

Overlaps

**Morehouse,
Spelman, Case
Western Reserve,
Emory, George
Washington,
Georgetown,
Temple, Hampton**

always the grudge match with Hampton University to decide which school is the “true HU.” Howard’s homecoming is one of the best annual events, along with various Greekfests, concerts, and talent shows that current students, alumni, and members of the community enjoy together. Intramurals and club sports attract plenty of students, especially flag football, soccer, basketball, and baseball.

Among America’s historically black colleges and universities, Howard stands out as the standard-bearer, a longtime center of excellence and leadership. Its scholarship and collections of artwork, rare books, manuscripts, and photographs are a repository of the African American experience, informing students’ intellectual and personal growth. And with an increased focus on providing opportunities for real-world experience and service, Howard is sure to continue its long tradition of turning out African American leaders in all areas of society.

If You Apply To >

Howard: Early decision, early action, regular decision. SATs or ACTs: required. No Subject Tests. Accepts the Common Application with supplement.

The College of Idaho

Caldwell, ID 83605

Got a map? You’ll need a sharp eye to spot C of I, the *Fiske Guide’s* only liberal arts school between the Rocky Mountains and the West Coast. Innovative PEAK curriculum allows students to specialize in multiple fields. Just over half of the students are from Idaho. Diverse alumni roster includes seven Rhodes scholars, three state governors, and four NFL players.

With an emphasis on education and experiential learning, The College of Idaho, the state’s oldest four-year university, offers students an opportunity to earn a solid liberal arts education through small classes in a small town. Outside class, the school’s scenic environment allows sports and nature enthusiasts to explore freely before heading back into the classroom. At C of I, you’ll be exposed to “hard work, great opportunities, and a healthy amount of fun,” says a freshman.

The college is in the small town of Caldwell, where the atmosphere is calm and serene. For those looking for a little excitement, the state capital of Boise is a short drive from campus. Also nearby are some of Idaho’s most scenic locations, such as beautiful mountains, deserts, and white-water rivers. The school, originally a Presbyterian college, first planted roots in downtown Caldwell in 1891 and then moved to its present site in 1910, where its nearly 30 buildings now inhabit 43 acres. Construction on a 60,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art library was recently completed.

The school’s academic schedule is composed of 12-week semesters, spring and fall, separated by a four-week winter session, during which students can assist professors with research, take an internship, volunteer, or travel abroad. The college’s distinctive PEAK program combines a liberal arts education with specialization in multiple fields. Over four years, students earn a major and three minors spread across four knowledge “peaks”—the humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, and a professional field. Students choose among 33 majors and 30 minors.

Website: www.collegeofidaho.edu

Location: Small Town

Private

Total Enrollment: 927

Undergraduates: 919

Male/Female: 48/52

SAT Ranges: ERW 520–613,
M 510–600

ACT Ranges: 21–27

Financial Aid: 100%

Pell Grant: 38%

Expense: Pr \$

Student Loans: 72%

Average Debt: \$ \$ \$




Applicants: 2,754

Accepted: 49%

Enrolled: 21%

Grad in 6 Years: 70%

Returning Freshmen: 79%

Academics:   

Freshmen sign an honor code and go through a first-year program that involves a first-year seminar, a premodern civilization course, a junior or senior mentor, a team of advisors, and a weeklong orientation that includes an off-campus overnight stay at a lakeside camp.

"The workload can be relaxed or intense depending upon a student's desire for success," says one senior. Business, psychology, biology, health sciences, and environmental studies are among the majors recommended by students, and preprofessional programs, such as premed, prenursing, and prelaw are also popular and strong. Sixty-six percent of all classes at C of I have fewer than 20 students, and faculty are praised for their knowledge and accessibility. "The professors are masters of their craft," a senior says. The college cooperates with the University of Idaho to offer a five-year course of study in engineering. Undergraduate research opportunities are available in all fields, and students present their findings at state and regional conferences. The Center for Experiential Learning coordinates out-of-classroom experiences, such as international education and service learning. For those who want to venture abroad, the college offers options for attending a foreign university or traveling overseas during the summer and winter breaks. Travel has really taken off, with study abroad opportunities in nearly 60 countries around the world.

"Everyone seems like some kind of repressed genius trying to figure out their own existence, pursue stability, and create something meaningful," muses one student, adding, "There are also those who are more career-minded." Fifty-six percent of the students are from Idaho and 13 percent come from foreign countries. Fourteen percent are Hispanic, 2 percent are African American, 2 percent are Asian American, and 5 percent are multiracial. Political issues receive plenty of attention on campus, and debates about the school's honor code are not uncommon among students. Of the most recent freshman class, 38 percent qualify for the Pell Grant. The college offers merit scholarships averaging \$22,100, as well as roughly 200 athletic scholarships. Not surprisingly, some of those dollars are set aside for skiers.

Sixty-eight percent of students live on campus. "Residences are great, easy to decorate, and relatively big," says one student. Other options include five traditional residence halls, two suite-style apartment buildings, and more than 20 rental houses. For meals, C of I provides "a grill, deli, salad bar, pizza, and vegetarian options" that are "to die for," according to one student. "Campus safety gets a 10 out of 10," says a junior. "There is an officer on duty 24/7 even over breaks and summer vacation."

