



Transparent Admissions Criteria

Admissions criteria are clearly articulated and easily accessible on the University's web page: <https://www.utica.edu/admissions>. Similarly, requirements are delineated in the University's *Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs* which are accessible to the public on the institution's website: (<https://catalog.utica.edu>).

Admission into undergraduate programs is based on a comprehensive evaluation of submitted criteria: past academic performance, including course of study; GPA; rank in class; co-curricular involvement; personal characteristics; writing ability; and the applicant's potential for academic and personal success at the University.

Admission into graduate programs depends on the specific degree being sought. In general, Utica University seeks to admit graduate students who show evidence of being able to succeed in and benefit from rigorous academic programs. To qualify for admission to a graduate program, an applicant must have a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited four-year institution.

Free Speech & Open-Minded Discourse

Students and faculty at Utica University have full academic freedom, which allows for the free exchange of ideas from various diverse perspectives.

The Student Code of Conduct (<https://www.utica.edu/student-conduct>) includes the following:

- Students have the right to express themselves freely on any subject provided they do so in a manner that does not violate the Code of Student Conduct. Students in turn have the responsibility to respect the rights of all members of the University to exercise these freedoms.
- Students have the right to, and responsibility to maintain, a system of tolerance and civility that allows everyone to feel empowered to participate in the sometimes difficult discourse of an academic community, and to protect the precious heritage of freedom of thought and expression. This must be balanced with the necessity of providing an environment that is free of harassment to members of our student body and our larger community, so that a sense of marginalization and powerlessness does not frustrate the very goals we pursue.
- Students have the right to assemble in an orderly manner and engage in peaceable protest, demonstration, and picketing which does not disrupt the functions of the University, threaten the health or safety of any person, or violate the Code of Student Conduct.

- Students have the right to exercise their religious convictions and associate with religious, political, or other organizations of their choice in University facilities designated for such purposes provided they do so in a manner that respects the rights of other members of the community and complies with the Code of Student Conduct. Students have the responsibility to respect the rights of other members of the University community to free exercise of their religious convictions and to free association with organizations of their choice.

Further, the University adopted a “Statement of Principles” that clearly communicates the institution’s commitment to open-minded discourse and healthy debate (<https://www.utica.edu/principles>). This statement notes that the University’s mission is “best served by breadth of discussion and tolerance for controversy and disagreement.” The following are the principles embraced by the University:

- We must encourage the widest possible discussion of ideas, with the understanding that the ideas with which some members of the University community disagree should not be silenced but are best met by other viewpoints and engaged argumentation;
- Speech or other forms of expression intended to harass, threaten, cause fear of physical injury, or otherwise incite violence or other criminal action against an individual or group will not be tolerated and may be subject to sanction;
- The University’s mission is best served by proactively creating opportunities through which community members can engage more fully on topics of curricular and societal interest and are empowered to do so in forums and through processes that allow for discussion and debate.

Intellectual Pluralism

The University’s curricula align with standards established by professional organizations and affiliations, as well as accrediting bodies. They reflect current disciplinary research and scholarship. At the undergraduate level, a general education curriculum develops students’ transferable skills in communication scientific and quantitative reasoning, critical analysis and inquiry, technological competencies, and information literacy. Curriculum is not developed or approved based on any ideologies or political perspective. Descriptions of curriculum and student learning goals for each academic program may be accessed on the University’s website. Course descriptions are included in the *Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs*.

Likewise, faculty are hired at the University based on academic qualifications and scholarship. In programs leading to professional licensing or certification (e.g., education, nursing, physical therapy), an individual’s professional qualifications are also considered when hiring. Faculty promotions and tenure are awarded based on teaching effectiveness, scholarship and professional service, and service to the institution. The collective bargaining agreement between the University and the AAUP-Utica outlines requirements and processes pertaining to tenure,

continuous appointment, and promotion. University faculty enjoy the benefit of academic freedom and are not limited to a single perspective in their teaching or research.

