Great Schools for 20 of the Most Popular Undergraduate Majors

Worried about having to declare a major on your college application? Relax. Most colleges won’t require you to declare a major until the end of your sophomore year, giving you plenty of time to explore your options. However, problems may arise if you are thinking about majoring in a program that limits its enrollment—meaning that if you don’t declare that major early on, you might not get into that program at a later date.

On the flip side, some students declare a major on their application because they believe it will boost their chances of gaining admission. This is a slippery slope to climb, however. If you later decide to change your major and it involves switching from one school within the college to another (from the school of arts and sciences to the school of business, for example), it can be tricky.

Never choose a college solely on the perceived prestige of a particular program. College will expose you to new and exciting learning opportunities. To choose a school based on a major before you even know what else is out there would limit you in many ways. (Choosing a school based on program availability is a different story.) You may also want to investigate opportunities to design your own major.

How Did We Compile These Lists?
Each year we collect data from more than a thousand colleges on the subject of—among many other things—undergraduate academic offerings. We ask colleges not only to report which undergraduate majors they offer, but also which of their majors have the highest enrollment and the number of bachelor’s degrees each school awarded in these areas. The list below identifies (in alphabetical order) twenty of the forty “most popular” majors that the schools responding to our survey reported to us. We also conduct our own research on college majors. We look at institutional data, and we consult with our in-house college admissions experts as well as our National College Counselor Advisory Panel (whom we list in our index, pages 825–826) for their input on schools offering great programs in these majors. We thank them and all of the guidance counselors, college admissions counselors, and education experts across the country whose recommendations we considered in developing these lists. Of the roughly 3,500 schools across the United States, those on these lists represent only a snapshot of the many offering great programs in these majors. Use our lists as a starting point for further research. Some schools on these lists may not appear in the Best 377 Colleges (these are marked with an asterisk*), but you can find profiles of them in our Complete Book of Colleges, 2013 Edition.
Great Schools for Accounting Majors

- Alfred University
- Auburn University
- Babson College
- Baylor University
- Birmingham-Southern College
- Boston College
- Boston University
- Brigham Young University (UT)
- Bucknell University
- Calvin College
- Claremont McKenna College
- Clemson University
- College of Charleston
- Cornell University
- DePaul University
- Drexel University
- Duquesne University
- Elon University
- Emory University
- Fordham University
- Georgetown University
- Indiana University—Bloomington
- Iowa State University
- James Madison University
- Lehigh University
- Michigan State University
- New York University
- Northeastern University
- Pennsylvania State University—University Park
- Pepperdine University
- Rider University
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Seton Hall University
- Suffolk University
- Temple University
- Texas A&M University—College Station
- University of Houston
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Michigan—Ann Arbor
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Southern California
- The University of Texas at Austin


Great Schools for Agriculture Majors

- Angelo State University
- Arizona State University
- Auburn University
- Berea College
- California State University Stanislaus
- Clemson University
- College of the Atlantic
- College of the Ozarks
- Colorado State University
- Cornell University
- Gettysburg College
- Hampshire College
- Iowa State University
- Kansas State University
- Louisiana State University
- Michigan State University
- North Carolina State University
- Pennsylvania State University—University Park
- Prescott College
- Purdue University—West Lafayette
- Texas A&M University—College Station
- Texas Christian University
- Truman State University
- Tuskegee University
- University of Arizona
- University of Arkansas—Fayetteville
- University of California—Davis
- University of Florida
- University of Georgia
- University of Hawaii—Manoa
- University of Idaho
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Kentucky
- University of Maine
- University of Maryland—College Park
- University of Massachusetts Amherst
- University of Missouri—Columbia
- University of Nebraska—Lincoln
- University of Tennessee
- University of Vermont
- University of Wisconsin—Madison
- University of Wyoming
- West Virginia University

