



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA TWIN CITIES

Driven to Discover[®]

Multicultural Communities

**EXPLORE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS,
COMMUNITIES, CULTURAL CENTERS AND MORE!**

A resource for exploring and joining
University of Minnesota Twin Cities Communities





The University of Minnesota is a special place with a vibrant community where students interact and exchange ideas. Diversity, **broadly defined**, is an essential, invaluable component of the University of Minnesota experience.

Building a **multicultural campus of students, faculty and staff from different races, geographic origins, economic backgrounds, genders, religions, ethnicities, sexualities, talents and beliefs**, ensures that as a University, we provide a nurturing, comprehensive and global learning environment.

Our engaging professors encourage critical thinking, provide opportunities to grow intellectually, and provide space to challenge beliefs and theories. Your academic, personal, and professional goals are important to us, and we will support you every step of the way.

So, are you ready to be a world-changer?

A discovery-maker? A barrier-breaker?



LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Office of Admissions acknowledges that the University of Minnesota Twin Cities is built within the traditional homelands of the Dakota people. It is important to acknowledge the peoples on whose land we live, learn, and work as we seek to improve and strengthen our relations with our tribal nations. We also acknowledge that words are not enough. We must ensure that our institution provides support, resources, and programs that increase access to all aspects of higher education for our American Indian students, staff, faculty, and community members.

YOU'VE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE.

Looking for opportunities related to a specific community? This guide is full of helpful links as you explore the many U of M resources, communities and opportunities, including the Twin Cities region. We listed examples of groups and resources throughout, with so much more to discover online. We also have parent resources available for the college search process, including resources translated in Spanish, Hmong, and Somali languages, at z.umn.edu/ParentInfo. Ski-U-Mah!





THRIVE

FUN FACT: Twenty-four percent of the U of M undergraduate students are the first in their families to attend college.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES FOR YOU

The **Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence (MCAE, pronounced M-K)** is a campus-wide office that promotes an inclusive atmosphere. MCAE's programs are designed to create powerful, caring connections among all members of the University of Minnesota community.

MCAE's signature programs include their 5 Living Learning Communities (LLCs), remote and in-person peer tutoring services, skill-building workshops, and one-on-one support for students to discuss their needs and goals. MCAE's annual events include the MCAE Kickoff, which is held each fall for incoming Indigenous, multicultural, and first generation college students. They also host an Annual Celebration of Achievement to recognize graduates. Further, they host paid Internships to build leadership and program development skills. Learn more at mcae.umn.edu

DREAMERS WELCOME

The office of Undergraduate Admissions welcomes DACA/Undocumented students to apply through the Common App and the Golden Gopher Application. When you apply, the University of Minnesota keeps student and personnel records private and will not share information with immigration agencies unless legally compelled to do so. We have additional information regarding Financial Aid, Support Services for current students and much more on our website at z.umn.edu/DACAcommitment.



The University's Immigration Response Team is here to help you navigate immigration-related questions or understand how your immigration status impacts your interactions with the University. You can make a free and private appointment at any time, and no records or documents will be kept. Visit immigration.umn.edu for more information.

LIVING LEARNING COMMUNITIES

The U of M offers students living on campus a chance to engage in a Living Learning Community (LLC)—a group of like-minded individuals who explore college, culture, and community together in a residence hall.

With more than 30 to choose from, each LLC is designed to deliver a warm and welcoming on-campus living option with a focus on diverse cultures and communities. Each "house" provides a variety of events and services to support students in their academic and personal growth.

Check out some of the LLCs!

- American Indian Cultural House - COIN
- Casa Sol for Latinx Students - MCAE
- Charlotte's Home for Black Women - MCAE
- Huntley House for Black Men - MCAE
- The Firsts (First Generation Students) - MCAE
- Tsev Hmoob for Hmong Students - MCAE
- Chinese Language and Culture House
- MLK Beloved Community
- Social Justice Action - MCSE
- STEM Diversity House
- CFANS House (College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences)

The priority deadline to apply is March 1 of your senior year. Find all of the LLCs at z.umn.edu/LiveLearn

DID YOU KNOW?

Students who live on campus their first year have a 10% higher graduation rate than students living off campus.

FUN FACT ABOUT HOUSING: Housing and Residential Life offer "Groups!" Which are exactly what they sound like - a way for you to connect with others in your building community around something you love to do. You can join one or create one! housing.umn.edu/groups

DIVE IN

U of M students have fun and make friends through 900+ student-run organizations. Those organizations include many cultural centers, 200+ cultural student groups, including groups like the African and the West Indian Student Associations. The U of M campus also has 14 multicultural Greek Council and National Pan-Hellenic Council fraternities and sororities.

