

2026–2027

RANKINGS AND FACTS



The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

– the third-largest institution in the UNC System and the second-largest for undergraduates – is the Charlotte region's only R1 research university. Charlotte's outstanding academics, world-class research, innovative student success services and productive community connections – all in the 15th-largest city in the U.S. – serve a dynamic and growing student body and the region's vibrant business community.

RANKINGS AND ACCOLADES



NOTABLE U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT RANKINGS

One of the fastest-rising universities in the U.S.

#74

Best Public University

#1 in N.C., **#17** in U.S.

A SmartAsset Best-Value Public University

80%

of graduating seniors engage in internships/experiential education

94%

of recent grads are fully employed or continuing their education six months post graduation

85%

first-year retention rate

#1

in North Carolina/transfers and first-generations students

400+

Student Organizations

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION 2025-26

- Carnegie **R1** Classification (awarded 2025)
- **\$96.3** million in research expenditures
- **Top 5** in U.S. for patents filed, new inventions created and startups (per million dollars in research funding)
- **51** faculty-led initiatives with more than \$1 million in external funding
- **\$241.9** million total grant profile



FALL ENROLLMENT 2026

33,045

Total enrollment

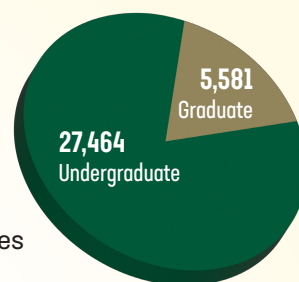
Students come from:

46 states

+ District of Columbia

99 North Carolina counties

109 countries



FRESHMAN CLASS

3.96

Average
Weighted GPA

39%

First-Generation
Students

44%

STEM
Majors

MAJORS/DEGREES

187 undergraduate majors

83 bachelor's degree programs

65 master's degrees

26 doctoral programs

DEGREES AWARDED

9,010 total degrees and graduate certificates

6,352 bachelor's degrees

2,019 master's degrees

203 doctoral degrees



MOST POPULAR UNDERGRADUATE MAJORS

- Business
- Engineering
- Biology and Biomedical Sciences
- Health Professions
- Computer and Information Services/ Data Science

2026-2027

RANKINGS AND FACTS

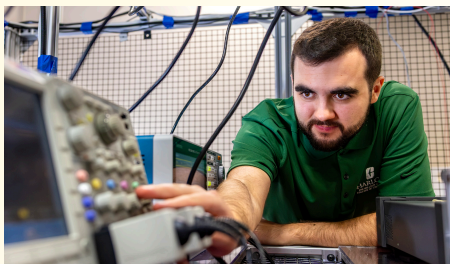


UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHARLOTTE

“Charlotte’s only R1 university brings together the talent, ideas and ambition that move our city forward.”

SHARON L. GABER, CHANCELLOR

UNRIVALED GROWTH



ENGINEERING EXPANSION

- Selected to lead the NSF Regional Innovation Engines in the Carolinas to modernize the electric grid alongside 100+ regional partners
- Established the School of Energy, the first in the U.S. to focus solely on solving interdisciplinary challenges to expand the nation’s electrical infrastructure
- Opened the Albert School of Construction - and initiated a B.S. in Construction Engineering - to meet the demands of a fast-growing market



DEFENSE INNOVATION

- Launched the National Defense and Intelligence Innovation Institute, a central hub for defense research, collaboration, technology transition and workforce development
- Joined NC’s First in Defense coalition to fortify the state’s position as a defense technology leader
- Partnered with RTI International to integrate defense innovation across Charlotte and Western North Carolina



WORKFORCE BENCH STRENGTH

- Developed applicable, AI-focused undergraduate and graduate programs, minors and concentrations across academic disciplines
- Offer North Carolina’s only public university M.S. in Entrepreneurship to support the movement of ideas to execution
- Committed to connecting all students with hands-on internships and experiential workplace opportunities

ALUMNI:

- **193,385** Total
- **112,783** in Charlotte metro
- **147,450** in North Carolina



ATHLETICS ACCOLADES (2025-26)

- **19** NCAA Division I teams competing in the American Athletic Conference
- **Conference championships:** men’s soccer/ men’s golf
- **All-American** mention: women’s golf
- **300** Academic All-Conference honorees
- **75%** of student-athletes earned 3.0+ GPA
- **1,946** community service hours