

THE HBCU RESOURCE GUIDE



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#HBCUStrong #UNCFK12



The UNCF **HBCU** Resource Guide will help you learn more about historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs). This document provides information on scholarships, college-planning resources, key facts about HBCUs and more.

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WHAT IS AN HBCU?

In Title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965, Congress officially defined an HBCU as a school of higher learning that was accredited and established before 1964, and whose principal mission was the education of African Americans. HBCUs offer a rigorous academic learning environment, innovative programs for students, culturally relevant curricula and activities, and a welcoming environment for all students. They prepare students of all races for leadership and life after graduation. There are 101 HBCUs across the nation.¹

DID YOU KNOW?

Three years after graduation, **HBCU graduates earn \$10,000 more annually** than individuals with only a high school diploma.²

An HBCU graduate **working full time throughout his or her working life can expect to earn \$927,000** in additional income due to a college credential.³

Tuition rates at HBCUs are **nearly 30% less on average than at comparable institutions**. The average cost of attendance at **four-year HBCUs in 2019-20 was \$25,412 compared to \$35,049 for four-year non-HBCUs**.⁴

HBCUs represent only three percent of America's colleges and universities⁵, yet they produce **15% of bachelor's degrees and 19% of STEM degrees**⁶ received by Black students.

Six of the top ten institutions where African American science and engineering Ph.D.s earned their bachelor's degrees between 2015 and 2019 were HBCUs.⁷

Research shows that **African American HBCU grads report having experienced more support and higher levels of engagement** than their peers at non-HBCUs.⁸

AFRICAN AMERICAN HBCU GRADS ARE:

- More likely than non-HBCU African American grads to report having at least one professor who made them excited about learning **(74% vs. 62%)** and professors who cared about them as people **(58% vs 25%)**
- More likely to be thriving in purpose and financial well-being than non-HBCU African American grads
- More likely to strongly agree that their university prepared them well for life outside of college than non-HBCU African American grads **(55% vs. 29%)**⁹

HBCU RESOURCES AND TOOLS

COLLEGE TIPS AND TOOLS [UNCF.org/CollegeToolkit](https://www.uncf.org/CollegeToolkit)

Scholarship and Advocacy Organizations

UNCF

UNCF is the nation's largest private scholarship provider to minority group members. Each year, UNCF awards more than \$100 million in scholarships to more than 10,000 students at more than 1,100 schools across the country, including our prestigious network of 37 private HBCUs. UNCF is the nation's leading advocate for the importance of minority education and community engagement.

Since its founding in 1944, UNCF has raised more than \$5 billion for scholarships and other direct support for its member institutions and has helped more than 500,000 students graduate with college degrees.

LEARN MORE

[UNCF.org](https://www.uncf.org)

[Why Choose an HBCU](#)

[There's an HBCU for You](#)

[Tips for Parents of College-Bound Students](#)

[UNCF Member Institutions](#)

Thurgood Marshall College Fund

The Thurgood Marshall College Fund (TMCf) represents 47 publicly supported HBCUs and predominantly Black institutions (PBIs). To date, the organization has awarded more than \$300 million in assistance to its students and member schools.

LEARN MORE

[tmcf.org](https://www.tmcf.org)

Scholarship

UNCF Scholarships

This website provides various scholarship, internship and fellowship programs offered by UNCF—and how to apply. Students are encouraged to create a profile to find the best scholarship match.

[LEARN MORE](#)

[UNCF.org/scholarships](https://www.uncf.org/scholarships)

Advocacy

The HBCU Effect® by UNCF

The HBCU Effect® seeks to understand, validate and promote the success of HBCUs to develop a narrative that fully illustrates the value and competitiveness of these institutions.

