Forward.
FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY
A public university for the public good is more than a tagline. It is who we are, and who we have always been.

As one of the original public universities in Ohio, Bowling Green State University has been a public university for the public good for more than 111 years, always moving forward. Founded by the state, for the state, as a teacher-training institution, the University’s history is defined by an educational pursuit for more. Today, BGSU is a high-research, nationally ranked, comprehensive university, always proud to be public.

As stewards of a public institution, we believe it is our obligation to cultivate good through public education. BGSU is committed to redefining student success and elevating our commitment to relevant research, creative activities, partnerships and external engagement. To accomplish these objectives, we must be efficient and effective, and, above all, it is our people – our students, faculty, staff, alumni, friends, parents, families and community members – who power our University and help us achieve excellence.
UNIQUELY BGSU

- The only NCAA Division I university to have orange and brown as its colors
- One of only two universities in the nation with a working crime lab on campus
- One of only two universities in the nation with an airport on its main campus
- SICSIC is one of the oldest spirit groups in the nation
- Mascots Freddie and Frieda Falcon are one of the few male-female mascot pairs in the nation and ranked in the Top 10 in the nation (number one to us)
- Too many “first in the nation” to list, but BGSU is always innovating and adding new programs

195,000+
BGSU alumni across the globe

20,000+
enrolled students

200
undergraduate majors and programs

63
master’s programs

18
doctoral programs

9
academic colleges

8
schools

The Jerome Library ranks No. 11 in the 50 Most Amazing College Libraries in the U.S. according to College Rank. For over 50 years, the Jerome Library has been the academic heart of campus, with nine levels holding over seven million books and several special collections.
Redefining Student Success

FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

Home to more than 20,000 students, BGSU is committed to redefining student success and providing an educational experience that meets students where they are. With a history of innovative academic programs, including being among the first in the nation with programs in computer science, data science, organizational development, supply chain management, environmental science, photochemical science and popular culture, BGSU is a leader in programs that meet workforce needs. Amid the global pandemic, BGSU opened a new School of Nursing and School of Physical Therapy, with a state-of-the-art simulation center and skills lab aimed at developing leaders in health care.

We continue to innovate by elevating what students can expect from an undergraduate educational experience. We believe it is our shared responsibility to ensure our students are successful in college and earn a degree while also being prepared for a lifetime of careers and meaning.

Our graduates are trailblazers, policymakers, industry leaders and innovators who have earned Emmys, Grammys, the Pulitzer Prize and an Oscar. They are Hall of Fame inductees, Olympic gold medalists, Super Bowl champions, Stanley Cup winners, presidents and CEOs, teachers, researchers, nurses, doctors, entrepreneurs and public servants. At BGSU, we create good, together.

Nationally ranked academic programs in architecture, aviation, business, criminal justice, computer science, data science, education, graphic design, marine biology, nursing, psychology, statistics, supply chain management and online bachelor’s programs

#1
public university in the Midwest students would choose again
— THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

#1
public university in Ohio for finding a job
— ZIPPIA

98% of graduates say they’re employed, in graduate school or starting a business within six months of graduation
Expect More
FROM YOUR EDUCATION

Reimagining Undergraduate Education

The college experience is more than simply earning a degree, it is to become ready for life. Students have many choices and big opportunities, and we are providing the tools to empower our students to fully leverage all that a comprehensive university like BGSU has to offer. This will ensure that students are not only career-ready, but life-ready.

As the only university in the United States offering Life Design on such a broad scale, our students have the opportunity to engage in Life Design, a new and innovative approach to higher education where students participate in a multi-year journey designed to shape their college experience and beyond. In working with Life Design coaches in the Geoffrey H. Radbill Center for College and Life Design and career connectors in the Michael and Sara Kuhlin Hub for Career Design and Connections, students gain the skills needed to discover how to apply their interests to a career, build relationships with students, mentors and a professional network, navigate challenges, pivot when needed and ultimately, lead meaningful and productive lives. In that way, we drive public good through our graduates who are not only ready for their first career, but for a life of careers, while making a difference in their families, communities and professions.

BGSU ranked as one of the best universities for social mobility, helping first-generation and Pell Grant recipients graduate and lead meaningful lives.

– U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT
TO DRIVE PUBLIC GOOD

In the 21st Century, universities must find new ways to elevate their relevance and impact. BGSU has developed unique public-private and public-public partnerships and new, relevant and meaningful academic programs to prepare students for success and to help meet the workforce needs of Ohio and beyond.

