

Rowan University Profile

Rowan University was established in 1923 and is currently one of the largest public colleges in New Jersey's public education system, which has approximately 10 schools. The university is favorable to South New Jersey students because it's in close proximity to Philadelphia, which is approximately 20 miles away by car. Rowan University is located in the rural town of Glassboro New Jersey as part of a college for liberal arts and sciences school; the facility also boasts research and communications resources for students and local residents to enjoy. Rowan is also unique because it offers students the ability to enjoy a park like setting within an hour from Atlantic City and the Jersey Shore. I think this issue is important to students who want an exciting cultural experience without having to live in a city.

The footprint of the site is large for a state school with approximately 200 acres of property, which extends throughout the town of Glassboro. The campus footprint of Rowan University encapsulates the township because the school is the largest real estate holder within the community. The campus has approximately 40 buildings including lecture, sports, performing arts, and student housing facilities. Rowan has gone through, and is continuing massive growth of the campus with several new buildings on Route 322. Rowan also is developing a commercial partnership with a major hotel chain to build a mixed-use hotel, and shopping center on Main Street.

The issue of student housing on campus is not a challenge for Rowan due to it's relatively small student population, and large inventory of off campus student apartments in walking distance to the university. The university provides guaranteed housing for undergraduate students according to school officials. The physical layout of the academic buildings, athletic fields, and residence halls is designed to separate the campus into 3 parts, for easy access to students. The freshmen housing is interesting at Rowan because it's located on the southern edge of the old campus. The freshman housing is in close proximity to the new lecture halls across the main avenue of Route 322, students have easy access to classes.

Rowan University Demographics: Rowan is home to approximately 3000 male, and 3800 female full time undergrad students. The university also has 400 male, and 800 female students attending Rowan on a part-time basis. The university also has 700 male, and 300 female graduate students attending the campus. The average age of a freshman is 19 years old; all undergraduates are 21 years old. 95% of students are state residents with the rest coming from 11 other states, and 25 foreign countries. 79% of students are white, 7% are Hispanic, and 10% are African American, and 2% are Asian. The total number of students with on campus housing is 9,700 according to published handouts.

Published Academic Standards for Admission Programs

Rowan University offers a Liberal Arts and Sciences programs for undergraduate students. Below is a list of specific admission requirements for admission.

Rowan University: Freshman Class: 8,108, applied, 4,181 accepted, and 1,383 enrolled to the school.

SAT Verbal 580, SAT Math 600. Application Deadline March 1

Faculty/ Classroom: 58% of faculty is male, 42% female. The average class size in an introductory lecture is 32, Lab 22 and 25 in a regular course.

Student / Faculty Ratio: 15 to 1

Campus Footprint: The design, and physical setting of a particular institution has elements relating to the overall culture and social system on campus. Since college and university campuses are designed to offer (open) movement of people through it's borders, the issue of design, along with effective use of space can reduce both the incidence, and fear of crime. This design feature is called "Crime Prevention through Environmental Control." The proper design and effective use of the built environment can lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime and an improvement in the quality of life.

The design and physical setting of Rowan University is located within a rural residential neighborhood. The university is virtually split in 3 parts with the freshman housing on the old south side campus, newer style residence halls on the north side, with lecture, library, and student centers in the middle. The footprint of the college is not unique because students like to get away from classes to retreat to their residence halls. This type of structure enhances the campus lifestyle within the schools sprawling footprint. The buildings geographical design features form a large square in which students can enter, and leave the campus from several locations.

The overall physical layout of the campus is typical of a college setting with wide sidewalks, grass field meeting places, and park like benches. The pedestrian flow of traffic within the facility was centered in the middle of campus due to the time of day. The buildings and open spaces of the facility were reasonably clean and maintained during my observations. I observed several construction projects underway including student housing on Main Street.