[LEARN MORE](#)

[UNCF.org/HBCUeffect](https://www.uncf.org/HBCUeffect)

White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities

The White House Initiative on HBCUs is a government-wide effort to strengthen HBCUs. A key program is the HBCU Scholars Recognition Program which recognizes current HBCU students for their excellence. The Initiative provides outreach and engagement opportunities for the scholars and students will also have the opportunity to meet with senior officials from both the White House and the U.S. Department of Education.

[LEARN MORE](#)

sites.ed.gov

UNCF K-12 Advocacy

This website provides resources related to K-12 advocacy, HBCUs, and tips for getting into college. The website also has tools and checklists for parents and students related to college preparation and student success.

[LEARN MORE](#)

[UNCF.org/k12advocacy](https://www.uncf.org/k12advocacy)

College Preparation

UNCF Empower Me Tour

The UNCF Empower Me Tour is a free, traveling college- and career-readiness road show established to inspire and motivate high school students, college students and recent college graduates in academic excellence, career success and personal responsibility.

LEARN MORE

[UNCF.org/emt](https://www.uncf.org/emt)

Common Black College Application

The Common Black College Application offers students a single application to apply for 68 separate historically Black colleges and universities.

LEARN MORE

commonblackcollegeapp.com

Youvisit.com/collegesearch

At Youvisit.com/collegesearch, students, families and educators can take a virtual tour of Howard University, Jackson State University, University of Maryland Eastern Shore and numerous other HBCUs.

LEARN MORE

youvisit.com/collegesearch

TheHundred-Seven.org

TheHundred-seven.org provides key information about HBCUs, including a “find your HBCU match” tool based on major and academic programs of interests, top news stories, scholarships and HBCU trailblazers.

LEARN MORE

thehundred-seven.org

HBCU Match Tool:
thehundred-seven.org/matchme.php

HBCU First

“HBCU First” helps Black youth navigate college and career access. Its HBCU Exploratory Program is a college success and career access program for college-bound Black youth and HBCU students. The program consists of the College Success + Career Access Workshop Series and the Near-Peer Mentoring Program.

LEARN MORE

[HBCUfirst.com](https://hbcufirst.com)

College Research Database

College Navigator-Accredited HBCU List

The College Navigator HBCU listing consists primarily of the latest data and information from the National Center for Education Statistics on tuition costs, programs majors, admissions, enrollment and general information.

LEARN MORE

[nces.ed.gov/
COLLEGENAVIGATOR/
?s=all&sp=4&pg=1](https://nces.ed.gov/collegenavigator/?s=all&sp=4&pg=1)

