

2025



**STATE UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA**

YEAR IN REVIEW



IN THE NATION
FOR
HIGHER EDUCATION

SINCE 2017

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Message from the Chair

Chair Brian Lamb

BOARD OF GOVERNORS



Thanks to the unwavering dedication of our outstanding faculty and staff, Boards of Trustees, university leadership, and members of the Board of Governors, the State University System of Florida continues to set the standard for excellence in higher education. Together, we have built a system that provides accessible, affordable, and high-quality education while driving innovation and opportunity across our state. As we look ahead to 2025 and beyond, SUS 30 will continue to serve as our roadmap for success—empowering our universities to reach new heights in student achievement, research, and workforce development.

Message from the Chancellor

Chancellor Ray Rodrigues

STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA



It is a privilege to continue serving as Chancellor of the State University System of Florida. This year, the Board of Governors set a bold direction with SUS 30, a strategic plan that positions our universities for continued growth through 2030. Student success remains at the heart of our mission. The four-year graduation rate reached a record 66%, and graduates are entering the workforce with median earnings of \$51,000 just one year after graduation. Backed by \$645 million in performance-based funding, the System is delivering exceptional returns for Florida's students, communities, and economy—thanks to the leadership of Governor DeSantis and the steadfast support of the Florida Legislature.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS



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6/1/2025 - 5/31/2026



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3/29/2019 - 1/6/2026



Paul Renner

4/15/2025-1/6/2031



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2/3/2020 - 1/6/2027



Ashley Bell Barnett

11/27/2023 - 1/6/2026



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6/1/2025 - 5/31/2026



Carson Good

5/8/2024 - 1/6/2031



Anastasios Kamoutsas

Commissioner of Education



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FGCU

Lyndsay Rhodes
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FSU

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Heather Riddell

FLORIDA STUDENT ASSOCIATION



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Florida Atlantic University



CARSON DALE
Chair and President
Florida State University



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Internal Vice Chair
University of West Florida

FAMU

Zayla Bryant

FIU

Francesca Casanova

NCF

Kyla Baldonado

UCF

Luci Blanco

FGCU

Gianna Ihuoma

FPU

Colby Manrodt

UF

Blake Cox

UNF

Amelia Dyal

USF

Sumit Jadhav

STRATEGIC PLAN APPROVAL

This year, the Florida Board of Governors approved SUS 30, the new strategic plan for the State University System of Florida (SUS), which will deliver an extraordinary impact for students and our state. SUS 30 defines the mission, vision, values, and priority areas that will guide the System through 2030.

PRIORITY AREAS



ONE SUS

The State University System of Florida comprises 12 distinct universities, each with renowned areas of expertise, all collaborating as one System.



ELEVATING STUDENT SUCCESS

Our System serves as a national model of excellence for student success, providing high-quality education that is both affordable and accessible.



OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Our System is committed to being exceptional stewards of state resources and upholding the highest standards of integrity by continually identifying best practices and areas for improvement.



WORLD-CLASS TALENT

Our System boasts top-tier faculty who relentlessly pursue knowledge and produce world-class graduates who secure positions at iconic companies worldwide.



INNOVATIVE RESEARCH & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Our System conducts innovative research that tackles crucial, life-altering challenges, transforms communities, and serves as an economic driver for our state.



OUR VALUES DELIVER
AN EXTRAORDINARY
IMPACT

I

Integrity

M

Modeling Excellence

P

Pursuing Knowledge

A

Access & Affordability

C

Collaboration

T

Transformative Innovation

MISSION

To serve the needs of our state and society by providing high-quality higher education, innovative research, and public service through a coordinated system of institutions, each with distinct missions, collectively advancing civic principles, fostering world-class talent, and propelling Florida's economic prosperity.

VISION

The State University System of Florida will be the premier public university system in the nation, renowned for its world-class talent and collective strengths of its member institutions, delivering extraordinary impact around the world.

PERFORMANCE-BASED FUNDING

FOCUS ON STUDENT SUCCESS, ACCOUNTABILITY, & IMPROVEMENT

The SUS awarded **\$645 million in Performance-Based Funding** to its 12 public universities during the current fiscal year. Institutions were evaluated based on key metrics, including retention, graduation rates, and employment outcomes. This initiative reflects the System's commitment to the long-term success of Florida students and the state's workforce.



