Wabash College

ABOUT THE SCHOOL

There are still all-male liberal arts colleges out there, and Wabash College is among the last and the best of them. Wabash College is one of just three remaining men’s liberal arts colleges in the nation. Even so, Wabash’s solid reputation and even more solid endowment ensure that the tradition of quality, single-sex education will continue into the foreseeable future. Academically, a flexible curriculum and rigorous academic programs define the Wabash experience. With a student body of fewer than 1,000 students, the school boasts an excellent student-to-teacher ratio of 10:1. First-rate professors and a hands-on administration enhance the Wabash experience, along with special programs designed to complement classroom learning with real-world experience. For example, the school’s Immersion Learning Courses allow students to link their classroom work to a seven- to ten-day trip within the United States or overseas, at no additional cost to the student.

Wabash students adhere to the elegant Gentleman’s Rule, which simply requires them to behave as responsible students both on and off campus. Though the student body has grown more diverse in recent years, Wabash men are typically very bright, very ambitious, and very conservative. Not all are religious, but those who take their faith very seriously. Weeknights at Wabash are all about academics, while weekends are filled with parties. Life at Wabash is very Greek-oriented—half of students belong to a fraternity. Purdue, Ball State, Butler, and Indiana University are all nearby, should students crave the occasional getaway, and women from neighboring schools often travel to the Wabash campus on the weekends. Hometown Crawfordsville is small—home to only 15,000 permanent residents—but Indianapolis is less than 50 miles to the southeast.

BANG FOR YOUR BUCK

The school can afford to distribute aid generously. Admissions are based on academic ability, not ability to pay. At Wabash, nearly 100 percent of student financial need is met. Merit-based aid is also plentiful. Wabash’s Top-10 Scholarship Program provides four-year, renewable, merit-based scholarships to students who rank in the top 10 percent of their high school class. Famously, the school offers $2.5 million worth of competitive academic scholarships on its Honor Scholarship Weekend, during which students travel to the school to take a series competitive exams with other prospective students. There are also merit-based scholarships for students who demonstrate exceptional character and excellence in leadership, such as the Lilly Award, which covers the full cost of tuition and room and board.
STUDENT BODY
A typical Wabash student “is an athlete who is willing to work long hours to get good grades.” “Studious, eager to learn and to get work done, [and] serious about school,” students here are “almost treated like peers by professors.” “Everyone at Wabash works very hard and benefits from the rigorous academic requirements.” “Lower-class to upper-class backgrounds allow for a variety of perspectives and previous educations. Regardless of where they hail from, “students embrace the backgrounds of their classmates and work together to learn.” Others say, “It’s an all-male college, but that’s where the universal attributes end.” “There could stand to be some more ethnic diversity”; however, others say, “I think that’s got more to with self-selection than anything else.” “The library is packed Sunday through Thursday evening.”

WHY STUDENTS LOVE WABASH COLLEGE
“After four years at Wabash College, any man can be transformed into a gentleman and a scholar and be more prepared for life after college than any other student.”

GENERAL INFO
Environmental Initiatives: Campus-wide recycling. Environmental Concerns Committee driving LEED Certification. Green bikes.

BOTTOM LINE
Few students pay the full cost of attendance at Wabash. Most students receive generous aid packages in the form of loans and scholarships, drastically offsetting the cost. Therefore, most undergraduates pay just a fraction of the estimated $45,000 cost to attend (which includes $35,000 tuition and $8,510 for room and board, plus other expenses).