Great Schools for Biology Majors

- Agnes Scott College
- Albion College
- Austin College
- Baylor University
- Brandeis University
- Carleton College
- Christopher Newport University
- Colby College
- Cornell University
- Drexel University
- Duke University
- Guilford College
- Harvard College
- Haverford College
- Howard University
- Illinois Wesleyan University
- Indiana University—Bloomington
- Johns Hopkins University
- Louisiana State University
- Loyola University—Chicago
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Mount Holyoke College
- The Ohio State University—Columbus
- Ohio University—Athens
- Pomona College
- Reed College
- Rice University
- Swarthmore College
- Temple University
- Texas A&M University—College Station
- University of California—Davis
- The University of Chicago
- University of Dallas
- University of Delaware
- University of Denver
- University of Houston
- University of New Mexico
- University of the Pacific
- Wofford College
- Xavier University of Louisiana

Great Schools for Business/Finance Majors

- Babson College
- Bentley University
- Boston College
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Champlain College
- Christopher Newport University
- City University of New York—Baruch College
- Cornell University
- DePaul University
- Emory University
- Florida State University
- Indiana University—Bloomington
- Iowa State University
- Lehigh University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Miami University (OH)
- Michigan State University
- New York University
- Northwestern University
- Ohio University—Athens
- Portland State University
- Rice University
- Roanoke College
- Seattle University
- University of California—Berkeley
- University of California—Los Angeles
- The University of Chicago
- University of Florida
- University of Houston
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Michigan—Ann Arbor
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Southern California
- The University of Texas at Austin
- University of Virginia
- Washington University in St. Louis

Great Schools for Communications Majors

- Baylor University
- Boston University
- Bradley University
- City University of New York—Hunter College
- Clemson University
- College of Charleston
- Cornell University
- Denison University
- DePaul University
- Duquesne University
- Eckerd College
- Emerson College
- Fairfield University
- Fordham University
- Gonzaga University
- Gustavus Adolphus College
- Hollins University
- Indiana University—Bloomington
- Iowa State University
- Ithaca College
- James Madison University
- Lake Forest College
- Loyola University—New Orleans
- Michigan State University
- Muhlenberg College
- New York University
- Northwestern University
- Pepperdine University
- Ripon College
- Salisbury University
- Seton Hall University
- St. John’s University (NY)
- Stanford University
- Suffolk University
- Syracuse University
- University of California—San Diego
- University of California—Santa Barbara
- University of Iowa
- University of Maryland—College Park
- University of Southern California
- The University of Texas at Austin
- University of Utah

Schools marked with an asterisk do not appear in the Best 377 Colleges.

Great Schools for Computer Science/Computer Engineering Majors

- Auburn University
- Boston University
- Bradley University
- Brown University
- California Institute of Technology
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Clemson University
- Drexel University
- Florida State University
- George Mason University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Gonzaga University
- Hampton University
- Harvey Mudd College
- Iowa State University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Lehigh University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Michigan State University
- New Jersey Institute of Technology
- Northeastern University
- Northwestern University
- Princeton University
- Rice University
- Roanoke College
- Rochester Institute of Technology
- Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
- Seattle University
- Stanford University
- State University of New York at Binghamton
- State University of New York—University at Buffalo
- Texas A&M University—College Station
- United States Air Force Academy
- University of Arizona
- University of California—Berkeley
- University of California—Los Angeles
- University of California—Riverside
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Massachusetts Amherst
- University of Michigan—Ann Arbor
- University of Washington

Schools marked with an asterisk do not appear in the Best 377 Colleges.
### Great Schools for Criminology Majors
- American University
- Auburn University
- North Carolina State University
- The Ohio State University—Columbus
- Ohio University—Athens
- Quinnipiac University
- Suffolk University
- University of Delaware
- University of Denver
- University of Maryland—College Park
- University of Miami
- University of New Hampshire
- University of South Florida
- University of Utah
- Valparaiso University

### Great Schools for Education Majors
- Auburn University
- Barnard College
- Bucknell University
- City University of New York—Brooklyn College
- City University of New York—Hunter College
- Colgate University
- The College of William & Mary
- Columbia College (MO)*
- Columbia University
- Cornell College
- Cornell University
- Duquesne University
- Elon University
- Gonzaga University
- Goucher College
- Hillsdale College
- Indiana University—Bloomington
- Loyola Marymount University
- Marquette University*
- McGill University
- Miami University (OH)
- Nazareth College
- New York University
- Northeastern University
- Northwestern University
- The Ohio State University—Columbus
- Simmons College
- Skidmore College
- Smith College
- Trinity University (TX)
- University of Maine
- The University of Montana—Missoula
- Vanderbilt University
- Villanova College
- Wagner College
- Wellesley College
- Xavier University (OH)

