DISCOVER THE VALUE OF MEMBERSHIP
Join AAC&U Today!

Welcome to the Association of American Colleges and Universities

When a college or university joins AAC&U, the entire campus community becomes part of a global network of educators committed to extending the advantages of a liberal education to all students, regardless of academic specialization or intended career.

AAC&U functions as a catalyst and facilitator, forging links among presidents, administrators, faculty, and professional staff engaged in institutional and curricular development. Through a broad range of activities, AAC&U reinforces the collective commitment to liberal education at the national, local, and international levels. Its high-quality programs, publications, research, meetings, institutes, public outreach efforts, and campus-based projects help individual institutions ensure that the quality of students’ learning is central to their work as they evolve to meet new economic and social challenges.

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Profile of AAC&U Membership

• Of the 1200+ member institutions:
  - 18% are Doctoral degree-granting
  - 22% are Master’s degree-granting
  - 22% are Bachelor’s degree-granting
  - 9% are Associate’s degree-granting
  - 18% are Other
  - *Specialized schools, state systems and agencies and international affiliates

• Located in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and 3 US Territories
• Our members enroll over 50% of all US undergraduates
• International members in 25 countries

The AAC&U Difference

• AAC&U is the only national higher education organization solely focused on strengthening the quality of undergraduate education across all areas of study, student pathways, and educational settings.
• AAC&U is the only national higher education organization that brings institutions from all sectors of higher education together to share ideas, experiences, challenges, and best practices related to undergraduate learning.

Why Join AAC&U?

• AAC&U champions faculty-engaged, evidence-based, sustainable models and strategies for promoting quality in undergraduate education.
• AAC&U advances equity across higher education in service to academic excellence and social justice.
• AAC&U leads institutions and communities in articulating and demonstrating the value of liberal education for work, life, global citizenship, and democracy.
• AAC&U catalyzes reform in higher education to emphasize discovery and innovation as fundamental aspects of a liberal education.

Select Initiatives

AAC&U Inclusive Excellence Commission
This initiative of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute challenges US colleges and universities to substantially and sustainably increase their capacity for inclusion of all students, especially those from groups underrepresented in science.

Advocacy for Liberal Education
Through a range of advocacy efforts within higher education and beyond, AAC&U champions the economic and civic value of liberal education, its relevance to students’ career aspirations, and its essential role in equipping students for lifelong learning, civic involvement, and personal flourishing.

The Presidents’ Trust
A network of higher education leaders that is committed to advocating for the vision, values, and practices that connect liberal education with the needs of an increasingly diverse student body, a global workforce, and thriving communities.

STEM Central
This online networking platform serves as a resource for STEM faculty who are working to improve and transform undergraduate STEM education in the US through the study and practice of broadening participation.

Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation Campus Centers (TRHT)
AAC&U works with higher education institutions to develop self-sustaining, community-integrated TRHT Campus Centers that prepare the next generation of leaders to eliminate racism and dismantle the belief in a hierarchy of human value.

The VALUE Institute
The Institute provides external validation of institutional assessments of student learning. Certified faculty and other educators use the VALUE rubrics to score samples of student work by participating entities.
The Benefits of Membership

Events and Professional and Enrichment Opportunities

AAC&U Annual Meeting offers a deep understanding of current higher education research, national trends, and innovative approaches. Over 2,000 presidents, academic administrators, faculty members, educational policy leaders, and professional staff attend this premier event.

Diversity, Equity & Student Success Conference focuses on building coalitions and breaking down institutional siloes to build more just and equitable campuses and communities.

Global Learning Conference explores practical and theoretical approaches to global learning at the course, departmental, and institutional levels.

Transforming STEM Higher Education Conference questions and examines the entire range of contemporary challenges and opportunities for improving STEM education.

General Education, Pedagogy, and Assessment Conference focuses on efforts to create intentional and integrated general education programs, to assess current practices, and to generate evidence of high-quality learning for all students.

Institute on ePortfolios provides a new model featuring a year-long engagement opportunity to actualize an ambitious strategy to broaden student engagement with ePortfolios.

Institute on Teaching to Increase Diversity and Equity in STEM (TIDES) offers a unique opportunity for STEM faculty to build capacity and self-efficacy in exploring the root sources, codes, and causes of minority group underrepresentation in STEM.

PKAL STEM Leadership Institute is designed for both early- and mid-career STEM faculty engaged in leading projects aimed at transforming undergraduate STEM education in their classrooms, departments, and institutions.

Institute on General Education and Assessment provides opportunities for campus teams to improve the design and assessment of their general education programs.

Institute on High-Impact Practices and Student Success draws on evidence-based research that demonstrates a positive relationship between student participation in high-impact practices (HIPs) and improved student outcomes and higher learning gains.

Institute on Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation Campus Centers helps campus teams identify evidence-based strategies that support their vision of what their communities will look, feel, and be like when the belief in a hierarchy of human value no longer exists.

Institute on Integrative Learning and Signature Work is intended for college and university teams interested in developing faculty and staff leadership to advance programs and curricula that build students’ capacity to integrate their learning as well as their experiences inside and outside the classroom to prepare them for life, work, and citizenship.

The AAC&U Mission is to advance the vitality and public standing of liberal education by making quality and equity the foundations for excellence in undergraduate education in service to democracy.