PRIORITIZING STUDENT SUCCESS

64%

four-year graduation rate



7 pts

5-Year Trend



WORKFORCE READY

74%

employed earning \$40k+ or
enrolled one year after graduation



9 pts

5-Year Trend



INCREASING GRADUATE SALARIES

\$51k

median salary one year after
graduation



\$9k

5-Year Trend

NURSING FUNDING

The **PIPELINE** (Prepping Institutions, Programs, Employers, and Learners through Incentives for Nursing Education) and **LINE** (Linking Industry to Nursing Education) **Funds incentivize and reward nursing education programs to increase the number of nurses entering the workforce and address a critical workforce need in Florida.**

AN APPROVED \$6 MILLION ACROSS 24 PROPOSALS FROM FAU, FIU, UCF, FGCU, UNF, USF, FSU, FAMU, UF, AND UWF FOR 2025-26

2024-25 SUS HIGHLIGHTS:



RECORD-HIGH

number of pre-licensure nursing graduates

1,900+



EXPANDED CAPACITY

in nursing programs

1,000+

new slots since 2014



OPPORTUNITIES

provided by LINE to fund

200+

new nursing students

&

310+

scholarships



POWERING FUTURES

94%

nursing examination pass rate across the SUS



The SUS continues to address Florida's workforce shortages, increasing pre-licensure program slots by **more than 1,000** and producing **nearly 600 more** pre-licensure nursing graduates over the past 10 years.

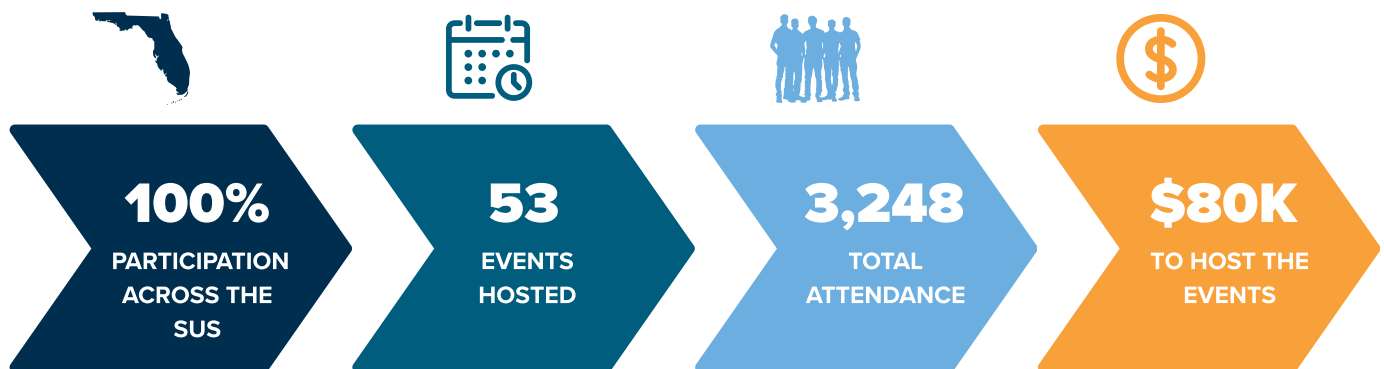
OFFICE OF PUBLIC POLICY EVENTS

SECTION 1001.93, FLORIDA STATUTES

requires each state university within the SUS to establish an Office of Public Policy Events and appoint a Director of Public Policy Events. Universities are required to host two events during the fall semester and two events during the spring semester, representing a diversity of perspectives. Speakers and presenters can be selected from within the state university community or invited in to present a different perspective.

LOOKING FORWARD

The establishment of Offices of Public Policy Events across all institutions of the State University System of Florida supports the System's mission to cultivate student success and civic readiness. By hosting events each semester that highlight diverse perspectives and promote open dialogue, universities prepare students to think critically, engage respectfully, and lead effectively in the workplace and society. These initiatives strengthen academic excellence, transparency, and workforce alignment—core elements that define Florida's national model for higher education success.



Topics ranged from free speech and foreign conflicts to immigration.