### Great Schools for Engineering Majors
- California Institute of Technology
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Columbia University
- The Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art
- Cornell University
- Drexel University
- Duke University
- Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Harvard College
- Harvey Mudd College
- Illinois Institute of Technology
- Johns Hopkins University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Pennsylvania State University—University Park
- Princeton University
- Purdue University—West Lafayette
- Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
- Stanford University
- Texas A&M University—College Station
- University of California—Berkeley
- University of California—Los Angeles
- The University of Texas at Austin
- University of Wisconsin—Madison
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Great Schools for English Literature and Language Majors

- Amherst College
- Auburn University
- Bard College (NY)
- Barnard College
- Bennington College
- Boston College
- Brown University
- City University of New York—Hunter College
- Claremont McKenna College
- Clemson University
- Colby College
- Colgate University
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Dartmouth College
- Denison University
- Duke University
- Emory University
- Eugene Lang College
  The New School for Liberal Arts
- Fordham University
- George Mason University
- Gettysburg College
- Harvard College
- Johns Hopkins University
- Kenyon College
- Pitzer College
- Pomona College
- Princeton University
- Rice University
- Stanford University
- Syracuse University
- Tufts University
- University of California—Berkeley
- The University of Chicago
- University of Michigan—Ann Arbor
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Utah
- Vassar College
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Wellesley College
- Yale University

Great Schools for Environmental Studies Majors

- Allegheny College
- Bates College
- Bowdoin College
- Catawba College
- Colby College
- College of the Atlantic
- Colorado College
- Dickinson College
- Eckerd College
- Emory University
- The Evergreen State College
- Green Mountain College
- Harvard College
- Hobart and William Smith Colleges
- Juniata College
- Middlebury College
- New College of Florida
- Northeastern University
- Occidental College
- Pitzer College
- Pomona College
- Portland State University
- Prescott College
- Sonoma State University
- State University of New York at Binghamton
- University of California—Berkeley
- University of California—Santa Cruz
- University of Colorado—Boulder
- University of Idaho
- The University of Montana—Missoula
- University of New Hampshire
- The University of North Carolina at Asheville
- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Oregon
- University of Redlands
- University of the Pacific
- University of Vermont
- Warren Wilson College
- Washington College


Great Schools for History Majors

• Bowdoin College
• Brown University
• Centre College
• Colgate University
• College of the Holy Cross
• Columbia University
• Drew University
• Furman University
• Georgetown University
• Grinnell College
• Hampden-Sydney College
• Harvard College
• Haverford College
• Hillsdale College
• Kenyon College
• Oberlin College
• Princeton University
• Trinity College (CT)
• Tulane University
• University of Virginia
• Wabash College
• Yale University

Great Schools for Health Services Majors

• Bellarmine University
• Boston University
• Clemson University
• The College of Idaho
• College of the Ozarks
• Creighton University
• Drexel University
• Duquesne University
• Gettysburg College
• Gustavus Adolphus College
• Hampton University
• Hendrix College
• Howard University
• Ithaca College
• Johns Hopkins University
• Kalamazoo College
• Marywood University
• Monmouth University (NJ)
• Nazareth College
• Northeastern University
• Ohio University—Athens
• Purdue University—West Lafayette
• Quinnipiac University
• Sacred Heart University
• Saint Anselm College
• Saint Louis University
• Simmons College
• State University of New York—Stony Brook University
• Suffolk University
• Texas A&M University—College Station
• Tulane University
• University of Alabama at Birmingham
• University of Central Florida
• University of Cincinnati
• University of Florida
• University of Houston
• University of Miami
• University of Oklahoma
• University of Utah
• Wagner College
• Washington University in St. Louis
• Westminster College (UT)
• Wheaton College (IL)
• William Jewell College