But it's about more than just being social—you'll also build a great skill set by managing budgets, planning events, or coordinating volunteers.



FUN FACT: The University of Minnesota is home to four Greek Councils: the Interfraternity Council, the National Pan-Hellenic Council, the Multicultural Greek Council and the Panhellenic Council.

FIND CAMPUS COMMUNITY

“The Black Student Union hosts numerous events for students to come together and discuss different topics or to just hang out and get to know each other.”



—Aijalong L, College of Liberal Arts, from Goldsboro, NC

Curious about our 900+ Student Groups? Here's a sample, but visit them all at gopherlink.umn.edu/organizations

- **African Student Association:** A forum that brings students together to openly discuss issues concerning Africa and Africans, while educating the University community about African culture.
- **American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES):** A student-led chapter of the national AISES organization that connects Indigenous students interested in STEM, conducts local K-12 outreach, and sends scholars to AISES national events.
- **Black Motivated Women:** Serves as a vehicle to educate our community on all aspects of being a Black woman from all nationalities in today's society.
- **Business Association of Multicultural Students (BAM):** Provides students with a diverse perspective of today's global business environment and assist with their pursuit of professional excellence.
- **Hmong Minnesota Student Association:** Promotes, preserves, and advances the Hmong culture and heritage on campus and within the Twin Cities community through a variety of events and programs.
- **Latino Medical Student Association:** Supports and promotes the interests of students who identify themselves as underrepresented minority students in health career paths through social, cultural, educational, and other activities.
- **Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers:** Support students professionally, academically, and socially through events focused on achieving academic excellence and developing professional aptitude while fostering a sense of family.
- **Somali Student Association:** Promotes awareness and education about the Somali culture, history, and language.
- **Vietnamese Student Association of Minnesota:** Supports Vietnamese students in academics and social endeavors to enrich their college experience alongside hosting events and activities that incorporate cultural knowledge.

Commuter Resources

There are many students that commute during college and there are a variety of resources that allow them to focus on classes and balance extracurricular engagement. This includes **Commuter Connection**, a student organization located in Coffman Memorial Union where you can find a printer, study while in between classes, or eat lunch.

Visit z.umn.edu/OffCampusLiving to check out for more information on parking, public transportation, biking, and more!

COMMUNITIES

ACADEMICS

CULTURAL STUDIES

When you take advantage of the U of M's cultural studies departments, you're building on the success of countless meetings, petitions, and protests. Student voice is integral to our University history, and students have played a significant role in the creation of our programs. Academics inspire students like you to make a difference, challenge the powers that be, and become world-changers. So learn a lesson. Then put it to use.

The U of M is home to some of the oldest cultural studies programs. Two of them—the **Department of African American & African Studies** and the **Department of Chicano and Latino Studies**—were born from student protests in the Civil Rights era. In addition, the **American Indian Studies Department** was the very first of its type at any college or university. The **Asian American Studies Program** was established through activism from individuals on and off-campus that worked together to design a program that was unique to Minnesota. The **Department of Asian & Middle Eastern Studies** includes an award-winning group of language teachers and professors who have authored definitive language textbooks as well as cutting-edge studies.

LEARNING TOGETHER

The most valuable learning experience in college is that 'you are not alone'; everyone works together and helps each other.



—Tony V, College of Liberal Arts, from Minnesota



UNIVERSITY RESOURCES

The University has many professionally and student-staffed offices to support students throughout all communities. Here is a sampling of options to explore.