Parking resources is a big feature on campus due to the high number of parking permits issued to students and employees. The university also has a part time student community who require parking services on campus. The university has approximately 14 parking lots for students, employees, and visitors. The physical security design seems to be a challenge for public safety officials due to the number of access points to the campus. The campus parking lots are connected to several roads on the campus perimeter, which act almost like natural barriers, students can park their cars without any concern for internal traffic issues within the campus footprint.

The campus has approximately 10 entrances and exits to maximize the flow of vehicular traffic within the facility; the issue of pedestrian traffic on campus is minimal due to the suburban setting, the only people I observed walking on the perimeter were the students who live in the Crossings, and Triad apartments. An observation of the internal campus setting provides students and employees with several types of student services including physical fitness, residence, library services, and cultural meeting places and dining halls.

Rowan's observed focal point of reference during my campus visit was the main sidewalk from the academic buildings to the area around the campus athletic center. I observed heavy pedestrian traffic from this area due in part to the location of the facility in the middle of the campus. The campus footprint also observes buildings on both sides of Route 322 in which students must cross the street to go back to the residence

Formal gathering areas within Rowan's campus are usually determined by the time of day. Students gather at several different areas of the campus during the day, including the lecture halls, the library, the student and recreation center. At night students move to more convenient locations including the student center which offers several different types of activities including music, and club functions. The daytime focal area of the campus lies between several large grassy areas in and around the lecture, and residence halls. The residence hall quads are a textbook example of CPTED design because it allows for natural surveillance and open space for people to enjoy while still providing some type of ownership within the property.

Local weather: Weather is also an issue to consider for students preparing for a college experience. New Jersey enjoys all four seasons of weather including rain and snow. Northeast weather patterns sometimes allow for temperatures to drop below 32 degrees for a considerable amount of time during the winter. New Jersey also gets its share of rain during the spring and summer months as well. A strong indicator of pedestrian traffic around the university can be identified by the northeast weather patterns. Student parking within close proximity to university buildings and student services help reduce the exposure literally and figuratively.

Community Profile

Glassboro New Jersey is a rural town of approximately 19,068 residents in the southwestern county of Gloucester. The town has been described as a gracious family centered residential community within striking distance to Philadelphia. Glassboro also has an intellectual side due to its historical heritage, and neighborhood architecture. The town was once called the “Glass works in the Woods” for its historical production of glass products going back to the 19th century. Glassboro is a typical rural community with several country roads going in, and out of the community. The area does have 2 shopping areas within a short driving distance to the campus including the College Town Shopping Center, and the Deptford Mall on Route 47.

The main road through the community is Route 322 that passes in front of Rowan’s campus. The community has limited shopping opportunities at this time due to large construction projects on Main Street. The Township of Glassboro in concert with Rowan University is building a shopping facility called the Boulevard that is expected to help improve off campus facilities, and activities for Rowan students, and neighborhood residents. The Project is expected to be finished in 2011.

The community has a real small college town feel to it when you are walking, and driving to local shopping centers and campus facilities. The downtown area of Glassboro is almost completely encapsulated by the Rowan community with almost all the buildings owned by, or related to the university. I have mentioned the Boulevard Project to reinforce the point that Rowan University is the main property owner in the area. The township does have a main street, but half of it is under construction at this point in time. Residents of Glassboro can, and do enjoy several community parks and ball fields in and around the Rowan campus. These public areas make outdoor activities very enjoyable to everyone.

