

## Governors State University



**Cheryl Green, Ph.D.**  
President

Since its founding in 1969, Governors State University (GSU) has advanced a mission to deliver an exceptional, accessible education that prepares students to succeed in a global society.

Based in Chicago's South Suburbs, Governors State is a four-year institution offering a full undergraduate experience, 30 graduate and five doctoral programs, while serving as a regional hub of cultural, intellectual and economic opportunities.

GSU is a welcoming campus that embraces a broad spectrum of life experiences and interests. This is evidenced by consistent rankings in national magazines, such as *U.S. News Best Colleges* and *Military Friendly*. In 2021, the university topped the *U.S. News Best Colleges*' lists for ethnic diversity,

low student-debt load at graduation, and undergraduate computer science and business programs. For six years in a row, CSU has ranked among the friendliest to military veterans.

With 37% of its student population identifying as African American and 15% identifying as Hispanic — many of whom are the first in their families to attend college — Governors State is among the most diverse universities in the state.

In 2020, the university received a \$578,000 grant to launch the Supply Chain Innovation Center and Business Incubator (SCICBI), an Illinois Innovation Network (IIN) hub on GSU's campus. The federal grant helps establish Governors State as the premier resource for supply chain logistic startups and existing businesses, making the university a destination for industry. In addition, the university's College of Business is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate School of Business, a mark of excellence achieved by fewer than 5% of business schools worldwide.

Innovation is written into the DNA of Governors State University, which was established as an experiential institution to serve nontraditional students. Today, an esteemed group of scholars and leading practitioners bring unique expertise, rigorous instruction and real-life experiences into the classroom, preparing students for work — and life — in a global economy.

Whether students are interested in the arts or logistics, Governors State prepares them to be leaders in their chosen fields. The Cyber Security Program allows students to earn certifications prized by employers while they pursue their degree. Students interested in the performing arts work alongside filmmakers whose projects have competed in the Cannes, Long Beach, and Siskel and Ebert film festivals.

For freshmen, GSU's undergraduate program guides and supports students along a path to achieving a bachelor's degree in four years. To maintain this high standard, Governors State uses a multipronged approach, including grouping students into seven focus areas based on their intended major and/or intended career. Freshmen also enjoy smaller classes, averaging a 12-to-1 faculty-to-student ratio, scenarios usually found only in private school settings.

For transfer students, Governors State's award-winning program is a national model. The Dual Degree Program (DDP), a partnership with 17 regional community colleges, requires participating students to earn associate degrees at their community college while receiving academic counseling and support from Governors State. This collaboration creates a seamless transition to bachelor's degree completion.

On their way to graduation, students are offered opportunities to engage with cultural, recreational and academic clubs to connect and thrive. And, as a member of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA), the university enjoys a vibrant and growing competitive athletics program that places primary emphasis on academic success.

Governors State University is located 37 miles south of downtown Chicago, off I-57 and on the Metra Electric Line. The 750-acre campus is home to the Center for Performing Arts and the internationally acclaimed Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park.

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A view of the main entrance to the campus of Governors State University, which is set on 750 acres of prairie in University Park, located 37 miles south of downtown Chicago.