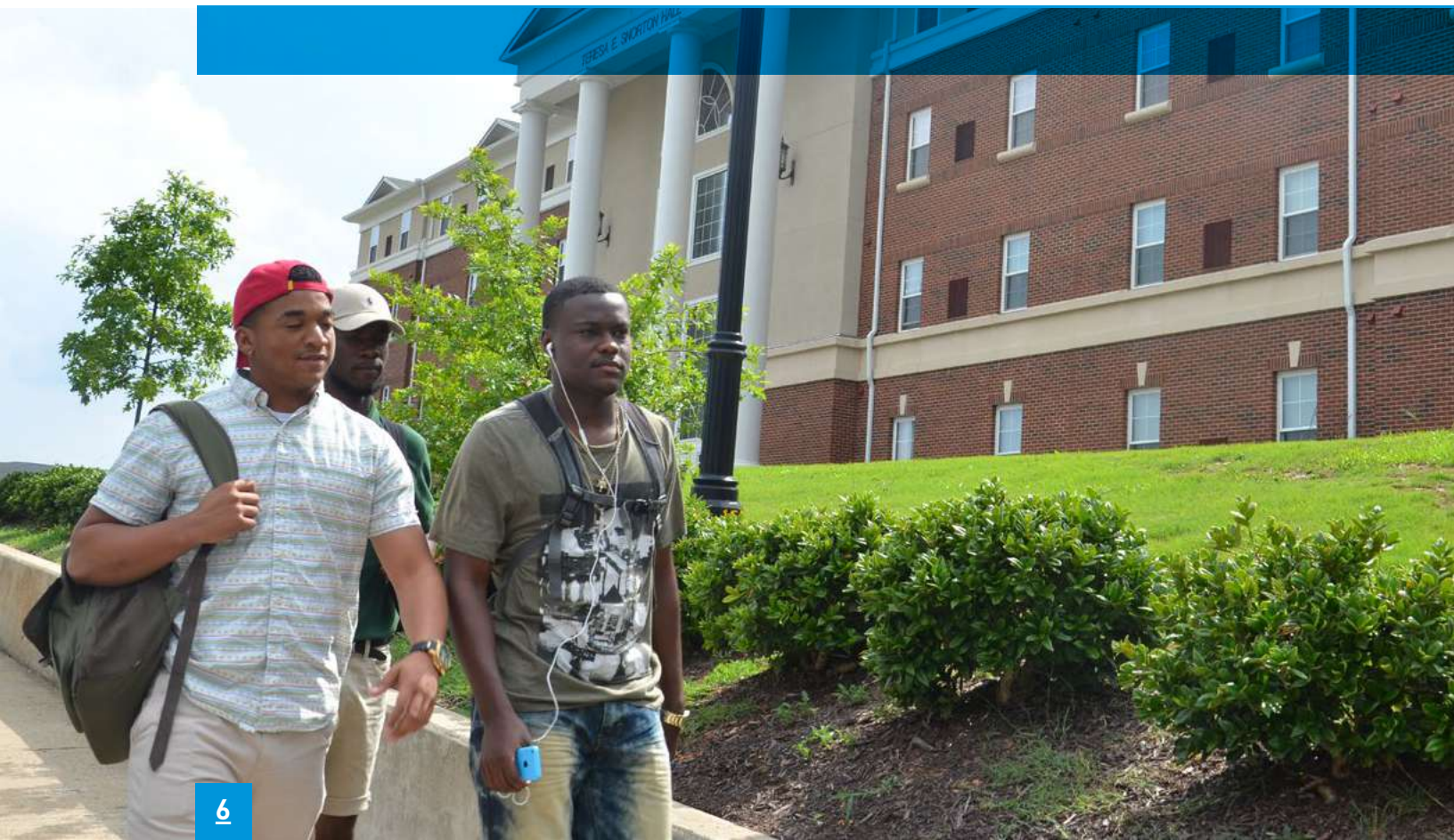
Lifestyle

HBCU Lifestyle

HBCU Lifestyle is a one-stop shop for Black college living. From finances to fraternities and sororities, schools to scholarships, this is a great source for all things related to Black college living.

