



## **1** **Stanford University**

Old Union  
Stanford, CA 94305-3005  
(650) 723-2091  
[www.stanford.edu](http://www.stanford.edu)

Undergraduate population: 6,500  
Hispanic students: 11%  
Type of school: private  
Setting: suburban  
Tuition & fees: \$24,441  
Most popular majors:  
biology, economics, psychology, English, political science.

Stanford ranks #6 on America's Best Colleges. It boasts outstanding academic programs, with strengths in the sciences and engineering and first-rate athletic teams, all while maintaining a laid-back West Coast atmosphere. The campus features Spanish-style courtyards, and Latinos can opt to live in the Casa Zapata, a theme house, or join one of nine Hispanic student groups. Stanford offers Latin American studies and houses the Stanford Center for Chicano Research.

## **2** **Rice University**

Office of Admission – MS 17  
P.O. Box 1892  
Houston, TX 77251-1892  
(713) 527-4036,  
(800) 527-OWLS  
[www.rice.edu](http://www.rice.edu)

Undergraduate population: 2,700  
Hispanic students: 10%  
Type of school: private  
Setting: urban  
Tuition & fees: \$15,796  
Most popular majors:  
economics, electrical and computer engineering, biochemistry, English.

Rice secured the 13th spot on America's Best Colleges and its tuition is only two-thirds of that of other leading private institutions. Time and

time again, it has been called the best value in private education. On Rice's 300-acre campus in the nation's fourth-largest city, Latinos can pursue Latin American studies or join a number of groups such as the Association of Latin American Engineers and the Hispanic Association for Cultural Enrichment at Rice (HACER).

## **3** **University of California–Berkeley**

110 Sproul Hall  
Berkeley, CA 94720  
(510) 642-3175  
[www.berkeley.edu](http://www.berkeley.edu)

Undergraduate population: 22,500  
Hispanic students: 11%  
Type of school: public  
Setting: urban  
Tuition & fees: \$4,046 (in-state), \$13,850 (out-of-state)  
Most popular majors:  
economics, psychology, English, political science.  
The entire University of California system is considered outstanding, with six of its campuses ranked in the top 50 schools of America's Best Colleges. Of them, Berkeley earned the top spot as #20. One of the most diverse campuses in the country, it offers top-of-the-line academics, which includes Latin American studies and Mexican American/Chicano studies.

## **4** **University of Texas–Austin**

Main Building, Room 7  
Austin, TX 78712  
(512) 475-7399  
[www.utexas.edu](http://www.utexas.edu)

Undergraduate population: 38,000  
Hispanic students: 14%  
Type of school: public  
Setting: urban  
Tuition & fees: \$3,828 (in-state), \$9,390 (out-of-state)  
Most popular majors: business, engineering, liberal arts, communications/journalism.

Its position as #49 on America's Best Colleges and its enormous size suggest UT–Austin has a lot to offer. In fact, this public institution offers 100 undergraduate degree programs in 11 colleges and schools. It also includes the Institute for Latin American Studies and the Center for Mexican-American Studies. A program known as MAPS (Mapping a Plan for Success), designed specifically for minorities, matches first-year students with peer advisors and referrals for tutoring. Joining one of 24 Hispanic student groups is another way Latinos can avoid getting lost in the crowd.

## Massachusetts Institute of Technology



77 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
(617) 258-5515  
[web.mit.edu](http://web.mit.edu)

Undergraduate population: 4,300  
Hispanic students: 10%  
Type of school: private  
Setting: urban  
Tuition & fees: \$26,746  
Most popular majors: electrical engineering and computer science, mechanical engineering, biology.

MIT is considered the preeminent science and technology school in the nation, and students say it offers a terrific overall academic experience. Through one of MIT's unique programs, students can earn both a bachelor's and a master's degree in five years. Hispanic student groups include Teatro Latino, Mujeres Latinas, and the Mexican Student Association.