RECORD-BREAKING RANKINGS

2026 BEST COLLEGES RANKINGS: PUBLIC

By U.S. News & World Report, 2026

Record-Breaking Seven Institutions in the Top 100

#7

UF | UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA

#46

FIU | FLORIDA
INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY

#21

FSU | FLORIDA STATE
UNIVERSITY

#57

UCF | UNIVERSITY OF
CENTRAL FLORIDA

#43

USF | UNIVERSITY of
SOUTH FLORIDA

#92

FAMU | FLORIDA
AGRICULTURAL AND
MECHANICAL
UNIVERSITY

#100



FLORIDA ATLANTIC
UNIVERSITY

2026 REGIONAL PUBLIC COLLEGES: SOUTH



FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY

#1 for 5 years

2026 REGIONAL PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES: SOUTH

#6



UNIVERSITY of
WEST FLORIDA

2025 COLLEGE GUIDE AND RANKINGS

Washington Monthly

BEST BANG FOR THE BUCK RANKINGS: SOUTHEAST

#1

FIU | FLORIDA
INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY

TOP 10 FOR PUBLIC LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGES

#1



New College of Florida
The Honors College

ELEVATING STUDENT SUCCESS

The Florida Board of Governors approved the 2025 Accountability Plans for each university and for the State University System of Florida (SUS), reaffirming Florida's commitment to prioritizing student success. These plans track and evaluate progress toward the vision and goals outlined in SUS 30, the System's new strategic plan. Florida continues to serve as a national model of excellence in higher education, achieving a record-high four-year graduation rate of 66% and increasing the median wages of bachelor's graduates to \$51,000 one year after graduation.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2025 SYSTEM ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN

- 
- The four-year graduation rate **increased to 66%**, a two percentage point increase, setting a record high for the System.
 - The percentage of bachelor's degrees awarded within programs of strategic emphasis rose from **59% to 60%**.
 - The four-year graduation rate for Pell recipients **increased to 62%** from 60%.
 - The three-year graduation rate for Florida College System Transfers with an Associate of Arts degree **increased to 64%**, up two percentage points.
 - The number of first-time-in-college students returning for their sophomore year at the same institution **increased to 90%**, a one percentage point increase.
 - For the first time in SUS history, research expenditures **exceeded \$3 billion**, a \$200 million increase from the previous year.
 - The percentage of bachelor's graduates enrolled or employed one year after graduation **increased to 74%**, up from 73%.
 - The median wages of bachelor's graduates employed one year after graduation **increased to \$51,000**, representing a \$10,000 improvement in four years.

WORLDWIDE RANKINGS

The State University System of Florida (SUS) continues to demonstrate how collaborative innovation fuels economic development. For the eighth straight year, five SUS institutions earn placements on the National Academy of Inventors Top 100 Worldwide Universities List — reflecting research that translates into patents, commercialization, and real-world solutions. From UF at #13 to USF, UCF, FIU, and FSU rising in their global rankings, these outcomes demonstrate that when 12 distinct universities collaborate as one System, Florida accelerates inventions that transform communities, strengthen industries, and drive statewide economic growth.

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS TOP 100 WORLDWIDE UNIVERSITIES LIST RANKINGS

	2023	2024
 UF UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA	#13	➤ #13
 UNIVERSITY of SOUTH FLORIDA	#34	➤ #26
 UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA	#52	➤ #34
 FIU FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY	#57	➤ #42
 FSU FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY	#90	➤ #55

12 UNIVERSITIES ONE SYSTEM



STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

Florida has been ranked the **#1** state for higher education by U.S. News & World Report **since 2017**.



ACCOUNTABILITY SETS US APART



MORE STUDENTS GRADUATING IN 4 YEARS

ranked **5th** in the nation,
1st among large states



LOWEST TUITION RATES IN THE NATION

tuition and fees have not
increased **since 2013**

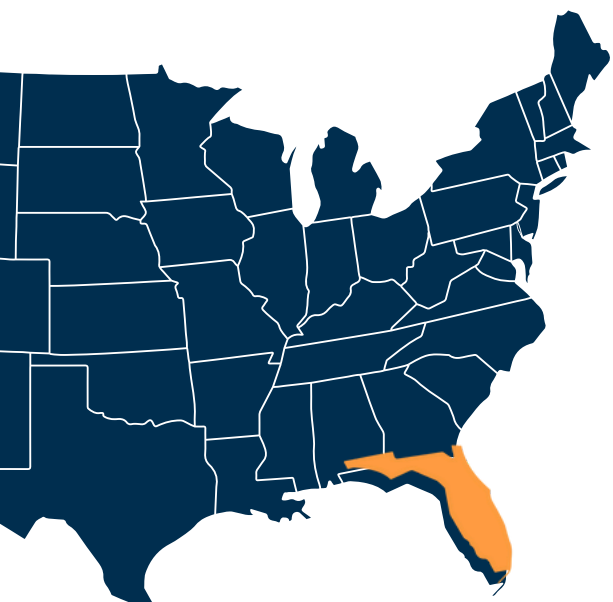


HIGHER EARNINGS FOR GRADUATES

\$51,000 median salary
1 year after graduation

Serving more than **430,000** students, making it the **second-largest** public university system in the nation.