Twelve percent of men and 16 percent of women participate in the Greek system, which dominates campus social life. Students 21 and over are permitted to have alcohol on campus, in moderation (i.e., no kegs). Annual social highlights include Winterfest, Spring Fling, and homecoming week. Games against rival Northwest Nazarene also attract attention. "We have a fantastic social scene. We host events almost nightly," a student reports.

Undergraduates can choose among 50 student clubs, and the arts are strong. Students of all majors participate in a wide range of instrumental and choral music, theater, visual arts, and other activities, and the choir has performed at Carnegie Hall and other venues around the country. "Finals breakfasts" offer something for bleary-eyed students to look forward to during finals week; at midnight on Tuesday, faculty and staff cook breakfast for students.

Caldwell, with about 50,000 people, is not a great spot for college students, but students get involved by helping out the local school district. Nearby Boise is a popular destination for shopping, dining, and cultural events, including a symphony orchestra, art museum, zoo, professional baseball and hockey, and the must-see World Center for Birds of Prey. Many students hit the road during a weeklong break taken every six weeks. Outdoor enthusiasts relish the fact that the C of I campus is

(continued)

Social: ☎ ☎ ☎

Q of L: ★ ★ ★

Admissions: (208) 459-5305

Email Address: admission@collegeofidaho.edu

Strong Programs:

Business
Psychology
Biology
Health Sciences
Environmental Studies
Premed
Prenursing
Prelaw

Over four years, students earn a major and three minors spread across four knowledge "peaks."

"We have a fantastic social scene. We host events almost nightly."

More than a third of students play for one of the college's 20 varsity teams.

just minutes away from world-class opportunities for skiing, hiking, camping, fishing, and white-water rafting. The student-run Outdoor Program offers trips, classes, and equipment rentals.

More than a third of students play for one of the college's 20 varsity teams, which compete in NAIA Division II. The Yotes (translation: "We are the Coyotes") have earned national championships in baseball, basketball, and skiing, and recent conference champs include men's basketball and lacrosse. For those who enjoy the game but might not make the team, there is an active intramurals program and the large Albertson Activities Center. "Intramurals are huge at our school," says a sophomore, drawing nearly half the students.

C of I has much to offer its Yotes. They enjoy a well-designed liberal arts education and personal academic attention on a campus striving to keep its offerings on the cutting edge. What's more, students here are encouraged to take an active role in the school's future. From creating traditions to upholding the honor code, a sophomore says, "We are involved in all aspects of campus life."

Overlaps

**Boise State,
University of Idaho,
Idaho State, College
of Western Idaho,
Westminster,
Earlham, Northwest
Nazarene**

If You Apply To ›

Idaho: Early action I and II, regular decision. SATs or ACTs: optional. (Test-optional applicants must complete additional short-answer essay questions.) Subject Tests: optional. Accepts the Common Application with supplement.

University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign

901 West Illinois Street, Urbana, IL 61801

Half a step behind Michigan and neck and neck with Wisconsin among top Midwestern public universities. U of I's strengths include business, communication, engineering, architecture, and the natural sciences. Three-quarters of the undergraduates hail from in state. Huge Greek system.

Like many of its Midwestern neighbors, the University of Illinois has its roots in agriculture. The Morrow Plots, the oldest experimental fields in the nation, still rest symbolically in the middle of campus—and when the wind blows the wrong way, students are not-so-subtly reminded of their heritage as a farm school. Like most big, public universities, U of I has a barn full of choices, and with a strong Greek system and 1,200 clubs, social activities are more than plentiful. Homecoming weekend was invented at the University of Illinois, and whether cheering for the Illini, pledging a Greek organization, or celebrating Moms', Dads', or Siblings' Weekends, students here stir up a vibrant mix of school spirit and good times. This may look and feel like a laid-back Midwestern campus, but make no mistake: Illinois's stellar academics and learning communities are up there with any of the country's public flagships.

Befitting the oldest land grant institution, the Illinois campus was built in farm country between the twin cities of Champaign and Urbana. The parklike campus was designed along a mile-long axis where trees and walkways separate stately white-columned Georgian structures made of brick. Physically challenged students tend to appreciate the campus because it is flat and well equipped with ramps and widened doorways. The impressive Illinois library system, the largest public university collection of its kind worldwide, makes it easier to keep up with classwork. A 225,000-square-foot computer science center and the physical education center

Website: www.illinois.edu
Location: Small City
Public
Total Enrollment: 42,910
Undergraduates: 32,354
Male/Female: 54/46
SAT Ranges: ERW 600–700,
M 620–780
ACT Ranges: 26–32
Financial Aid: 56%
Pell Grant: 25%
Expense: Pub \$ \$ \$ \$
Student Loans: 43%
Average Debt: \$
Applicants: 39,406
Accepted: 62%
Enrolled: 19%
Grad in 6 Years: 84%
Returning Freshmen: 93%