Schools marked with an asterisk do not appear in the Best 377 Colleges.
### Great Schools for Journalism Majors
- American University
- Boston University
- Carleton College
- Columbia University
- Emerson College
- Hampton University
- Howard University
- Indiana University—Bloomington
- Loyola University—New Orleans
- Northwestern University
- Ohio University—Athens
- Pennsylvania State University—University Park
- Samford University*
- St. Bonaventure University
- Syracuse University
- Temple University
- University of Florida
- University of Maryland—College Park
- University of Missouri—Columbia
- The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Oregon
- University of Southern California
- The University of Texas at Austin
- University of Wisconsin—Madison

### Great Schools for Marketing and Sales Majors
- Babson College
- Baylor University
- Bentley College
- Duquesne University
- Fairfield University
- Hofstra University
- Indiana University—Bloomington
- Iowa State University
- James Madison University
- Miami University (OH)
- Providence College
- Seattle University
- Siena College*
- Syracuse University
- Texas A&M University—College Station
- University of Central Florida
- University of Michigan—Ann Arbor
- University of Mississippi
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of South Florida
- The University of Texas at Austin

### Great Schools for Mathematics Majors
- Agnes Scott College
- Bowdoin College
- Bryant University
- Bryn Mawr College
- California Institute of Technology
- Carleton College
- College of the Holy Cross
- The College of Idaho
- Grinnell College
- Hamilton College
- Hampton University
- Harvard College
- Harvey Mudd College
- Haverford College
- Macalester College
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Randolph College
- Reed College
- Rice University
- St. Lawrence University
- St. Olaf College
- State University of New York—University at Albany
- United States Coast Guard Academy
- The University of Chicago
- University of Rochester
- Wabash College

### Great Schools for Mechanical Engineering Majors
- Bradley University
- California Institute of Technology
- Clarkson University
- Drexel University
- Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Harvey Mudd College
- Iowa State University
- Lehigh University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- New Jersey Institute of Technology
- North Carolina State University
- Purdue University—West Lafayette
- Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
- Stanford University
- State University of New York—University at Buffalo
- Stevens Institute of Technology
- United States Military Academy
- University of California—Berkeley
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Michigan—Ann Arbor
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute

### Great Schools for Nursing Majors
- Angelo State University
- Baylor University
- Bellarmine University
- Calvin College
- The Catholic University of America
- Drexel University
- Duquesne University
- Fairfield University
- Florida Southern College
- Indiana University of Pennsylvania
- Loyola University—Chicago
- Montana Tech of the University of Montana
- Ohio Northern University
- Saint Louis University
- Texas Christian University
- The University of Alabama—Tuscaloosa
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Wyoming
- Valparaiso University
- Villanova University
- Washington State University
- Xavier University (OH)

### Great Schools for Political Science/Government Majors
- American University
- Amherst College
- Bard College (NY)
- Bates College
- Bowdoin College
- Brigham Young University (UT)
- Bryn Mawr College
- Carleton College
- Claremont McKenna College
- College of the Holy Cross
- Columbia University
- Davidson College
- Dickinson College
- Drew University
- Furman University
- George Mason University
- The George Washington University
- Georgetown University
- Gettysburg College
- Gonzaga University
- Harvard College
- Kenyon College
- Macalester College
- Princeton University
- Stanford University
- Swarthmore College
- Syracuse University
- University of Arizona
- University of California—Berkeley
- University of California—Los Angeles
- University of Washington
- Vassar College
- Yale University

Great Schools for Psychology Majors

- Albion College
- Bates College
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Christopher Newport University
- Clark University
- Colorado State University
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Dartmouth College
- Duke University
- George Mason University
- Gettysburg College
- Harvard College
- James Madison University
- Lewis & Clark College
- Loyola University—Chicago
- New York University
- Pitzer College
- Portland State University
- Princeton University
- Roanoke College
- Smith College
- Stanford University
- University of California—Davis
- University of California—Los Angeles
- University of California—Riverside
- University of California—Santa Barbara
- University of California—Santa Cruz
- University of Houston
- University of Michigan—Ann Arbor
- University of Southern California
- The University of Texas at Austin
- University of Utah
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Yale University