LEARN MORE

HBCUlifestyle.com



NOTABLE **HBCU** GRADUATES AND ATTENDEES

Yolanda Adams: Texas Southern University

Stacey Abrams: Spelman College

Erykah Badu: Grambling State University

Chadwick Boseman: Howard University

Keisha Lance Bottoms: Florida A&M University

Rosalind Brewer: Spelman College

Common: Florida A&M University

W.E.B. Du Bois: Fisk University

Nikki Giovanni: Fisk University

Vice President Kamala Harris: Howard University

Taraji P. Henson: Howard University

Langston Hughes: Lincoln University

Terrance J: North Carolina A&T State University

Jesse Jackson: North Carolina A&T State University

Samuel L. Jackson: Morehouse College

Charles D. King: Howard University

Kenny Leon: Clark Atlanta University

Valeishia Butterfield Jones: Clark Atlanta University

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr: Morehouse College

Spike Lee: Morehouse College

Justice Thurgood Marshall: Howard University

Toni Morrison: Howard University

Amy Sherald: Clark Atlanta University

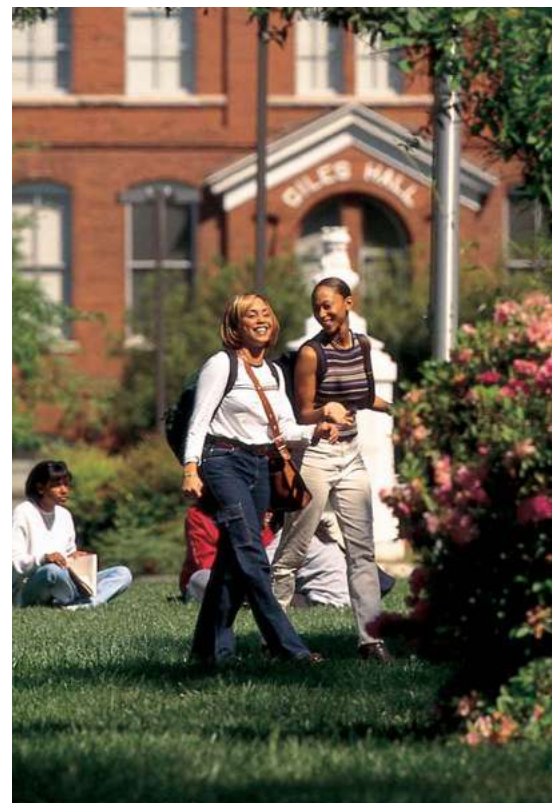
Stephen A. Smith: Winston-Salem State University

Michael Strahan: Texas Southern University

Alice Walker: Spelman College

Booker T. Washington: Hampton University

Oprah Winfrey: Tennessee State University



LISTING OF HBCUs BY STATE



Alabama

Alabama A&M University	4-year public
Alabama State University	4-year public
Bishop State Community College	2-year public
Gadsden State Community College	2-year public
H. Councill Trenholm State Technical College	2-year public
J. F. Drake State Community and Technical College	2-year public
Lawson State Community College	2-year public
Miles College	4-year private
Oakwood University	4-year private
Selma University	4-year private
Shelton State Community College	2-year public
Stillman College	4-year private
Talladega College	4-year private
Tuskegee University	4-year private

Arkansas

Arkansas Baptist College	4-year private
Philander Smith College	4-year private
Shorter College	2-year private
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff	4-year public

Delaware

Delaware State University	4-year public
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District of Columbia

Howard University	4-year private
University of the District of Columbia	4-year public

LISTING OF HBCUs BY STATE



Florida

Bethune-Cookman University	4-year private
Edward Waters College	4-year private
Florida A&M University	4-year public
Florida Memorial University	4-year private

Georgia

Albany State University	4-year public
Clark Atlanta University	4-year private
Fort Valley State University	4-year public
Interdenominational Theological Center	4-year private
Morehouse College	4-year private
Morris Brown College	4-year private
Morehouse School of Medicine	4-year private
Paine College	4-year private
Savannah State University	4-year public
Spelman College	4-year private

Kentucky

Kentucky State University	4-year public
Simmons College of Kentucky	4-year private

Louisiana

Dillard University	4-year private
Grambling State University	4-year public
Southern University and A&M College	4-year public
Southern University at New Orleans	4-year public
Southern University at Shreveport	2-year public
Xavier University of Louisiana	4-year private

LISTING OF HBCUs BY STATE



Maryland

Bowie State University	4-year public
Coppin State University	4-year public
Morgan State University	4-year public
University of Maryland, Eastern Shore	4-year public

Mississippi

Alcorn State University	4-year public
Coahoma Community College	2-year public
Hinds Community College, Utica Campus	2-year public
Jackson State University	4-year public
Mississippi Valley State University	4-year public
Rust College	4-year private
Tougaloo College	4-year private

Missouri

Harris-Stowe State University	4-year public
Lincoln University	4-year public

North Carolina

Bennett College	4-year private
Elizabeth City State University	4-year public
Fayetteville State University	4-year public
Johnson C. Smith University	4-year private
Livingstone College	4-year private
North Carolina A&T State University	4-year public
North Carolina Central University	4-year public
Saint Augustine's University	4-year private
Shaw University	4-year private
Winston-Salem State University	4-year public