THE CENTER FOR JUSTICE RESEARCH AND THE CENTER FOR THE FUTURE OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

BGSU and the Office of the Ohio Attorney General have partnered to create two centers, the Center for Justice Research and the Center for the Future of Forensic Science. The first Center supports and explores criminal justice-based research and policy initiatives to serve all of Ohio, while the second Center focuses on the science of forensics to elevate the ability of society to identify criminals more justly. The work of these centers leverages the Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI) Crime Laboratory on campus. As one of only two universities in the United States with an active crime laboratory on its campus, BGSU is at the forefront of forensic science education in the state of Ohio, offering innovative research and new academic programs.

A BEST FOR VETS SCHOOL

U.S. Air Force personnel stationed around the world can work toward a college degree through BGSU under an agreement with the Community College of the Air Force.

THE CENTER FOR ADVANCED MANUFACTURING

To meet the state’s growing need for a highly trained workforce in advanced manufacturing and logistics, BGSU, Owens Community College and the University of Findlay have established an innovative partnership between a public university, a private university and a community college to establish the Center for Advanced Manufacturing and Logistics. With a focus on our region, which has one of the highest concentrations of industrial robots in the U.S., we work with area employers to identify and anticipate their needs in training, talent development, innovation, automation, systems integration, software engineering and supply chain management. This Center has been supported by a $2M investment from the state of Ohio.
CEDAR FAIR RESORT AND ATTRACTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
BGSU and Cedar Fair, a national attraction and entertainment company with parks throughout North America, have partnered to establish the Cedar Fair Resort and Attraction Management program. Cedar Fair has built an education facility near its corporate offices to support the program. The only educational opportunity of its kind in the country, with required co-ops and field studies, this program develops and educates future talent and leadership for this important part of the U.S. economy.

A PARTNERSHIP FOR HEALTH
With the Wood County Health Department, BGSU has established a partnership focused on public health for Wood County and northwest Ohio through health instruction, practice, research and workforce development. BGSU has also partnered with Mercy College of Ohio and the University of Findlay to increase its capacity to educate nurses and pharmacists.

THE FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION
A collaboration with North Star Aviation continues to expand opportunities for the University’s aviation students, helping address a nationwide shortage of pilots. In addition to providing flight instruction, North Star has built an extensive flight and simulation center and hangars and has one of the largest and newest fleet of aircraft at an academic program in the U.S. With BGSU faculty leading the academic programming and as one of the only universities in the United States with an airport on their main campus, BGSU has the largest aviation program in Ohio and one of the largest in the United States.
Groundbreaking, Relevant Research
FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

As an anchor institution of the region and as one of two classified by the Carnegie Foundation as a High Research University, BGSU has a special obligation to focus on research, scholarship and creative activities to support the vitality of our communities. The University invests over $55 million per year to support research and is awarded more than $20 million in research grants annually. Faculty research and creative activities inform public debate and address significant issues facing society, driving groundbreaking discoveries across a wide spectrum of disciplines.

THE FUTURE OF FRESHWATER

Researchers with the Great Lakes Center for Fresh Waters and Human Health are doing critical research to address issues in our own backyard – the toxic algal blooms that plague Lake Erie and impact freshwater sources around the world. With active research vessels on Lake Erie as well as research sites throughout northwest Ohio, BGSU continues to elevate our understanding of causes and solutions to this significant human health issue.

GUIDING PUBLIC POLICY

Researchers in the Department of Sociology and its National Center for Family and Marriage Research are contributing to the understanding of evolving social patterns and how family structure in the United States is linked to the health and well-being of children, adults, families and communities. Their findings are helping to guide public policy and program decisions.
THE POWER OF LIGHT AND CHEMISTRY
As the first academic program of its kind in the world, faculty with the Center for Photochemical Sciences are studying the uses of light-responsive chemical compounds for beneficial applications in the health industry, agriculture and other fields. Our research includes work to develop degradable polymers that could become an alternative for plastic, bio-gels to minimize watershed runoff, advanced materials to improve solar technologies and many other areas that could change the world.

ADDRESSING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC
Researchers with the Center for the Future of Forensic Science made a life-saving discovery in response to the national opioid epidemic. They scientifically proved that the laundry detergent OxiClean will deactivate Fentanyl. That research finding is helping law enforcement and other first responders prevent accidental exposure to the deadly drug.

RELEVANT RESEARCH FOR THE MARKETPLACE
With 50 patents and another 21 pending patents, BGSU faculty and students are developing new models, processes and technologies to respond to societal challenges. One of the most successful startups in northwest Ohio’s recent history came from geospatial and analytics research conducted at BGSU.
In 2021, Forbes ranked BGSU as the No. 3 midsize employer in the United States, highlighting the University’s commitment to faculty and staff. As the largest employer in Wood County, BGSU employees provide an education of value and stewardship of the institution’s mission to create good. Serving as the core of the University’s academic community, more than 800 full-time faculty members are engaged in teaching, research and creative activities, with over 2,000 full-time staff members to support the operations and education of our over 20,000 students. BGSU generates more than $30 million in state and local tax revenues annually, and students, faculty and staff volunteer more than 95,000 hours of community service every year.