Community demographics: The following demographics for Glassboro New Jersey describe a quiet rural community within a total population of 19,274 according to the U.S. Census Bureau. The survey highlights several characteristics to describe the population including: 48% of residents are male, 52% are female. 75% of residents are white, 20% are African American, 4% are Hispanic or Latino, and 1% is Asian. The median age of population is 27 years old. 78% of residents are 18 years old, 65% of residents are over 21 and 21 % of town residents is over the age of 65. The following housing Census data reports 63 % of all housing are owner-occupied, 37% are renter occupied. 5 % of total available housing was vacant according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

Campus Life

Rowan University is an active public university campus environment that provides students with an outstanding social, and educational atmosphere. The admissions demographics paint a picture of a local educational community with a high number of in state residents on campus as full time students. The local community of Glassboro is a short distance away from the school by car and is very supportive of the schools mission to provide educational opportunities to local residents and on-campus students. The town itself has a student friendly feel to it due to the number Rowan people walking, and driving on the main avenue. Shopping, off campus fast food, bars and restaurants can be found by driving a short distance from the campus. The point is this; Rowan is located in a rural area that requires residents to drive for goods and services. Students who have cars have the ability to venture outside the campus perimeter including the Jersey Shore, and the City of Philadelphia.

The issue of ecology on campus has been addressed in a positive way; the school has been honored with several EPA awards for using green energy resources. The physical environment was reasonably clean and well maintained during my visit with economic conditions being favorable to students and local residents due to the available services in driving distance to the school. Rowan University is also going through a growth period with construction of several state of the art student-housing facilities. The school has also developed comfortable social facilities with Rowan's student center, and it's new recreation center has plenty of space for sports training and Intramurals. .

School culture is also a very important part of campus life because everyone wants to have a connection and emotional fit to their new school and community. Rowan has done a great job developing positive social systems with it's students by providing a series of coordinated programs including workshops and seminars for freshman students. Students, and local residents of Glassboro also enjoy the university's performing arts, and communication venues throughout the year, which allows the university to enjoy a real community feel to it. And finally, the issue of team sports is vital to the overall campus culture. Rowan fields several division 3 men's, and women's sports teams for students, and local residents to enjoy.

The emotional climate of the entire community is very relaxed in my opinion. Rowan University is an attractive institution because it offers students a communal education experience within driving distance to a major American City. Students really enjoy watching sports activities within the campus stadium, which improves student culture. These campus life resources add to the social fabric of the campus on a daily basis. The university culture is very social in my opinion because I observed several fraternal organizations, and clubs interacting with fellow students in several areas of the campus including the recreation, and student centers.

Student Housing: The purpose of student housing is to provide safe and reasonable accommodations for students living away from home. The issue of housing and dormitory life is a critical element of overall campus life because students spend a large amount of time in their rooms. Student housing units historically come in 3 different styles including traditional corridor, suite, and apartment style units.

Rowan University only guarantees housing for freshman students who have filed their intent to reside on campus by the stated deadline. Upper class students who have continuously registered as full time students can apply for housing first come, first served. The university has started updating the housing on campus by developing new units within it's Rowan Boulevard project.

Off Campus Housing: Glassboro has been described as a small rural community within driving, and commuter distance to Philadelphia, the reason I have mentioned the overall community is to re-assert the point that Rowan is situated in a rural setting. Off campus housing facilities are available because the school owns most of the apartment properties. The town does have a good number of multi-family residences and apartment buildings within driving distance to the school but the issue of renting to students is a challenge because working families who want the local school system for their children are competing for the available housing.

Public Transportation: Public transportation resources for Rowan are provided by the university's shuttle system, which takes students to all areas of the campus footprint. Students who attend the university usually drive to campus, or keep their vehicles in the parking lots because parking is readily available and public transportation is limited. Another issue for public transportation is the students themselves. The university has a very large number of in-state students who know the streets and highways very well. Knowing the area is key because students who come from other states may not know the area as well and might opt to take a bus or train to their destination because they don't want to risk getting lost on local roads.

Description of Campus Public Safety Plans & Procedures: Rowan's general public safety plans and procedures can be found in the emergency plan which gives students and employees lists of instructions, procedures, codes of conduct, and response strategies to follow while on campus. The university also provides Clery Act safety tips and procedures to help educate students to potential risks on, and off campus. This information can be found in Rowan's Annual Public Safety Report. The University Emergency Plan can be found on the quick links page.

