You Belong Here

One of the top-ranked public universities in the world, the University of Michigan is not only an institution, it is a community. As a Wolverine, you will be surrounded by other passionate students like you who ask questions and challenge the present to create a better future.

With 19 schools and colleges offering more than 263 degree programs and an impressive student to faculty ratio of 15:1, you will have the resources and support you need to challenge yourself and make a positive impact on the world. You’ll also be offered opportunities to learn off-campus via service work, study abroad programs, and remote programs such as Camp Davis in Wyoming, the Biological Station in northern Michigan, and the New England Literature Program.

U-M’s commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion is steadfast, and we strive to create a culture where students from all backgrounds feel welcome. A community of Native American students is currently on campus and looking forward to meeting you and helping make the transition from home to campus a positive experience.

The Beginning

Founded in 1817, the University of Michigan is the first public university in the Northwest Territories. Through the Treaty of Fort Meigs, three Native American tribes—Ojibwe (Chippewa), Odawa (Ottawa) and Bodewadimi (Potawatomi)—ceded land to U-M that was sold to provide a significant part of Michigan’s permanent endowment. Although the land was given “believing they may wish some of their children hereafter educated,” the three donor tribes never received direct benefit.

Generations later, in the 1990s, a group of students initiated a campaign to erect a memorial to the tribes that provided the land that helped fund the university’s start. The University of Michigan has a rich history of student-lead initiatives that advocate for positive, necessary, and timely change, and we know you will continue this tradition when you become a Wolverine.
Resources

Undergraduate Admissions: admissions.umich.edu
Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver: admissions.umich.edu/mitw
Financial Aid: finaid.umich.edu
Multi-Ethnic Student Affairs: mesa.umich.edu
Office of Academic Multicultural Activities: oami.umich.edu
Native American Studies: lsa.umich.edu/native
  • Undergraduate: lsa.umich.edu/native/undergraduates
  • Graduate: lsa.umich.edu/native/graduates
Rackham Graduate School: rackham.umich.edu
Child care subsidy: finaid.umich.edu/child-care-subsidy
Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc.: itcmi.org
North American Indian Association of Detroit: naiadetroit.org
  • facebook.com/North-American-Indian-Association-of-Detroit-318321856117/
American Indian Health and Family Services: aihfs.org
South Eastern Michigan Indians, Inc.: facebook.com/southeasternmichigan.indians
American Indian Services: amerinserv.org
College Horizons: collegehorizons.org/about
You Belong Here

RESOURCE GUIDE
FOR NATIVE STUDENTS
Ways to Finance Your U-M Education

Go Blue Guarantee
goblueguarantee.umich.edu
For Michigan residents whose family income is less than $65,000 and with assets up to $50,000, the Go Blue Guarantee will cover the full cost of in-state tuition for four years of undergraduate study on our Ann Arbor campus. The majority of students covered by the Go Blue Guarantee may also qualify for additional financial aid that contributes to other costs, such as residence hall housing, meals, books, etc.

Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver
admissions.umich.edu/mitw
The Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver program, authorized by the State of Michigan, waives the tuition costs for eligible Native Americans in Michigan’s public community colleges and universities. Students granted the waiver by the state will still be required to cover other costs, such as room and board, textbooks, and incidentals.

Be sure to visit the website for important qualifications and requirements.

Admissions Application Fee Waiver
We will waive all Common Application or Coalition Application filing fees for students who qualify as tribal-enrolled American Indian or Alaska Native applicants (Tribal Enrollment Number required). Applicants should check “Other Fee Waiver Request” and “American Indian or Alaska Native Tribal Enrollee” in the U-M specific portion of the application.

Financial Aid
finaid.umich.edu
We have numerous resources and ways to help you and your family make attending the university affordable. Financial aid comes in several forms: grants and scholarships that are not repaid, loans that must be repaid, or federal Work-Study awards which allow you to earn a paycheck while attending college.

Additional Affordability Resources
The Bureau of Indian Education: bie.edu/ParentsStudents/Grants
American Indian College Fund:
collegefund.org/student-resources/scholarships/scholarship-programs
Center for Native American Youth: cnay.org/resource-hub/resource-exchange
College Scholarships: collegescholarships.org/nativeamerican.htm
Native American Scholarships: www.powwows.com/native-american-scholarships
Connect with other U-M Native students through groups, associations, and events.

Native American Student Association (NASA)
umich.edu/~aium/hasa
facebook.com/pg/NASAatUMich/about

Native American and Indigenous Student Interest Group (NAISIG)
https://sites.google.com/a/umich.edu/aisig

Society for Advancement of Hispanics/Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS)
https://sacnasatumich.wordpress.com

American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES)
umich.edu/~aium/aises/bob.html

Latin American and Native American Medical Association (LANAMA)
musicium.edu/medschool/student-groups/latician-american-native-american-medical-association-lanama

Native American Law Students Association (NALSA)
law.umich.edu/journalsandorgs/Pages/NALSA.aspx

University of Michigan Pow Wow
powwow.umich.edu

“Don’t be afraid to be a nontraditional student. There is no rule that you must graduate in four years, or figure out your major by sophomore year. In the large scheme of life, finding the path that makes you happy will be so much more important than one that was simple.”

- Steve Smit
U-M alum

“Native American tribes in our state were central to the establishment of the University of Michigan, and today, our campus is made stronger academically and culturally by Native students. We are proud to invite you to join the Michigan family.”

- U-M President Mark Schlissel
Ann Arbor
Located in the southeast region of the Great Lakes state, in the vibrant city of Ann Arbor, the University of Michigan is well-positioned to offer an array of opportunities and experiences for you, both on and off campus. You will be able to meet others with shared interests, learn new hobbies, and take part in events or festivals; whatever you love to do—even the things you have not yet had the chance to explore—are here waiting to be discovered.

Regional Activities
The Huron River: kayaking, canoeing, fishing, tubing
Ann Arbor Parks: walking, biking, running, tennis, basketball, baseball and softball, soccer, sledding, ice skating, snowshoeing, cross country skiing, skateboarding, dedicated dog parks
Nichols Arboretum and Matthaei Botanical Gardens: nature areas, exhibits, trails, gardens and collections, conservatory, artwork, campus farm, visitor center
Downtown Ann Arbor: festivals, live music, restaurants, cafes, galleries, bars, shopping

Ann Arbor by the Numbers
5,060+ acres of protected farmland and open space in Ann Arbor’s Greenbelt program
43 miles distance from Ann Arbor to downtown Detroit
226 miles distance from Ann Arbor to Traverse City
30 minutes to DTW international airport
3 shuttles to the Detroit Metro airport
2 downtown Ann Arbor movie theaters