## University of California-San Diego

9500 Gilman Drive,  
Dept. 0337  
La Jolla, CA 92093-0337  
(619) 534-4831  
[www.ucsd.edu](http://www.ucsd.edu)

Undergraduate population: 16,000  
Hispanic students: 10%  
Type of school: public  
Setting: city  
Tuition & fees: \$3,800 (in-state), \$13,600 (out-of-state)  
Most popular majors:  
biochemistry, psychology,  
biology, political science, physiology.

UCSD is a renowned research institute, ranked #31 on America's Best Colleges. The university is made up of five colleges, each with its own curriculum and requirements, thereby creating a more intimate academic setting and a community atmosphere. Latin American studies are available, and UCSD houses the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies.

## 7 Harvard University

Byerly Hall  
8 Garden Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
(617) 495-1551  
[www.harvard.edu](http://www.harvard.edu)

Undergraduate population: 6,700  
Hispanic students: 8%  
Type of school: private  
Setting: city outskirts  
Tuition & fees: \$25,000  
Most popular majors: economics, government, biology, English, biochemistry.

Ranked #2 on America's Best Colleges, second only to Princeton, Harvard is one of the oldest and most respected universities in the world. Located in the outskirts of Boston, it offers a social life both on and off its campus. El Concilio Latino organizes the nearly 20 Hispanic student groups, including the Latino Caucus and Latino fraternities and sororities. Courses are offered in Latin American, Latino, and Iberian studies, and Harvard students praise the college's all-around quality of life.

## 8 UCLA

1147 Murphy Hall  
Box 941436,  
Los Angeles, CA 90095  
(310) 825-3101  
[www.ucla.edu](http://www.ucla.edu)

Undergraduate population: 24,000  
Hispanic students: 15%  
Type of school: public  
Setting: urban  
Tuition & fees: \$3,698 (in-state), \$13,502 (out-of-state)  
Most popular majors:  
psychology, economics,  
political science.

Because of its popular sports teams and key location in Los Angeles, some say UCLA is a party school. But its academics are at least on a par with the social life, as evidenced by its ranking of #25 in America's Best Colleges. UCLA offers both Hispanic American and Latin American studies, and Latinos can join a variety of groups, including the Latin American Student Association, el Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano de Aztlán (MEChA), and Raza Women.



## Amherst College

Box 2231, P.O. Box 5000  
Amherst, MA 01002-5000  
(413) 542-2328  
[www.amherst.edu](http://www.amherst.edu)

Undergraduate population: 1,700  
Hispanic students: 7%  
Type of school: private  
Setting: small town  
Tuition & fees: \$25,200

Most popular majors:  
economics, English,  
political science, psychology, history.  
In addition to its general ranking, U.S. News & World Report selects the best liberal arts colleges,\* and this year, Amherst was #1. While its size ensures close professor-student relationships, the fact that the college does not have a fixed curriculum makes it best suited for independent-minded students. La Casa organizes workshops, guest lectures, and social events, while La Causa is a popular student group. One special feature: A course called "The Sounds of Spanglish" taught by the well-known professor and author Ilan Stavans.

\*Liberal arts colleges emphasize undergraduate education and award at least 40 percent of their degrees in liberal arts disciplines.



## Columbia University

1130 Amsterdam Avenue  
MC 2807  
New York, NY 10027  
(212) 854-2522  
[www.columbia.edu](http://www.columbia.edu)

Undergraduate population: 4,000  
Hispanic students: 10%  
Type of school: private  
Setting: big city  
Tuition & fees: \$24,974  
Most popular majors: engineering, education, personal services, communications technologies.

The two qualities that distinguish Columbia from its fellow "Ivies" are its racially and ethnically diverse student body and its college campus: New York City. The school offers a wide selection of excellent academic programs, which include numerous courses in Latin American studies, thereby earning its rank as #10 on America's Best Colleges. While the Big Apple gives students access to many cultural and social treasures, the experience can be overwhelming for those without an independent streak.