Emergency Management Plans & Procedures Local Community: The State of New Jersey has developed emergency management resources to help residents to prepare, respond, and recover from a host of natural, and man made events. The state agency responsible for emergency operations is the Office of Emergency Management. Rowan University has also developed an emergency plan for students and employees to follow which highlights several potential manmade and weather related events.

Innovative Emergency Communications: Rowan University has developed reverse 911 systems that sends several types of emergency notifications through e-mail and phone text message systems. Campus alerts, and weather related information is sent through this system. The university also has active shooter protocols for students to follow during an emergency including lock-down, and lockout procedures. These messages are usually received within 1-2 minutes of emergency broadcast and allow university officials to adhere to Clery Act requirements for timely warnings of emergency events.

Campus Access Control & Security Systems:

Formal gathering areas within Rowan's main campus are limited due to the commuter culture on campus. Students gather at several different areas of the campus during the day, and move to more convenient locations at night. The daytime focal area of the campus lies between several large grassy areas in and around the quad. The interior footprint are a textbook example of CPTED design because it allows for natural surveillance and open space for people to enjoy while still providing some type of ownership within the property. The campuses design features ensures open sight lines by keeping buildings and architectural barriers on the perimeter of the space.

The issue of high-risk areas on campus has been identified during annual risk assessments by security, and feedback by all intuitional stakeholders including public safety officials. The department maintains uniform patrol and high tech remote resources to highlight formal surveillance throughout the campus. The department also has security officers posted in several high-risk areas including the main gate, residence halls, and the library. Public safety also patrols the interior and exterior of the university by foot and patrol vehicles. Public safety also maintains visitor screening with a guardhouse that has a gate mechanism to maintain access control. Public safety maintains clearly worded signage that directs visitors to a welcome area within Savitz Hall.

The campus high-risk areas including the residence halls should have a higher degree of natural and formal surveillance for students and visitors Rowan University has several access control features within the new residence halls including swipe card technology. Students who enter the residence halls must produce their Rowan card that is swiped by a Resident Assistant to authenticate the person standing in front of them. The system also records the activity while a digital CCTV camera records the activity on a DVR platform as a redundant security feature. The residence halls also have a backup residence employee on duty to help the RA's manage visitor requests for entry; the procedure requires a visitor to produce I.D. and to sign a formal register.

Rowan has limited access control resources within several of it's older freshman residence halls. For example, I did not see any type of technical access control during my visit to Laurel Hall. My student guide told me that the doors to the residence halls were locked at night and on-duty residence assistants, and public safety officers controlled access to the building.

Types and Descriptions of Published Policies and Procedures to Comply with the Clery Act on Campus

The Clery Act. The Crime Awareness and Campus Security Act of 1990 requires all postsecondary institutions participating in the Title IV student financial aid programs to disclose campus crime statistics, university violations and disciplinary data, and finally security information to the U.S. Department of Education on an annual basis. The legislation also describes several required policy statements that address public safety and security issues. Below is a sample list of Clery Act Policy Statements for colleges and universities to publish each year within their prospective crime report/audits.

Required policy statements include: addressing timely warnings, disclosure of crime statistics, reporting criminal offenses, confidential reporting, security and access control, arrest authority, security awareness programs, crime prevention programs, sex offenses, alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, substance abuse programs, and general codes of conduct. Rowan University Clery Act info can be found on quick links page.

Caveat: Rowan University Public Safety officers have arrest powers, which seemed to have improved security resources on campus. But, the following statement from the department education offers this advice. “ The department data reported by the institutions have not been subjected to independent verification by the U.S. Department of Education. Therefore, the department cannot vouch for the accuracy of the data reported here”. Rowan University Clery crime data can be found at:

<http://ope.ed.gov/security/Index.aspx>

Local Crime Statistics: The Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Uniform Crime Report for 2007 has developed crime statistics for Glassboro New Jersey in 2007. Glassboro reported 4 murders or acts of manslaughter in 2007. The Glassboro Police Department also reports 6 Forcible Rapes, 37 Robberies, 38 Aggravated Assaults, 148 Burglaries, 475 Larceny Thefts, and finally 45 Motor Vehicle Thefts. The crime of Arson was reported 10 times in 2007.