LISTING OF HBCUs BY STATE



Ohio

Central State University

4-year public

Wilberforce University

4-year private

Oklahoma

Langston University

4-year public

Pennsylvania

Cheyney University of Pennsylvania

4-year public

Lincoln University

4-year Public

South Carolina

Allen University

4-year private

Benedict College

4-year private

Claflin University

4-year private

Clinton College

4-year private

Denmark Technical College

2-year public

Morris College

4-year private

South Carolina State University

4-year public

Voorhees College

4-year private

Tennessee

American Baptist College

4-year private

Fisk University

4-year private

Lane College

4-year private

LeMoyne-Owen College

4-year private

Meharry Medical College

4-year private

Tennessee State University

4-year public

LISTING OF HBCUs BY STATE



Texas

Huston-Tillotson University	4-year private
Jarvis Christian College	4-year private
Paul Quinn College	4-year private
Prairie View A&M University	4-year public
Saint Philip's College	2-year public
Southwestern Christian College	4-year private
Texas College	4-year private
Texas Southern University	4-year public
Wiley College	4-year private

Virginia

Hampton University	4-year private
Norfolk State University	4-year public
Virginia State University	4-year public
Virginia Union University	4-year private
Virginia University of Lynchburg	4-year private

West Virginia

Bluefield State College	4-year public
West Virginia State University	4-year public

Virgin Islands

University of the Virgin Islands	4-year public
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WHAT HBCU STUDENTS AND RECENT ALUMNI ARE SAYING¹⁰

“It wasn’t until I went to Spelman that I felt like an institution actually cared for me, prepared a space for me, and made sure that I was walking out the door better than I came in...I know that Spelman has had a direct impact in that in my life, and it’s so wonderful to experience that and have sisters that are rooting for you.”

HBCU alum

“I felt like during high school, I missed out on the cultural events that I would have had if I went to a predominantly Black high school or traditional public high school... **It was important for me to go to an HBCU just so I can understand more of the traditions and get more of my history instilled in me.**”

Young woman attending an HBCU, class of 2023

“It was an instant connection with the campus. I don’t know what it is. They say it’s something about Morehouse campus that’s just so special and I can attest it. I don’t even know how to explain it. It’s just like, you know you’re supposed to be there. Like, ‘This is where I’m supposed to be, this is where I’m going to be successful,’...it uplifts you and it makes you feel bright. After I got that feeling, I was like, ‘Yes, I got to go to Morehouse’” *Young man attending an HBCU, class of 2023*

“The real world does not look like us. The real world does not operate like us. **But I would also say that I think attending an HBCU does prepare us, because we can always look back and have a support system while we go into this real world.** I can always call my professors to this day. Professors that I’ve taken freshman and sophomore years that’ll give me advice on the real-world... I have professors who push me, tell me, ‘Keep going.’ It’s just that support group. Yes, it does prepare us for the real world because you need their support in this real world, you need them to tell you, ‘Don’t worry about what the haters are saying, you keep going’... At the end of the day, the HBCU is our support to go into the real world.”

Young woman attending an HBCU, class of 2021

“Tuskegee has a lot of museums on campus. Each semester, they’ll have a sign-up sheet, and students are able to participate in this little walk around campus. You have the ambassadors leading small groups and they take you around the campus and just go over all of the details, all of the historical facts about Tuskegee: the campus, Black culture, racial issues that have been developing over the years after slavery...I participate and I jot down notes, and I go home at the end of the day, and I look over those notes, and I apply it to my own life, things that I’ve experienced, things that I’ve went through, things that I’ve seen other people experience. It makes me much, much more knowledgeable...”

