACULTY AND STAFF have completed training in Mental Health First Aid, a skills-based course that prepares participants to help assist someone experiencing a mental-health crisis.

JED CAMPUS AT SLU

As part of SLU's commitment to supporting the mental health and well-being of SLU students, the University is proud to be an official JED Campus. In partnership with the Jed Foundation, SLU is working to foster an even stronger culture of hope and resilience on its campuses and among its students.

Photos clockwise:

A student creates art with a giant Lite Brite at the Billiken Block Party.

Students participate in goat yoga at the annual Wellness Fair.

Students sign a banner during SLU's annual Fresh Check Day.

The Kayaking Club practices at the Simon Rec Center.



World-Class Faculty + Research

2,190
FACULTY MEMBERS

39
ENDOWED CHAIRS
25
NAMED PROFESSORSHIPS

9:1 STUDENT-FACULTY RATIO

Students receive personalized attention from SLU's world-class faculty.



A SLU biology professor studies insects in the campus greenhouse.



A School of Medicine M.D./Ph.D. student conducts research at the Doisy Research Center.

R1 STATUS

This year, SLU was granted R1 status by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, placing SLU in an elite group of U.S. research universities. R1 is the highest designation a university can receive for research activity.

1,000+

The number of times experts from SLU were interviewed by local, national and international media outlets in 2024.

91.4%

of SLU's full-time instructional faculty members hold the highest or terminal degree in their fields. They are nationally recognized teachers, researchers and mentors.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION'S HISTORIC GIFT

In 2024, SLU announced a historic donation to the University's School of Education from pioneering breast surgeon and SLU alumna Virginia (Ginny) Herrmann, M.D. The \$7.3 million gift, the largest the School of Education has ever received from a donor, will establish the Herrmann Center for Innovative Catholic Education, as well as support education programs at every educational level and underserved students throughout the St. Louis region.

\$63.7 million

IN EXTERNAL RESEARCH
EXPENDITURES IN 2024 –
UP 59% FROM 2018

91

SLU RESEARCH
INSTITUTE FELLOWS
NAMED SINCE 2022



271

RESEARCH/ SCHOLARSHIP
DOCTORAL DEGREES AWARDED
Academic year 2023

\$8.6 million

RESEARCH EXPENDITURES IN
THE SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND
ENGINEERING IN 2024

104% INCREASE

Compared to 2016, Saint Louis University has increased research expenditures by 104%.

Service + Community Impact

Inspired by the Jesuit call to be men and women for others, Saint Louis University encourages service and community engagement at every level.



Students delivering meals as part of SLU's Campus Kitchen program.

CARNEGIE FOUNDATION RECOGNITION

SLU is one of only 46 schools in the U.S. to earn the Carnegie Foundation's 2024 Community Engagement Classification, which honors the service-centered work of the University's faculty, staff and students.

75%

OF SLU STUDENTS volunteer each year, nearly triple the national average among college students

20,000+

MEALS PREPARED and delivered to those in need by nearly 2,000 volunteers through SLU's Campus Kitchen in 2024

Students play miniature golf on a course made from grocery items at the Golf and Give event.



500+ **PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS** identified by SLU's Center for Social Action as sites for volunteer opportunities and service-learning

180+ **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COURSES** offered at SLU

1.6 million **HOURS OF SERVICE** completed by members of the SLU community each year

2,000+ **K-12 STUDENTS** tutored through SLU community engagement efforts



SLU's Green Billikens student organization cleans up their garden.

10,000+ **PEOPLE DIRECTLY IMPACTED** during the first six years of SLU's 1818 Community Engagement Grant Program, which awards grants annually to student groups for projects that benefit the community.

Billiken Athletics

DIVISION I PROGRAMS

- BASEBALL (MEN'S)
 - BASKETBALL*
 - CROSS COUNTRY*
 - FIELD HOCKEY (WOMEN'S)
 - INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD*
 - OUTDOOR TRACK AND FIELD*
 - SOCCER*
 - SWIMMING AND DIVING*
 - SOFTBALL (WOMEN'S)
 - TENNIS*
 - VOLLEYBALL (WOMEN'S)
- * Indicates both men's and women's teams



The women's soccer team celebrates capturing the A-10 Championship title for the seventh consecutive season. Photo by Bill Barrett



7 consecutive conference championships for the women's soccer team



WHAT'S A BILLIKEN?