## University of California-Davis

Davis, CA 95616-8678  
(530) 752-2971  
[www.ucdavis.edu](http://www.ucdavis.edu)  
Undergraduate population: 17,300  
Hispanic students: 11%  
Type of school: public  
Setting: suburban  
Tuition & fees: \$4,200 (in-state), \$18,100 (out-of-state)  
Most popular majors: biological sciences, psychology, biochemistry.

With a ranking of #41 in America's Best Colleges, UC-Davis is an all-around commendable school, but it is especially strong in the sciences: Biology, biochemistry, and engineering programs stand out. Students describe the school's social scene and atmosphere as laid-back and relaxed. A Chicano studies program and student groups such as Chicano & Latino Engineers and Scientists may be of interest to Latinos.



## New York University

22 Washington Square North  
New York, NY 10011-9191  
(212) 998-4500  
[www.nyu.edu](http://www.nyu.edu)

Undergraduate population: 16,000  
Hispanic students: 7%  
Type of school: private  
Setting: big city  
Tuition & fees: \$23,500  
Most popular majors: business, performing arts, film studies, psychology.

As advised for the other NYC school (Columbia), prospective NYU students should be somewhat independent. Those willing to take the risk will find themselves not only in America's largest city, with its countless social and cultural offerings, but also in one of its top institutions of higher learning: NYU is ranked #33 in America's Best Colleges. The school's Latin American Studies program includes Latin American literature, art history, anthropology, and film studies, and student groups include La Herencia Latina and LUCHA (Latinos Unidos Con Honor y Amistad).

## 13 University of Florida

201 Criser Hall,  
P.O. Box 114000  
Gainesville, FL 32611-4000  
(352) 392-1365  
[www.ufl.edu](http://www.ufl.edu)

Undergraduate population: 28,300  
Hispanic students: 11%  
Type of school: public  
Setting: city center  
Tuition: \$2,141 (in-state); \$9,100 (out-of-state)  
Most popular majors: psychology, finance, business administration, English, exercise and sport science.

Most people know about the University of Florida's competitive football team, the Gators, and its active party scene. Lesser known is that, ranked in the second tier of America's Best Colleges, UF also has excellent academic offerings. Students can take courses from 14 undergraduate schools, including communications and journalism, engineering, education, and the liberal arts. In addition to the school's more than 20 Hispanic student groups, the Institute of Hispanic-Latino Cultures, known as La Casita, organizes dances, dinners, and even domino tournaments.

## 14 Swarthmore College

500 College Avenue  
Swarthmore, PA 19081-1397  
(610) 328-8300  
[www.swarthmore.edu](http://www.swarthmore.edu)

Undergraduate population: 1,450  
Hispanic students: 9%  
Type of school: private  
Setting: suburban  
Tuition & fees: \$24,000  
Most popular majors:  
biology, economics, English literature, sociology/  
anthropology.

As U.S. News & World Report's second-best liberal arts college, Swarthmore offers first-rate academics. One would expect strong professor-student relationships in a school of its size, but, in addition, the college has been applauded for paying extra attention to its students' needs and concerns. Within the Latin American studies program, students can choose from courses such as "Modern Latin America," and HOLA, the Hispanic Organization for Latino Awareness, serves as a support group, offers social services, and educates the community on Hispanic issues.

## 15 University of Notre Dame

1 Grace Hall  
Notre Dame, IN 46556-5602  
(219) 631-7505  
[www.nd.edu](http://www.nd.edu)



Undergraduate population: 8,000  
Hispanic students: 7%  
Type of school: private, Catholic  
Setting: city outskirts  
Tuition & fees: \$23,400  
Most popular majors:  
business/management, social sciences, engineering, health sciences.

The University of Notre Dame has long been an academic and athletic champion. This predominantly Catholic school is ranked #19 on America's Best Colleges, and students say there's a real sense of community on campus. To ease the transition to college, the Office of Minority student affairs organizes a Faculty-Mentor Program which pairs students with faculty members and staff. Notre Dame houses the Institute for Latino Studies, and Latino student groups include Mexican-American Engineers and Scientists.