HOW DOES FLORIDA COMPARE NATIONALLY?



Four-year graduation
rates for first-time-in-
college students:

Florida: **66%**

Nation: **46%**

Average annual cost
of tuition and fees at
a public university:

Florida: **\$6,000**

Nation: **\$11,000**

FAMU

FLORIDA
AGRICULTURAL AND
MECHANICAL
UNIVERSITY



STATE UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

Ranked in the **Top 100** Nationally for Public Universities

*U.S. News & World
Report, 2026*

Tallahassee
main campus

1887
year established

102
degree programs

8,972
total degree-seeking
enrollment, fall 2024

1,587
undergraduate degrees
awarded 2023-24

531
professional & graduate
degrees awarded 2023-24

Doctoral
Carnegie Classification:
High Research Activity

\$68.7M
research expenditures
2023-24

Quality Education



15:1 student to faculty ratio



Fulbright HBCU Institutional Leader



13 Living-Learning communities
STEM, Health, Journalism,
Honors, & Business



54% of undergraduate degrees awarded
in Programs of Strategic Emphasis

Key Achievements

**#1 Public Historically Black College
& University in the Nation**

U.S. News & World Report, 2026

**National Leader on the Social Mobility Index,
Ranked in the Top 25 in the Nation**

U.S. News & World Report, 2026

**Top 40 Best Bang for the Buck
Universities in the Southeast**

Washington Monthly College Guide and Rankings, 2025



Scan to visit FAMU's website



Top 25 Best in Class Colleges

Washington Monthly, 2025

Boca Raton
main campus

1961
year established

156
degree programs

30,246
total enrollment, fall 2024

5,866
undergraduate degrees
awarded 2023-24

2,110
professional & graduate
degrees awarded 2023-24

Doctoral
Carnegie R1 Classification:
Very High Research Activity

608
research proposals submitted
FY 2024

Quality Education



23:1 student to faculty ratio



Robust Internship Programs
6,200 placements to prepare
students for the workforce



6% point increase in graduation rates
in the last 5 years



61% of undergraduate degrees awarded
in Programs of Strategic Emphasis

Key Achievements

One of only 21 universities nationwide recognized as both a
**Carnegie R1 Top-Tier Research Institution
& an Opportunity University for Student
Access & Earnings**

Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education, 2025

#30 in the Nation for Social Mobility

U.S. News & World Report, 2026

2025-26 Military Friendly® School

Silver Designation among Large Public Universities



Scan to visit FAU's website



Only SUS University with
100% Nursing
Licensure Pass Rate,
2 Consecutive Years

Fort Myers
main campus

1997
year opened

89
degree programs

15,962
total enrollment, fall 2024

2,968
undergraduate degrees
awarded 2023-24

748
professional & graduate
degrees awarded 2023-24

Institutional
Mixed Undergraduate/
Graduate-Master's
Large/Medium

\$29.3M
research expenditures
2023-24

Quality Education



20:1 student to faculty ratio



100% first time
NCLEX Pass Rate



100% of students graduate with at least 2
high-impact practices



54% of undergraduate degrees awarded
in Programs of Strategic Emphasis

Key Achievements

Awarded \$22.9M Good Jobs Challenge Grant

from U.S. Department of Commerce to develop programs
that stimulate regional workforce & economic development

Students have performed more than

5 Million Service-Learning Hours

to enhance classroom learning and community partnerships

As a Program of Distinction, The Water School

leads interdisciplinary efforts to enhance
Florida's water and quality of life



Scan to visit FGCU's website



FLORIDA
INTERNATIONAL
UNIVERSITY



STATE UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

Top 50 National Public University 2 Years in a Row

*U.S. News & World
Report, 2026*

Miami ● 1965
main campus year established

212 ● 48,696
degree programs degree-seeking enrollment,
fall 2024

11,504 ● 4,319
undergraduate degrees awarded 2023-24 professional & graduate
degrees awarded 2023-24