The Billiken is a mythical good-luck figure who represents “things as they ought to be.” In 1910, local sportswriters thought SLU football coach John Bender bore a striking resem-

blance to the impish creature, and SLU’s football team was dubbed “Bender’s Billikens.” The public took up the moniker, and it became the official nickname of all SLU teams.



Billiken women's basketball player Kennedy Calhoun celebrates the team's victory over Minnesota in the championship game of the 2024 Women's National Invitation Tournament at SLUE's First Community Arena. Photo by Bill Barrett

<p>269</p> <p>SLU STUDENT-ATHLETES NAMED TO THE 2023-24 A-10 COMMISSIONER'S HONOR ROLL</p>	<p>69 50</p> <p>SLU MINN</p> <p><i>The Billikens' final winning score against Minnesota in the championship game of the 2024 Women's National Invitation Tournament.</i></p> <p><i>The women's basketball team made program history with their first-ever trip to the Fab 4 and their first WNIT title.</i></p>	<p>51</p> <p>NCAA TOURNAMENT APPEARANCES BY THE MEN'S SOCCER TEAM - INCLUDING THE MOST RECENT IN 2024</p>
<p>9</p> <p>REGULAR SEASON CHAMPIONSHIPS IN THE PAST FIVE YEARS</p>		<p>3.47</p> <p>AVERAGE GPA FOR MORE THAN 400 SLU STUDENT-ATHLETES (2023-24)</p>

A FOCUS ON STUDENT-ATHLETE WELLNESS

At SLU, an interprofessional wellness team is enhancing the health and well-being of SLU’s student-athletes. Operating out of the O’Loughlin Family Champions Center, the team consists of a clinical sports psychology doctoral student, a licensed mental health professional, an athletic trainer and a sports dietician.

Alumni + Funding

Throughout the world, SLU alumni are leading, learning, embodying SLU's mission in their communities and giving back to the University. Their support, together with the support of other generous donors, helps SLU fund and expand the programs that have helped them succeed.

134,336

ALUMNI LIVE IN

50
STATES

154
COUNTRIES

The University sponsors alumni clubs in

24 CITIES

4 COUNTRIES

DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS

\$49 million

given to SLU in fiscal year 2023-2024 by alumni and other generous donors

ANNUAL ALUMNI EVENTS



HOMECOMING AND
FAMILY WEEKEND



EASTER
EGG HUNT



ALUMNI
FAN FEST



CHRISTMAS
ON THE QUAD

UNIVERSITY ENDOWMENT

\$1.9 billion

(as of September 2024)

LONG-TERM CREDIT RATINGS

Moody's Investors Service: A1

Standard and Poor's: AA-

About St. Louis



ONE OF THE
2024
BEST CITIES
FOR YOUNG
PROFESSIONALS

— Niche



NO. 6

2024 MOST
AFFORDABLE
PLACES TO
LIVE IN THE U.S.

— Clever Real Estate

SLU'S VIBRANT NEIGHBORHOOD

The University's historic Midtown neighborhood is experiencing a renaissance thanks to a sustained investment in housing, retail and business development, with SLU at the center of its growth. SLU's focus on safety and walkability has made Midtown's Prospect Yards mixed-use district a popular destination for the community.

Students and visitors have access to a variety of resources all within a few blocks of campus, including a **new Target store**, featuring a **CVS, Ulta** and **Starbucks**; **Fresh Thyme Market** grocery store; **Ikea**; **Topgolf St. Louis**; and **City Foundry STL's** local retailers, food hall, restaurants, activities and entertainment hot spots.

TOP 10

MOST
WALKABLE
CITIES
TO VISIT

— USA Today
Readers'
Choice 2024