## 16 University of California–Santa Barbara

Santa Barbara, CA 93106  
(805) 893-2881  
[www.ucsb.edu](http://www.ucsb.edu)

Undergraduate population: 17,000  
Hispanic students: 14%  
Type of school: public  
Setting: suburban  
Tuition: \$3,800 (in-state); \$14,000 (out-of-state)  
Most popular majors: business economics, biological sciences, psychology, sociology.

Students at the University of California–Santa Barbara rave about their college experience, which is not surprising, since the campus even has its own beach. All the while, however, they're attaining a superb education, as the school is ranked #45 in America's Best Colleges. An extensive study-abroad program offers students a choice of nearly 100 host universities worldwide. UCSB offers Chicano studies as well as Latin American and Iberian studies; and Latino student groups include the César Chávez Memorial Committee, RAZA, MUJER, and La Prensa Unida, which publishes a newspaper with a Hispanic perspective.

## 17 Arizona State University

Box 870112  
Tempe, AZ 85287-0112  
(602) 965-7788  
[www.asu.edu](http://www.asu.edu)

Undergraduate population: 26,000  
Hispanic students: 11%  
Type of school: public  
Setting: suburban  
Tuition & fees: \$2,261 (in-state), \$9,000 (out-of-state)  
Most popular majors: business, elementary education, psychology, communication.

On a campus that has been likened to a country club, you'll find Arizona State University's nine undergraduate schools, which include education, social work, nursing, architecture, engineering, and fine arts. In addition to its ranking in the third tier of America's Best Colleges, ASU has been commended for a strong faculty that cares about student needs. A prestigious Honors College offers 1,000 students a more intensive and challenging academic experience. ASU's Latino student groups include the Hispanic Greek Council, El Concilio, several fraternities and sororities; and Chicano studies are offered.

## 18 Southern Methodist University

P.O. Box 750296  
Dallas, TX 75275-0296  
(214) 768-2058  
[www.smu.edu](http://www.smu.edu)

Undergraduate population: 5,000  
Hispanic students: 9%  
Type of school: private  
Setting: suburban  
Tuition & fees: \$18,500  
Most popular majors: general business, psychology, finance.  
Earning a spot on the second tier of America's Best Colleges, SMU is distinguished by strong pre-professional programs, including business and management; engineering and applied science; fine arts; and humanities and science. Its location in Dallas is perhaps one of the reasons students call SMU "serious fun." Both Latin American and Mexican American studies are available, and students can join groups such as Alpha Psi Lambda, a coeducational Latino fraternity.

## 19 University of Southern California

University Park  
Los Angeles, CA 90089-1111  
(213) 740-1111  
[www.usc.edu](http://www.usc.edu)

Undergraduate population: 14,800  
Hispanic students: 15%  
Type of school: private  
Setting: urban  
Tuition & fees: \$23,000  
Most popular majors:  
business, social science, engineering, natural science, communications.

The University of California is ranked #35 in America's Best Colleges and its film school is one of country's best. That's one benefit of its Los Angeles setting. The city also offers students their choice of social activities, from museums and opera to theater and nightclubs. USC offers, in addition to Chicano and Latino studies, a program on Southern California that addresses many issues relevant to the Latino community. Student groups include MEChA, the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, and an active Greek system.

## 20 University of Miami

P.O. Box 248025  
Coral Gables, FL 33124-4616  
(305) 284-4323, 284-2211  
[www.miami.edu](http://www.miami.edu)

Undergraduate population: 7,700  
Hispanic students: 30%  
Type of school: private  
Setting: suburban  
Tuition & fees: \$21,400  
Most popular majors:  
business administration, biology, psychology.

Many University of Miami students can be found studying on the campus lawn under palm trees, but there's definitely work to be done. Ranked in the second tier of America's Best Colleges, UM is composed of nine schools, including architecture, arts and sciences, business administration, communication, education, engineering, international studies, music, and marine science. Through intensive dual-degree programs in medicine, law, business and engineering, highly motivated students can save time in reaching career goals. All the while, students can enjoy Miami's sunshine and nightlife.



