

University of Pennsylvania Profile

Founded in 1740, the University of Pennsylvania is a large Ivy League institution located in Philadelphia Pennsylvania. The school is actually situated geographically within the University City section of Philadelphia, which starts at the 30th Street train station on the eastern edge, and proceeds west to 43rd Street. U-Penn is unique because it has a large urban campus within a major northeastern city. The university itself owns a large amount of real estate within the area with approximately 269 acres, which starts at Powelton Avenue to the northern border, and Civic Center Boulevard to the south. The university cityscape also extends to 41st Street to the west, and 32nd Street to the east. The campus has approximately 151 buildings including lecture, residential, research, and dining facilities. The internal campus setting provides students and employees with several types of student services including health, physical fitness, library, and cultural meeting places.

The overall physical layout of the campus is unique for a city college because the campus observes a maze of pedestrian sidewalks with several large grassy meeting places within these sidewalk areas. The school is situated within an urban environment, but the campus feels like a park with numerous benches for students, employees, and visitors to enjoy. The pedestrian flow of traffic within the facility was centered on Locust Walk during my daytime visit. Students use this main sidewalk to travel through the campus from east to west. Locust Walk is unique because students can walk to academic, or residence halls without actually setting foot on city property.

Students use the sidewalk on a regular basis because both sides of the campus have student life meeting areas. I also observed heavy foot traffic in, and around 38th Street, and the Locust Walk footbridge (Generational Walk). This bridge allows students to walk over 38th Street to the residence halls within Hamilton Village. These open spaces allow students the ability to interact with each other in a non-educational manner due to the high number of observed meeting places on campus. University students, faculty, and employees not only enjoy a community, within a community lifestyle on U-Penn's campus; they enjoy University City in regard to on, and off campus activities and resources.

The published demographic information for the university describes a culturally diverse student population with students from all across the world. U-Penn has developed a large campus facility to offer students a comprehensive educational format in Liberal Arts and Science, Business Administration, and Engineering to enhance it's commitment to different types of career endeavors. U-Penn has also developed independent affiliates with several local universities including Swarthmore, Bryn Mawr, and Haverford Colleges of Liberal Arts, which are located in the Philadelphia area. Below is a description of demographics for the University of Pennsylvania.

University of Pennsylvania: The school is home to approximately 4,735 male, and 4,810 female undergraduate students. The University also has 170 male, 126 female part time, and 4,461 male, and 4,512 female graduate students enrolled. The average age of a freshman is 18 years old. 82% of students are from out of state, mostly the Middle Atlantic. Students on campus provide a diverse multi-cultural makeup including students from all 50 states, 109 foreign countries, and Canada. 49% of students are White, 16.2% Asian Americans, 5.1% are Hispanic, and 6.8% are Black.

Faculty/ Classroom: 65% of faculty is male, 35% female. All both teach and do research. The average class size in an introductory lecture is 44; in a laboratory, 15; and in a regular course, 23.

Student / Faculty Ratio: 3 to 1

Retention Rate: 4% do not continue beyond 1st year, 94% remain to graduate.

Published Academic Standards for Admission Programs

The University of Pennsylvania has a large educational system that offer a comprehensive programs in Liberal Arts & Science, Business Administration, and Engineering. Below is a specific list of under graduate admission requirements.

University of Pennsylvania: Freshman Class: 22,645 applied, 3,628 accepted, 2,397 enrolled. SAT Verbal 700, SAT Math 720. ACT 31 Application Deadline: January 1.

Campus Footprint: The design and physical setting of U-Penn is unique because the campus is encapsulated within the Philadelphia neighborhood of University City. The campus map also highlights several historic buildings, which form a large manmade barrier around the main campus. These buildings form a large square that's several city block long, and wide. The physical security design seems to be enhanced by the large walls and limited access points to the campus. These buildings maintain the campus perimeter because they act almost like natural barriers.

The university is also linked together by several city streets within it's massive real estate holdings with virtually all of the university's lecture halls, arts & science pavilions, residence halls, and historic buildings tied within it's large real estate holdings. The landscape of the college is unique because students can retreat to their residence halls, or they can travel to another facilities to experience real big campus living. This type of structure enhances the campus lifestyle within the schools urban footprint because students can walk to several areas of the campus within minutes.