Doctoral ● \$306M
Carnegie Classification: research expenditures
Very High Research Activity 2023-24

Quality Education



21:1 student to faculty ratio



71% of Pell students graduate in 4 years



21% point increase in graduation rates
in the last 5 years



61% of undergraduate degrees awarded
in Programs of Strategic Emphasis

Key Achievements

#1 in the Nation for Social Mobility, 2 Years in a Row

U.S. News & World Report, 2025 and 2026

#1 University in Florida, 2 Years in a Row

*The Wall Street Journal/College Pulse Best Colleges
in the U.S. rankings, 2025 and 2026*

#8 in the Nation

*Washington Monthly College Guide and Rankings,
2026*



Scan to visit FIU's website



FLORIDA POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY



STATE UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

Top 20 Public Engineering Program

among Programs without a Ph.D.

*U.S. News & World
Report, 2025*

Lakeland main campus	2012 year established
18 degree programs	1,766 total enrollment, fall 2024
259 undergraduate degrees awarded 2023-24	38 professional & graduate degrees awarded 2023-24
Institutional Carnegie Classification: Technology, Engineering, and Sciences Focus	\$2.4M research expenditures 2023-24

Quality Education



17:1 student to faculty ratio



\$67k average median salary
for bachelor's graduates



4.1 average time to degree
for students in 120 credit hour programs



100% of degree programs are in STEM

Key Achievements

#1 Public College in the South
for the 5th Year in a Row
U.S. News & World Report, 2026

Top 10 in the Nation for Career Outcomes
WalletHub, 2026

**#3 Best Value Public College
in the Southeast**
U.S. News & World Report, 2026



Scan to visit FL Poly's website



STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

Top 25 National Public University for 7 Years in a Row

U.S. News & World Report, 2026

Tallahassee main campus ● 1851 year established

277 degree programs ● 46,184 total enrollment, fall 2025

10,022 undergraduate degrees awarded 2024-25 ● 4,290 professional & graduate degrees awarded 2023-24

Doctoral Carnegie Classification: Very High Research Activity ● \$488M research expenditures 2024-25

Quality Education



97% first-year retention rate*



83.1% 6-year graduation rate for Pell recipients*



78% 4-year graduation rate*



80% 3-year graduation rate for Florida College System AA students*

*Top 10 among all public institutions nationally

Key Achievements

#11 Public University in America
Niche 2026 Best Colleges

#21 Best Public University for Veterans
U.S. News & World Report, 2026

#1 Among Florida Public Universities for Best First-Year Experiences
U.S. News & World Report, 2026



Scan to visit FSU's website



New College of Florida
The Honors College



**STATE UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA**

Top 20 in the Nation for Best Value Colleges

*The Princeton Review,
2024*

Sarasota
main campus

1960
year established

54
undergraduate & graduate
degree programs

917
total enrollment, fall 2025

142
undergraduate degrees
awarded 2023-24

12
professional & graduate
degrees awarded 2024-25

Institutional
Carnegie Classification:
Arts & Science Focus

\$1.5M
research expenditures
2023-24

Quality Education



**Average class size of 13, with an
8:1 student-to-faculty ratio**



Individualized degree plan
Students build an academic contract with
faculty advisor each semester



Hands-on learning
Internships, study abroad opportunities, &
community engagement



**100% of undergraduates engaged in
research**

Key Achievements

#1 Public Liberal Arts College in the Nation
Washington Monthly, 2025

**Launched Unique Master's in
Marine Mammal Science Program**
Fall 2024

#1 Liberal Arts College in Florida
U.S. News & World Report, 2026



Scan to visit NCF's website



UNIVERSITY OF
CENTRAL FLORIDA



STATE UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

#1

in State University
System for **Lowest**
Cost Per Degree
Awarded

Orlando ● 1963
main campus year established

214 ● 69,805
degree programs total enrollment, fall 2024

14,855 ● 3,202
undergraduate degrees awarded 2023-24 professional & graduate
degrees awarded 2023-24

Doctoral ● \$284.9M
Carnegie Classification: Very High research expenditures
Research Activity 2023-24