## Rutgers–The State University of New Jersey

65 Davidson Road,  
Piscataway, NJ 08854-8097  
(732) 932-INFO  
[www.rutgers.edu](http://www.rutgers.edu)

Undergraduate population: 36,000  
Hispanic students: 9%  
Type of school: public  
Setting: small city  
Tuition & fees: \$6,052 (in-state), \$11,000 (out-of-state)

Most popular majors: psychology, biological sciences, accounting.

While Rutgers University consists of several campuses, the main ones are in Newark and New Brunswick. Both have strong academic programs and are ranked in the second and third tiers, respectively, of America's Best Colleges. The school offers various pre-professional programs, including engineering and nursing, and a Latin American studies program is also available. Student groups include the Latino Student Council and Latinos Unidos en Poder. Rutgers students have access to both New York City and Philadelphia, which are only about an hour away by train.



## University of Arizona

P.O. Box 210040  
Tucson, AZ 85721-0040  
(520) 621-3237  
[www.arizona.edu](http://www.arizona.edu)

Undergraduate population: 26,400  
Hispanic students: 13%  
Type of school: public  
Setting: city  
Tuition: \$5,000 (in-state); \$11,000 (out-of-state)  
Most popular majors: business and public administration, social and behavioral sciences, engineering.

Ranked in the second tier of America's Best Colleges, the University of Arizona offers hundreds of academic programs, some of them considered outstanding, such as, astronomy, journalism, English and history. A Latin American studies program is also available. The Office of Minority Student Affairs provides assistance, coordinating peer and group tutoring sessions, and Latinos can also join groups such as Ritmos Latinos and the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science.



## Texas A&M University

Mail Stop 1265  
College Station, TX 77843-1265  
(409) 845-3741  
[www.tamu.edu](http://www.tamu.edu)

Undergraduate population: 36,000  
Hispanic students: 9%  
Type of school: public  
Setting: small city  
Tuition & fees: \$3,700 (in-state), \$10,000 (out-of-state)  
Most popular majors:  
business administration, psychology, biomedical sciences, mechanical engineering.

It's ranked in the second tier of America's Best Colleges, but Texas A&M has no rival in physical size: It boasts the largest campus in the nation. Recognized for its agricultural sciences and engineering programs, and popular sporting events, Texas A&M has been called one of the best values in higher education. The Hispanic Presidents' Council, composed of the heads of 13 Hispanic groups, serves as a voice for Latino students; and the Office for Latin-American Programs and the Department of Multicultural Services are also of interest.



## University of New Mexico

Student Services Center 140  
Albuquerque, NM 87131-2046  
(505) 277-2446  
[www.unm.edu](http://www.unm.edu)

Undergraduate population: 16,874  
Hispanic students: 30%  
Type of school: public  
Setting: urban  
Tuition: \$2,400 (in-state); \$9,200 (out-of-state)  
Most popular majors: education, biology, and nursing.

The architecture of the University of New Mexico's campus illustrates its Spanish and Pueblo Indian influences. Two of the school's strongest academic programs are Latin American affairs and Southwest Hispanic studies. Its position in the second tier of America's Best Colleges indicates the school's overall academic excellence. Located in Albuquerque, New Mexico's largest city, UNM offers access to cultural attractions, as well as skiing, hiking and camping. For the historically curious, Spanish and Indian ruins are nearby.



1 East Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, IL 60604-2287  
(312) 362-8300, (800) 4-DEPAUL  
[www.depaul.edu](http://www.depaul.edu)

Undergraduate population: 7,600  
Hispanic students: 18%  
Type of school: private, Catholic  
Setting: urban  
Tuition & fees: \$14,700  
Most popular majors: accounting, computer  
science, education, psychology, communications.

DePaul University, a Catholic institution ranked in the third tier of America's Best Colleges, is situated on two campuses, the Loop and Lincoln Park, connected by an elevated train. The College of Commerce offers degrees in marketing, accounting, finance, and economics. While Chicago offers a variety of social and cultural activities, students can also join organizations such as DALE, the DePaul Alliance for Latino Empowerment.