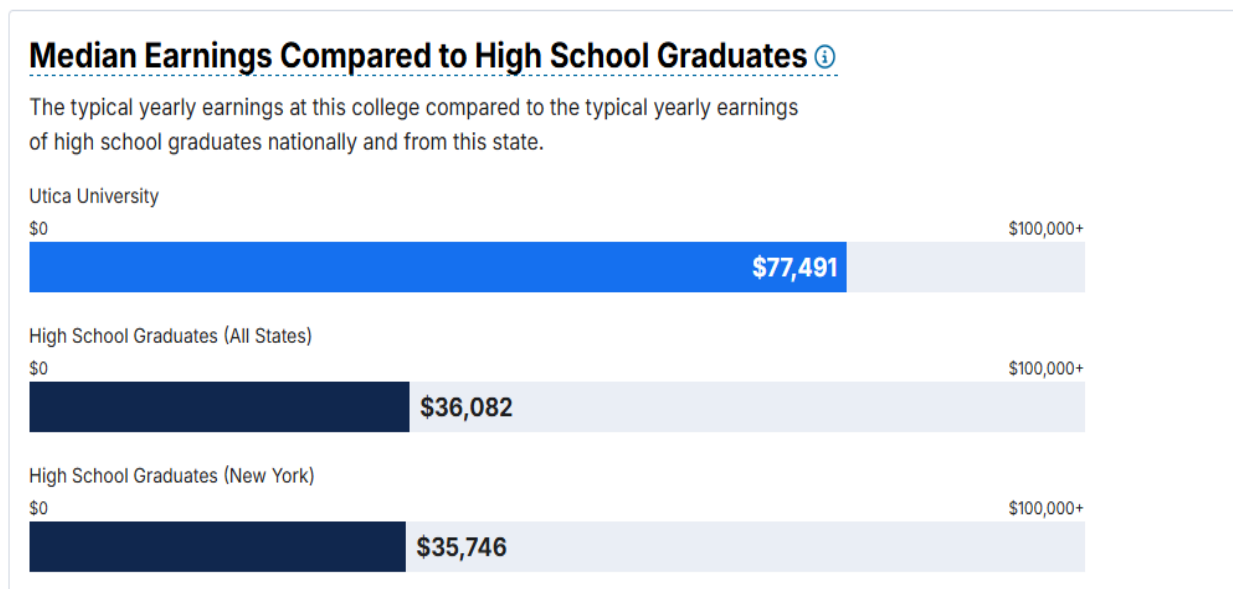
Affordability and Pricing Transparency

Utica University offers an affordable, accessible education. Tuition and fees for both undergraduate and graduate are posted on the University's website:

<https://www.utica.edu/tuition-and-financial-aid/tuition-and-fees/tuition-and-fees-utica-campus>

Information about the cost of attending, median earnings, median total debt after graduation, and typical monthly loan payment are additionally shared with the public on the University's Student Right to Know web page (<https://www.utica.edu/student-right-know>) and the United States Department of Education Scorecard (<https://collegescorecard.ed.gov/school/?197045-Utica-University>).

As indicated in the Scorecard, graduates from Utica University earn significantly higher annual incomes than high school graduates in New York State.



Utica University was founded in 1946 to educate returning World War II veterans and meet the workforce needs of a post-war economy. The institution has remained dedicated to preparing a workforce for the Central New York region, particularly in the Mohawk Valley. Forty-five percent of its undergraduates are enrolled in programs in health care and education; 35% are in programs in business and justice studies.

Of those who responded to a 6-month follow-up post-graduation survey (2025), 81.25% reported being employed full-time.

Addressing Opportunities and Challenges of Artificial Intelligence

The opportunities and challenges related to emerging AI technologies have been central to discussions about teaching and learning at Utica University. In 2026, a task force assembled to study the uses and misuses of AI in the academic realm. This task force proposed recommendations that were the focus of the annual Teaching Day in August 2026. The faculty recognizes the paradigm shift that has resulted in education because of AI, and they have responded by adopting different pedagogies and approaches to assessment.

The faculty also recognize that AI can positively influence student learning, and that knowing how to use artificial intelligence platforms will be essential to any career path graduates pursue. To that end, preparing students to be responsible users of AI tools has been integrated into many of the University's curricula, including its general education offerings. Courses in data science and analytics, business, computer science, and cybersecurity heavily emphasize AI so that graduates are adequately prepared to enter professions related to these disciplines.

Integrity of the Research Enterprise

At Utica University, teaching is primary. While faculty are expected to engage in scholarship and professional service, the University is not an R-1 institution and, therefore, is not subjected to malignant influences.

Responding to a National Call to Action

Since its origin in 1946, Utica University has answered a national call to action by preparing graduates to meet workforce demands and developing students into responsible citizens, well equipped to participate in a democratic society. The University primarily serves regional needs, specifically in the Mohawk Valley. The institution's signature academic programs are nursing, health sciences, education, business, construction management, cybersecurity, biology, and psychology. These are career-focused programs that have well-established partnerships with area businesses, industries, government agencies, healthcare institutions, and schools.

In 2026, US News ranked Utica University 68 in the Mid-Atlantic and New England regions for social mobility, evidence suggesting the institution's clear support of and contribution to the nation's economic and societal needs. More recently, Utica University received national recognition as one of the renowned Colleges of Distinction for its commitment to career development.