U-Penn has a real big campus feel to it because the area is heavily populated with students, and local residents alike. University students take advantage of the local commercial resources in the University City area that cater to college students throughout the extended campus neighborhood. Students, and local residents also take advantage of several Public Transportation resources including SEPTA, LUCY, and Amtrak with the 30th Street station, which are only minutes away from the school. Pedestrian traffic outside the perimeter of the university on Walnut, Spruce, and 40th Streets is heavy due to the large number of students and local residents within the area.

The main focal point of the campus tour was Locust Walk, which is the main pedestrian thoroughfare that links both ends of the large urban campus. This sidewalk takes you straight through the middle of the campus footprint from the freshman Quad on Spruce Street, to the 40th Street restaurants and bars. This physical layout is shaped like a big square that offers outstanding views of several open areas including Wynn Commons, the college green by the (Button), and Hamilton Village. These geographical locations are Main Streets for U-Penn students and they are the focal points for the school's photo advertising. 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 traffic flow outside the campus was centered between 36th Street and 40th Street on Walnut, and 36th Street to 38th Street on Spruce Street during my daytime visit. My evening visit observed less foot traffic along the major avenues due to university employees going home for the evening.

The city landscape of U-Penn is also unique because students can retreat to their residence halls, or they can travel to other areas of the city to experience big campus living. The City of Philadelphia is called "One Big Campus" because the city has over 18 public, and private schools within a relatively short distance to each other. These types of resources enhance the campus lifestyle within each schools urban footprint because students can walk, or take (LUCY) SEPTA public transportation to several different school campuses within minutes.

Finally, the university has a classic northeastern Ivy feel to it because the school is located in the City of Philadelphia within the neighborhood of University City. This area is filled with historic architecture, museums, mixed residential buildings, and commercial properties in, and around the university. I have mentioned a description of the massive real estate holdings because you are more likely to see a Drexel, or University of Pennsylvania public safety official than a Police Officer from the Philadelphia Police Department in this general area.

Community Profile

University City has been described as an intellectual enclave within the City of Philadelphia Pennsylvania due to its academic landscape. Philadelphia has been described as one big campus because the city has several schools located within the University City area including Drexel, U Penn, and the University of Arts & Sciences. These schools, along with several other universities are located within commuter distance to the city itself. The University City area has also been described as a young professional residential community within the city of Philadelphia due to its relationship with local universities, and affordable housing. The area is favorable to students and local residents because it offers several pedestrian walkways, which links local residents to a large number of restaurants and local shops along Market, Chestnut, and Walnut Streets within University City. The area also has excellent public transportation resources including SEPTA rail, bus, and trolley service, not to mention the massive 30th Street Station for Amtrak Northeast Corridor service.

The community has a small city feel to it when you are walking to neighborhood eateries on 40th, and 36th Streets because they are in the heart of the U-Penn campus. Residents and students also enjoy several social destinations when walking on Chestnut toward the Drexel campus because the area feels like one big campus. The only way you know you're within a different campus is the signs. Drexel and U Penn have no metal fencing so you can walk wherever you want to get something to eat or to enjoy a student activity. Chestnut, Walnut, and Spruce Streets from 33rd Street to 40th Street, are main streets for students from both campuses. These areas offer bookstores, coffee shops, bars, and restaurants within walking distance to U-Penn's campus. The walk from the center of campus to these above-mentioned meeting places is approximately 15 minutes.

The city itself is located within the northeastern area of the state, which makes it convenient to several suburban communities and highway networks. SEPTA provides local rail, bus, and trolley service in the Market Street area including LUCY, which provides loop bus service within the University City area. These transportation resources all link to the 30th Street Station that is a main transit hub to several different commuter trains within the northeast corridor. The 30th Street Station also links to Amtrak, New Jersey Transit, and the Philadelphia International Airport via the R-1 line. University City also has several main roadways that connect the community to major state highways including Route 76, and 676 that links to the Pennsylvania Turnpike, and Interstate 95.

The following demographics for Philadelphia Pennsylvania describe a multi-cultural community within a total population of 1,448,394 according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Drexel University has a strong relationship with this diverse community. An example of this commitment can be observed through the university's community services handbook that describes educational programs, health care programs and services, legal programs and services to local residents who may require community help.