#3
midsize employer in the United States
– FORBES

#3
public university for teaching quality
– THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

The University holds the highest level of accreditation in 67 fields of study, ensuring academic programs meet the top standard of quality.
Enhancing Public Good
IN OUR REGION AND BEYOND

Through our programs in the arts and Division I Athletics, BGSU is a major contributor to the social and cultural vitality of northwest Ohio and beyond. With one of the broadest offerings of arts programs in the state of Ohio, the University hosts more than 440 arts and cultural events per year, and our 18 athletic teams compete at the highest level of intercollegiate athletics. We are members of the Mid-American Conference and the Central Collegiate Hockey Association.

The Division of Research and Economic Engagement and the Center for Regional Development established the Reimagining Rural Regions Initiative to provide expertise and capacity to assist communities to undertake a placemaking process to identify assets that could be reimagined to improve quality of life and to aid in the retention and attraction of talent.

One of a few Universities in the U.S. recognized with the Community Engagement Classification from the Carnegie Foundation and the APLU recognition as an Innovation and Economic Prosperity University
Advancing the Public Good
THROUGH ALUMNI AND FRIEND SUPPORT

The Falcon alumni network is comprised of leaders, innovators, problem-solvers and problem-finders who are making an impact in their communities and industries.

Our alumni, university friends and donors believe in our shared mission to create good and generously support BGSU through private philanthropy, which has directly impacted student scholarships and experiential learning, research opportunities and creative activities, and improved facilities and infrastructure.

BGSU successfully concluded the largest comprehensive fundraising endeavor in its history in December 2020, raising more than $255 million in philanthropic support during the Changing Lives for the World Campaign. This was the largest philanthropic campaign of any organization in the history of northwest Ohio.
The recently named Schmidthorst College of Business is one of the few named business colleges in the state and honors a transformational $15 million gift from Ohio entrepreneur Allen Schmidthorst and his wife, Carol, to educate and empower current and future students to become the next generation of business and community leaders.

In 2021, the University announced the largest gift in its history from philanthropists Robert and Ellen (Bowen) Thompson to expand their existing scholarship programs, bringing their total support to over $50 million. Their most recent gift will provide thousands of future students with greater access to a BGSU education through life-changing scholarships that support students from working families, military backgrounds and high-potential students with significant financial need.

In 2022, the University announced an unprecedented commitment to the Life Design initiative with $13.5 million in gifts to support student success from two alumni philanthropists, Geoff Radbill ’68 and Mike Kuhlin ’68. The gifts will change the higher-education paradigm, expanding the initiative, naming facilities and making BGSU the first university in the U.S. to offer Life Design on such a broad scale.
FORWARD.

Our Shared Plan to Create Public Good
With a spirit of innovation, Bowling Green State University is a premier, inclusive learning community that develops, transforms and impacts individuals and communities through learning, collaboration and discovery. As a public university, BGSU focuses on contributing to the public good and embraces its role as a national model in addressing the educational, economic and social vitality of our region, the state of Ohio, the nation and the world.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

Driving public good through redefining student success
We aspire to redefine student success because while receiving a degree is important, we do not believe it is sufficient to live a productive and meaningful life. We will provide an educational experience that meets our students where they are and inspires them to be prepared for opportunities and life after graduation. In this way, we drive public good through our graduates who make a difference in their families, communities and professions.

Creating public good through research, creative activities, partnerships and engagement
We aspire to be relevant to our communities to support their social, economic, educational and cultural vitality. We create public good through the relevance and significance of our research, scholarship and creative activities. We enhance our communities through engagement, service and partnership.

FOUNDATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Powering public good through our people and community
We aspire to be an engaged learning community where each member belongs and is inspired to achieve excellence. For us to become the community we aspire to be, we must become more diverse, inclusive and curious. Additionally, we aspire to be a student-centered learning community and are guided by this focus in our decision-making.

Supporting public good through efficient and effective processes, structures and technologies
We aspire to be an organization that achieves excellence and provides our students with an educational experience that is of great value professionally and personally.

CREATE GOOD WITH US

CORE VALUES

Intellectual and personal growth | Creativity, innovation and entrepreneurism | Diversity and belonging
Collaboration with each other and our partners | Excellence in all we do
Founded by the state, for the state, a teacher-training school that never settled.

Today, we’re anything but normal.

We are a nationally ranked comprehensive university of value.

Always striving for more, always proud to be a state school, a public university for the public good.

MULTIPLE CAMPUSES AND LOCATIONS

1,338 acres
122 buildings
5.4M square feet of teaching and research space
$1.5B market value of facilities