Town of Glassboro Quick Links: www.glassboroonline.com/

Glassboro Police Department
1 South Main Street
Glassboro N.J. 08028
Phone # (856) 881-1501 Email www.angelfire.com/nj4/glassboropolice

Underwood Hospital Phone Number:

General Number (856) 854-0100

Emergency Number (856) 853-2000

E-Mail www.umhospital.org/

Rowan University Quick Links Page

Home Page: www.rowan.edu/

Maps & Directions: www.rowan.edu/map/directions.html

Admissions: www.rowan.edu/provost/academic_affairs/admissions/

Financial Aid: www.rowan.edu/provost/financialaid/

Student Activities: www.rowan.edu/ces

Student Clubs & Organizations: www.rowansga.com &
www.rowan.edu/studentaffairs/rec

Fraternity & Sorority Life: www.rowan.edu/clubs/greeklife/

Student Center: www.rowan.edu/studentaffairs/infoguide/pdf/infoguide0809.pdf

Public Transportation Services: <http://cp.rowan.edu/cp/>

Information Technology Center: www.rowan.edu/toolbox/computer_labs/

Health Insurance: www.bollingerinsurance.com/rowan

Medical Services: www.rowan.edu/open/studentaffairs2/healthcenter/

On Campus Emergency Resources: Emergency Health Services (856) 256-4333

Student Housing: at www.rowan.edu/studentaffairs/reslife

University Meal Plan: felicef@wpunj.edu Students can also call (973) 720-3712

Off Campus Housing: www.rowan.edu/studentaffairs/reslife/offcampus/

Campus Parking: http://ww2wpunj.edu/police/N_PvehReg.htm

Public Safety Plans & Procedures: www.rowan.edu/emergency/procedure.cfm

Emergency Communication: http://ww2wpunj.edu/police/N_EP_Default.htm

Clery Act Policies & Procedures: www.rowan.edu/emergency/

Rowan University Hotel Quick Links Page

Below is a list of hotel accommodations found within 15 minutes to Rowan Campus.

Residence Inn by Marriott
1154 Hurffville Road
Deptford N.J. 08096

Fairfield Inn by Marriott Deptford
1160 Hurffville Road
Deptford N.J. 08096

Below is a list of hotel accommodations found within 30 minutes of the Rowan Campus

Holiday Inn Philadelphia Stadium
900 Packer Ave
Philadelphia P.A. 19148

Embassy Suites Philadelphia Airport
9000 Bartram Ave
Philadelphia P.A. 19153

Renaissance Philadelphia Airport
500 Stevens Drive
Lester P.A. 19113

Below is a sample list of local restaurants in Glassboro N.J. National restaurant chains & shopping resources can be found on Route 47 including the Deptford Mall, and the College Town Shopping Center. A complete list of local restaurants in Glassboro New Jersey can be found at: www.foodio54.com

Fusha Japanese Restaurant: 806 Delsea Drive North, Glassboro N.J. (856) 582-6699
Landmark Americana: 1 West Street, Glassboro N.J. (856) 863-6600
Don Goyo Mexican Restaurant: 512 Delsea Drive North, Glassboro (856) 881-1871
Angelos Glassboro Diner: 26 North Main Street, Glassboro (856) 881-9854
Tomato Pie Company: 524 Delsea Drive North, Glassboro (856) 881-8871

The Your College Profile web site also contains an “Everything in Philadelphia” document for families who wish to explore the nearby City of Philadelphia while visiting Rowan University. This site contains a full list of hotels, restaurants, shopping, and entertainment, and tourism resources for families enjoying the region.

***** Make a list of Hotels, Restaurants, Shopping, and Entertainment *****