A Census Bureau community survey highlights several characteristics to describe the population including: 47% of residents are male, 53% are female. 45% of residents are white, 43.2% are African American, 8.5% is Hispanic or Latino, and 4.5% are Asian. The median age of population is 34 years old. 25% of residents are 18 years old or over, 70% 21 and over, and 14% of city residents is over the age of 65. The issue of housing in Philadelphia is also interesting. 90% of all housing units within the city are occupied. 30% of housing units are renter-occupied, while 59% of units are owner-occupied. 10% of total available housing was vacant.

Local weather: Weather is also an issue to consider for students preparing for a college experience. Philadelphia 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. Pennsylvania also gets its share of rain during the spring and summer months as well.

Campus Life

The University of Pennsylvania is a multi-cultural campus environment that provides students with an outstanding social, and educational atmosphere. The admissions demographics paint a picture of a very diverse community with students from all over the world. The local community of University City only adds to the university's international status because the community has multi-cultural roots as well. U-Penn also addresses the issue of ecology in a positive way. The physical environment is clean and well maintained and the economic conditions are favorable to students and local residents due to the available services in walking distance to the school. The emotional climate of the entire community is positive because students are involved with local community groups

This issue of 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. U-Penn has done a great job developing positive social systems with its students by providing a series of coordinated programs including workshops and seminars for freshman students. This type of process provides a foundation for learning and personal growth providing over 450 academic clubs, student organizations, and over 22 intramural sports activities. The university also has a large Greek system with 21% of male students belonging to 32 national fraternities, and 17% of women belonging to 14 national sororities.

Campus life at U-Penn is more than academic excellence; it's about school sports, fraternities, performing arts, history, cultural events, restaurants, and local museums. For example, the City of Philadelphia has hundreds of venues to enjoy the previously stated activities. The university also has several global education centers in the area for students to learn, and gather information about studying abroad. Sports activities on the U-Penn campus are centered around several facilities including Franklin Field, the Palestra Gym, and the new Weiss Pavilion which are located at Spruce & 32nd Streets, which is a short walking distance from Locust Walk. U-Penn participates in 33 NCAA Division I Varsity Sports for Women and Men.

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.

U-Penn doesn't guarantee housing for all undergraduate students who has filed their intent to reside on campus by the stated deadline but the university does provide housing for 63% of it's students through a lottery system. New students should be aware of the first come, first served housing application format. The school has started developing housing resources for upper classman through it's capital improvement initiatives within Hamilton Village The University apartments are new, and beautiful, but only upper classmen can rent them. Students who belong to Fraternities and Sororities have Houses on Spruce Street between 39th & 40th Streets.

Off Campus Housing: The University of Pennsylvania has been described as a large Ivy university within a student friendly mixed commercial/ residential community. The reason I have mentioned the overall community is to re-assert the point that U-Penn's network of facilities has encapsulated it's real estate holdings within the area. The campus footprint allows almost every student to have housing within walking distance to the campus. University City residents who require a roommate during the year can usually find one quickly through school web sites. Information about available resources at U-Penn can be found on the quick links page.

Public Transportation: Campus transportation resources for U-Penn students are available through the City of Philadelphia's transit system called SEPTA. This service is crucial to students who don't have cars because it provides transportation to the entire University City community through the LUCY system that loops the community by bus. This vital bus service provides reliable transportation to students who don't, or can't have vehicles on campus. The university also has a very large number of out of state students who don't know the streets and highways very well. Knowing the area is key because students who come from local states may know the area better and may be able to walk or drive to local destinations. Foreign, and out of state students 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: Campus communities are unique places due to their populations and physical layouts. In some areas of the United States you really can't tell where a campus begins or ends because people walk through, drive through, and take campus transportation through all areas of the campus landscape. U-Penn has developed public safety plans and procedures to keep students, and employees safe. The school's general public safety plans and procedures can be found in the document " Penn Ready " which gives students and employees a list of instructions, procedures, codes of conduct, and response strategies to follow while on campus. This information can be found in the University of Pennsylvania's Annual Public Safety Report. The university emergency plan information can be found:

www.publicsafety.upenn.edu/PennReady/default.asp

Crisis Management Plans & Procedures Local Community: Historically, FEMA has identified risk factors within specific geographical areas of the United States. The western states have fires and earthquakes, the mid-west has tornados, the gulf, and eastern seaboard states have hurricanes. And finally, the northeast has a combination of snow and wind related weather events. Each area of the United States requires crisis management plans to help people recover from disaster events. Colleges and universities usually develop plans and procedures that complement local community resources, in some cases schools are required by state and federal law to develop plans and procedures. The State of Pennsylvania 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 Emergency Management Agency. The OEM has developed 3 core initiatives for the purpose of community crisis, and emergency management. Contact information for this state agency can be found at: www.readypa.org

Innovative Emergency Communications: U-Penn has developed reverse 911 systems that send 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. Information for signing up for this emergency notification service can be found by contacting U-Penn's Public Safety department.