- **Asian Pacific American Resource Center:** A resource on campus that is committed to affirming the experiences of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) students and their diverse communities. They support students to thrive in college, develop leadership skills, participate in professional development, and connect with other AAPI students while centering their AAPI identity through their mentorship program called ASPIRE.
- **Circle of Indigenous Nations:** A student support office that advances and advocates for the needs of American Indian/Native American, Alaska Native, and First Nations students at the U of M Twin Cities. COIN offers a range of specialized services, programs, events, and resources to assist students throughout their journey at the University; including the American Indian Cultural House, a living and learning community option through on-campus housing. Learn more at coin.umn.edu.
- **Cultural Centers:** The University offers many cultural centers to provide a focused, student-staffed resource and community for those who seek greater understanding, engagement and appreciation of specific communities.
 - **Al-Madinah Cultural Center** - Creates a better understanding and appreciation for the diverse cultures and traditions of Islam and Muslims.
 - **American Indian Student Cultural Center** - Promotes cultural expressions and greater cultural enrichment of American Indian and other Indigenous-identifying individuals through educational activities that highlight the contributions American Indians and Indigenous people have made and continue to make in all sectors of public and private life.
 - **Asian American Student Union** - Provides educational, cultural, social and community pillars through activities and events in and outside of campus.
 - **Black Student Union** - Strives to embrace Blackness in all its forms by creating an ideal intellectual, cultural and social environment for students.
 - **Mi Gente Latinx** - Our mission is to achieve a greater historical, political and cultural awareness concerning the Chicano/a, Xicano/a and Latino/a communities, through cultural and educational programs and events.
- **Let's Talk:** A program that provides informal drop-in consultations at multiple locations around campus, as a partnership with many campus partners including the President's Emerging Scholars Program (PES) and the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Program.
- **MLK Jr. Program:** An academic advising office and social justice education community that specializes in serving students who identify as Black, Indigenous, or students of color (BIPOC).
- **Office for Equity and Diversity:** Our mission is to increase access to higher education by advocating for members of our community and emphasizing the importance of diversity in promoting learning and development.
- **Office of Multicultural Student Engagement:** A unit of Student Affairs, dedicated to providing diverse opportunities to all students to increase awareness, understanding, and appreciation for cultural competency, social justice, and intersectionality.

RESOURCES

YOU'LL LOVE THE NEIGHBORS

The Twin Cities area is full of vibrant cultural communities. With 126 languages and dialects, close-knit neighborhoods, and hundreds of traditional and international performances, you'll experience the benefits of our Minneapolis-St. Paul location.

LOCATION

DISCOVER DIVERSITY IN THE TWIN CITIES

Check out how some growing communities have made their mark in the Twin Cities at z.umn.edu/diversecommunities. Descriptions and contact information provided are from the original organization's website. *(The University of Minnesota does not endorse any of the resources or services listed in the directory that are external to the University.)*

GREAT LOCATION

"I have found many opportunities at the U that are setting me up for success in my future career."



—Nicole K.



University of Minnesota students and staff visited the state capitol. They met with legislators to share the importance of the University to the state.



GAIN REAL WORLD EXPERIENCE WHILE IN SCHOOL

Access to *global companies, state government and more*

Whether you're interested in government at the State Capitol, business, the arts, technology and science, or media, our metropolitan location is the perfect place to jumpstart your career through internships and mentorships.

Minnesota is home to 15 Fortune 500 companies, and more than 250,000 alumni live and work in the Twin Cities metro—which means great networking potential.

ALUMNI VOICES



"The Twin Cities is the perfect balance of suburban and city life. There is so much you can do—whether it's exploring the city or taking a walk alongside nature—it's the perfect fit for any type."

—Hemant P.



"I chose the University of Minnesota because of the Chinese Flagship Program. It is a prestigious program at 12 universities in the USA that helps students reach a superior level of Chinese. I also decided on the U of M because I found it to be a campus filled with diverse people and opportunities to help me grow as a person."

—Anna F.

OUR COMMITMENT

We believe diversity is necessary to doing our best work and fostering our humanity. That's why the University of Minnesota community is collectively dedicated to cultivating an inclusive and equitable environment. We aim to continue to weave these core values into the work of all colleges and units across campus, together with everyone in the campus community – students, staff and faculty.

We welcome you to join us today and impact the world tomorrow.

AN INVITATION TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA!

We are here to help you discover everything you need to know about the University of Minnesota Twin Cities to find your college home, apply for admissions and hopefully join us as a future Gopher on campus.

Preparing and exploring your options?

We welcome you and your family to come visit campus! Learn more about our great academics, value, opportunities and location.



Looking forward to your final year in high school?

Freshman applicants for fall 2024 and 2025 admission are not required to submit an ACT or SAT test score. If you do choose to submit an official test score (optional), it can be sent directly from the testing agency to the U of M using the following codes: ACT: 2156 | SAT: 6874

NOTE application deadlines: **Early Action I:** November 1
Early Action II: December 1
Regular: January 1

Confirming your spot in the class?

If you apply and are admitted, we look forward to welcoming you on campus in the fall. Be sure to confirm your enrollment by the May 1 deadline and to apply for housing early to get your pick of on-campus housing!



QUESTIONS?

We are here to help you with any questions you have!

Find your admissions counselor at z.umn.edu/counselor

612-625-2008 or 1-800-752-1000

admissions@umn.edu

For admissions information in Spanish, Somali, and Hmong, please visit z.umn.edu/ParentInfo.

The University's mission is threefold: research and discovery, teaching and learning, and outreach and public service.

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