Quality Education



92% academic progress rate
percentage of freshmen retained with
GPA above 2.0



**Nation's #1 supplier of talent to
aerospace and defense industry**
Aviation Week



**Home to 3,900+
military-connected students**



**55% of undergraduate degrees awarded
in Programs of Strategic Emphasis**

Key Achievements

**Fueled by UCF, Orlando is Florida's
Fastest-Growing Tech Center**

**Top 20 Public University for
Student Outcomes**

U.S. News & World Report, 2026

**Graduating 18,000 Workforce-Ready
Graduates Annually Supporting
Florida's Key Industries**



Scan to visit UCF's website



#5 Public University in the Nation

Forbes, 2026

Gainesville main campus ● 1853
year established

330 degree programs ● 61,890
total enrollment, fall 2024

10,792 undergraduate degrees
awarded 2023-24 ● 7,385
professional & graduate
degrees awarded 2023-24

Doctoral Carnegie Classification:
Very High Research Activity ● \$1.33B
research expenditures
2024-25

Quality Education



78% four-year graduation rate



16:1 student to faculty ratio



15 top-ranked grad programs
Ranked among the top 20 in their fields



60% of undergraduate degrees awarded
in Programs of Strategic Emphasis

Key Achievements

#7 Public University in the Nation
U.S. News & World Report, 2026

#1 Among 100 Leading Colleges
and Universities in the U.S.
Manhattan Institute City Journal, 2025

Highest Research Expenditures
in the System with a
Record \$1.33 B
2024-2025



Scan to visit UF's website



UNIVERSITY of
NORTH FLORIDA



STATE UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

Top 100 Performer in Social Mobility

*U.S. News & World
Report, 2024*

Jacksonville main campus	1972 year established
121 degree programs	15,732 degree-seeking enrollment, fall 2024
3,288 undergraduate degrees awarded 2024-25	917 professional & graduate degrees awarded 2024-25
Doctoral Carnegie Classification: High Research Activity	\$21.3M research expenditures 2023-24

Quality Education



18:1 student to faculty ratio



More than half of bachelor's graduates
complete internships



Earned the Military Friendly School
designation for 16 consecutive years



100% of incoming freshmen are guaranteed
experiential learning before graduation

Key Achievements

Ranked Among the Best Graduate Schools

U.S. News & World Report, 2025

Improved in Top Public School Rankings by 14 Spots

U.S. News & World Report, 2025

Top 25 Best Online Program in the Nation

U.S. News & World Report, 2025



Scan to visit UNF's website



**STATE UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA**

Joined the Prestigious
**Association of American
Universities**
(AAU) in 2023

Tampa main campus	● 1956 year established
248 degree programs	● 47,906 total enrollment, fall 2024
9,880 undergraduate degrees awarded 2023-24	● 4,084 professional & graduate degrees awarded 2023-24
Doctoral Carnegie Classification: Very High Research Activity	● \$521M research expenditures 2023-24

Quality Education



66% four-year graduation rate



#30 among public universities for
awarding credit for study abroad



75% of Pell students graduate
in four years



68% of undergraduate degrees awarded
in Programs of Strategic Emphasis

Key Achievements

**Top 50 National Public University
7 Years in a Row**

U.S. News & World Report, 2025

**Ranked as #12 Best Value
among all U.S. public universities**

U.S. News & World Report, 2025

Top-Ranked Medical School in Florida

U.S. News & World Report, 2025



Scan to visit USF's website



UNIVERSITY of
WEST FLORIDA



STATE UNIVERSITY
SYSTEM OF FLORIDA

Top 10 Best Regional University in the South 4 Years in a Row

U.S. News & World
Report, 2024

Pensacola ● 1963
main campus year established

98 ● 13,851
degree programs total enrollment, fall 2024

2,200 ● 1,494
undergraduate degrees awarded 2023-24 professional & graduate
degrees awarded 2023-24

Research 2 ● \$47M
Carnegie Classification: research expenditures
High Spending and Doctorate 2023-24
Production Institution

Quality Education



20:1 student to faculty ratio



80% of bachelor's graduates enrolled or
employed a year after graduation



17% point increase in graduation rates
in the last 5 years



61% of undergraduate degrees awarded
in Programs of Strategic Emphasis

Key Achievements

**\$32.5M Triumph Grant to Establish
Center for Computational Intelligence**

**Earned the Military Friendly Designation,
Six Years in a Row**

**\$1.4B Economic Impact
on Northwest Florida**



Scan to visit UWF's website

2025



FLORIDA BOARD OF GOVERNORS



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