Campus Access Control & Security Systems: 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 issues of identifying formal gathering and high-risk areas within a campus footprint are also critical to public safety resources because manpower must be observed in these areas.

The design and physical setting of U-Penn is unique because the campus is woven into the City of Philadelphia's University City neighborhood. The city landscape highlights several historic buildings which students, and local residents share on a daily basis including the U-Penn Hospital on Spruce Street. The university has over 151 buildings that were built facing inward to several areas of the campus including the College Green. This type of landscape architecture forms a large manmade barrier around the main campus, which helps define university property. These buildings form a large square that's several city block long, and wide. The physical design seems to enhance security by limiting access to several main walkways within the facility including Locust Walk.

The campus itself has no metal fencing around the perimeter of their site to reduce pedestrian traffic. U-Penn's public safety department deploys contract security, and public safety officers to several large access points around the campus during the day to reduce the number of people who may not have legitimate business on campus. Public safety also maintains visitor screening with clearly worded signage that directs visitors to a welcome area adjacent to the College Green, visitors who wish to walk around the campus without an escort can, but only during daylight hours.

Formal gathering areas within U-Penn's campus are situated in, and around Locust Walk, which goes straight through the quad on Spruce Street to 40th Street. This area is the main focal area of the campus with several large grassy areas in and around the lecture, and residence halls. The quad is 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 campus internal green areas ensure 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 contract security officers posted throughout the campus in the lecture, student union, and sports facilities. I also observed these officers within several high-risk areas including residence halls, and the library. Public safety also patrols the interior and exterior of the university by foot and patrol vehicles.

The public safety department has developed enhanced lighting resources for campus security because it helps in all areas of surveillance and gives students and visitors an enhanced feeling of safety and security. U-Penn has developed adequate lighting resources within the campus map. The issue of lighting and reduced pedestrian traffic for students walking north is still a great concern for all public safety officers on, and off campus. The university's public safety office is situated on the northern border of the campus on Chestnut between 40th, and 41 Streets, which, helps reduce students fears of walking in the area of 40th and Sansom Street. Students off campus should exercise good judgment while traveling around the city to reduce victimization.

The campus high-risk areas including the residence halls have a higher degree of natural and formal surveillance for students and visitors. Students who enter the residence halls must produce their U-Penn card and swipe it through an access control reader and enter the last four digits of their student I.D. to open the turnstile. Contract security officers observe the activity while a digital CCTV camera records student entry as a redundant security feature. U-Penn security officers and RA's manage visitor requests for entry; the procedure requires a visitor to produce I.D. and to sign a formal register. These design features constitute a real commitment to campus safety and security.

The perimeter of U-Penn at night is a challenge for public safety because the campus is situated in a major neighborhood within a major city. I have identified the challenges with my university and community profile that highlights the diversity of the community and the campus. The issue is this, the campus sidewalks are connected to city streets and you can't stop someone who wants to walk through. The university has developed state-of-the-art CCTC resources to maintain formal surveillance throughout this main corridor. The school has a combination of IP/ Analog/ and Motion detection cameras with DVR & Virtual Network recording systems to enhance overall security, and public safety operations.

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. U-Penn's Clery Act info can be found on the quick links page.

Caveat: U-Penn Public Safety has Police Officers who investigate criminal activity on, and off campus while contract security personnel provide technical support, and fixed post assignments. The university does provide several 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. U-Penn Clery Act 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 2008 has developed crime statistics for the City of Philadelphia Pennsylvania. In 2008 the Police Department reported 20,771 Violent Crimes, 331 Murders, 1,038 Forcible Rapes, 9,618 Robberies, 9,784 Aggravated Assaults, 62,584 Property Crimes, 12,845 Burglaries, 40,681 Larceny Thefts, and finally 9,058 Motor Vehicle Thefts. The crime data for Arson wasn't reported to the UCR in 2008.