Young man attending an HBCU, class of 2023

“I feel like professors knew how to talk to you and they knew all the things that you were struggling with in your day-to-day life because they kind of went through it too....it just felt like it was someone on your side in a school building... I feel like I could really do a not watered-down version of how I really felt about police or how I really felt about the government and things... They understood what I was really saying...I think that those professors, they just let us freely speak how we felt like everything was happening and how we felt like life was really going.” *Young woman who graduated from an HBCU, class of 2020*

“The professors, they really care about you. I will say they care about you because they also know what you’re up against. They know that everything is not going to be easy even after this class and even after you graduate...”

Young woman attending an HBCU, class of 2022

“We held a march, a Black Lives Matter march, everyone on campus, and we marched through the city of Tuskegee with posters and banners. I think that just sets the tone as far as what Tuskegee is about, and what they believe in, what they fight for. **It’s different events or things that I’ve experienced like that here at Tuskegee that really motivates me to want to learn more.**”

Young man attending an HBCU, class of 2023

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Brandeis University



¹ National Center for Education Statistics, HBCU Fast Facts: Historically Black Colleges and Universities <https://nces.ed.gov/fastfacts/display.asp?id=667>

² UNCF, The HBCU Effect. <https://uncf.org/pages/the-hbcu-effect>

³ Humphreys, J. (2017). HBCUs Make America Strong: The Positive Economic Impact of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Washington, DC: UNCF Frederick D. Patterson Research Institute.

⁴ Represents the average of averages across institutions for the 2019-20 academic year. 4-year non-HBCU figure includes 4-year public and private not-for-profit Title IV participating non-HBCU institutions, 2019. UNCF Patterson Institute special tabulations of data from the U.S. Department of Education, College Scorecard, 2020-21 dataset.

⁵ Title IV 2- and 4-year universities

⁶ These figures include 2- and 4-year public and private not-for-profit Title IV participating institutions, 2020. UNCF Patterson Institute special tabulations of data from the U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System, 2020 data collection year.

⁷ These institutions include: 1) Howard University, 2) Spelman College, 3) University of Maryland, Baltimore County, 4) University of Maryland, College Park, 5) North Carolina A&T State University, 6) Florida A&M University, 7) University of Florida, 8) Morehouse College, 9) Hampton University, 10) University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. National Science Foundation, National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics. Women, Minorities, and Persons with Disabilities in Science and Engineering. Special Report NSF 21-321. April 29, 2021. Table 7-7: Top baccalaureate institutions of Black or African American S&E doctorate recipients, by type of institution: 2015-19. Retrieved from <https://nces.nsf.gov/wmpd>.

⁸ These institutions include: 1) Howard University, 2) Spelman College, 3) Florida A&M University, 4) Hampton University, 5) Xavier University of Louisiana, 6) Morehouse College, 7) Morgan State University, 7) North Carolina A&T State University, 9) Southern University and A&M College, and 10) Tuskegee University. Fiegenger, M.K., and Proudfoot, S.L. (2013). Baccalaureate-Origin Institutions of U.S.-trained S&E Doctorate Recipients (NSF 13-323), Arlington, VA: National Science Foundation. Retrieved 3/25/19 from <https://www.nsf.gov/statistics/infbrief/nsf13323/>.

⁹ Gallup (2015). Gallup-USA Funds Minority College Graduates Report. <http://www.gallup.com/services/186305/gallup-usa-funds-minority-college-graduates-report.asp>

¹⁰ The first Spelman College quote was derived from focus groups conducted by UNCF researchers with HBCU students in 2016-17. The next set of quotes are excerpts from a joint UNCF and Charter Schools Growth Fund report entitled, "Making the Case for K-12-HBCU Partnerships." The quotes were derived from interviews with HBCU students who graduated from high-performing charter high schools and attended HBCUs. The interviews were conducted by Dr. Rosie Emerson in 2021. Some quotes were shortened in this report due to space limitations.



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