Emergency Medical Technicians: University of Pennsylvania public safety officers respond to medical emergencies with the City of Philadelphia Fire Department EMS to provide ambulance service to students, residents, and visitors through emergency notification systems. Below is the contact information for services, and general information for the local hospitals.

Hospital of University of Pennsylvania (Closest to University City)
3400 Spruce Street, Philadelphia, P.A. 19104
1-800-789-PENN
www.pennmedicine.org

City of Philadelphia Community Quick Links

City of Philadelphia Home Page: www.phila.gov/

City Department of Tourism: www.phillyguide.com

Police Department: www.pponline.org/

Fire Department/ EMS: www.phila.gov/fire/about/index_homepage.html

University of Pennsylvania Quick Links Page

Home Page: www.penn.edu

Admissions: www.penn.edu/admissions/

Maps & Directions: www.admissionsug.upenn.edu/visiting/directions.php

Virtual Tour of U-Penn: www.upenn.edu/admissions/tour/tourstop.php?stop=1

Financial Aid: www.sfs.upenn.edu/

Student Activities: www.admissionsug.upenn.edu/life/activities.php

Athletic Event Tickets: www.pennathletics.com/

Student Clubs & Organizations: www.vpul.upenn.edu/osl/clubs.html

Fraternity & Sorority Life: www.vpul.upenn.edu/ofsa

School Newspaper: <http://thedp.com>

Public Transportation Services: www.septa.org & Trans Services (215) 898-RIDE

Information Technology: www.collegehouses.upenn.edu/computing/index.asp

Health Insurance: www.vpul.upenn.edu/ohe/services/insurance.htm

Health Services: www.sp2.upenn.edu/student_life/health.html

On Campus Emergency Resources: www.publicsafety.upenn.edu/

Student Housing: www.collegehouses.upenn.edu/index.asp

University Meal Plan: www.penn.edu/nso/2008/basics/dining.html

Off Campus Housing: www.business-services.upenn.edu/offcampusservices/

Campus Parking: www.business-services.upenn.edu/parking/policies.html

Public Safety Plans & Procedures: www.publicsafety.upenn.edu/

Clery Act Policies & Procedures: www.publicsafety.upenn.edu/Clery_report.asp

Restaurants in University City Section of Philadelphia

Below is a sample list of local restaurants, and hotels in the University City section of Philadelphia. These restaurants and hotels are in close proximity to several city universities including, U Penn and Drexel University. National restaurant chains & shopping resources can be found on Route 78, 476, 95 and 1. Complete information about hotels, restaurants, shopping, museums, and general tourism activities can be found in the document “ Everything Philadelphia” on the Your College Profile web site.

University City Hotel Listings:

Hilton at Penn

Sheraton University City

University City Area Restaurants

Abyssinia: (Ethiopian) Locust & 45th Streets 215-387-2424

Beijing: (Chinese) Spruce & 37th Streets. 215-222-5242

Cosi: (Sandwich Chain). Locust & 15th Streets. 215-222-4545

Distrito: (Mexican) Chestnut & 40th Streets. 215-222-1657

Dock Street: (Pub Food) Baltimore & 50th Streets. 215-726-2337

Fatou & Fama:(African/Soul Food) Chestnut & 40th Streets. 215-386-0700

Kabobeesh:(Pakistani) Chestnut & 42nd Streets. 215-386-8081

La Terrasse: (American/French) Sansom & 34th Streets. 215-386-5000

Lemon Grass Thai: (Thai) Lancaster & 36th Streets. 215-222-8042

Marathon Grill: (American) Walnut & 40th Streets. 215-222-0100

Marigold Kitchen: (American) Larchwood & 45th Streets. 215-222-3699

Mikey's American Grill: (American) Chestnut & 31st Streets. 215-222-3226

Mizu: (Japanese Sushi Bar) Chestnut & 40th Streets. 215-382-1745

Nan: (French/Thai) Chestnut & 40th Streets. 215-382-0818

New Delhi: (Indian) Chestnut & 40th Streets. 215-386-1941

Penne:(Italian) Walnut & 36th Streets (Inside Inn at Penn) 215-823-6222

Qdoba Mexican Grill: (Cafeteria Style Mexican) Locust & 40th Streets 215-222-2887

Slainte: (Pub Food Across the Street from 30th Train Station). 215-222-7400

