Capella University Fact Sheet

Total Enrollment
41,073 learners (Enrollment as of December 31, 2020)

University Enrollment by School
(Updated annually - as of December 31, 2020)

University Enrollment by Degree and Certificate
(Updated annually - as of December 31, 2020)

University Enrollment by Delivery Model
(Updated annually - as of December 31, 2020)

Learner Profile
(Updated annually - as of December 31, 2020)
Capella learners live in 50 states and 60 other countries or territories.

Gender
- 82% female
- 18% male

Average Age
- 38

Race/Ethnicity
- 3% Asian
- 26% Black or African American
- 10% Hispanic or Latino
- 46% White
- 3% Two or more races
- 12% Race and Ethnicity, Other

Enrollment Status
- 29% full-time
- 71% part-time

Receiving Financial Aid
- Approximately two-thirds

Faculty Profile
80% of our faculty have doctorates

Of the faculty who reported their gender
- 64% are female and 36% are male

Capella faculty members live across the U.S.
(50 states, Washington D.C., plus U.S. territories)

Federal Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) data are generated according to U.S. Department of Education rules and are used by Capella in standardized external reports. IPEDS data provide an accurate snapshot of degree and non-degree enrollment as of the census date each fall, where census date is the 12th calendar day of the main session in a quarter – e.g., October 20, 2020, for the 2020-2021 academic year.
Academic Offerings
Degree programs: 46
Twelve of these degree programs are also delivered via FlexPath, our direct assessment option
Graduate and undergraduate specializations: 110
Certificate programs: 14
Courses: 2,010+

Degrees and Certificates Conferred
(as of December 31, 2020)
Total: 110,432
• GuidedPath: 96,491
• FlexPath: 13,941
Alumni: 99,271 (Degree and certificate recipients)

Accreditation
Higher Learning Commission: Capella University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. (https://www.hlcommission.org, 800.621.7440)
ABET: Capella’s BS in IT program is accredited by the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET, www.abet.org.

Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP): The Accreditation Council for Business Schools & Programs (ACBSP) has accredited Capella University business programs and select specializations. For full accreditation statement and the list of accredited programs and specializations, go to www.capella.edu/university-accreditation.

Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE): The MS in Marriage and Family Counseling/Therapy program at Capella University is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE), 112 South Alfred Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314; 703.838.9808, coa@aamft.org.

Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE): The BSN, MSN and DNP degree programs at Capella University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (http://www.ccneaccreditation.org).

Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP): Capella University’s PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision, MS in Mental Health Counseling and MS in School Counseling programs are accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) through March 31, 2028.

Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP): Capella University’s Educator Preparation Provider (EPP) unit is accredited based on the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP) standards through 2024. CAEP is the only recognized national accreditor for educator preparation (CAEP, 1140 19th St. NW, Suite 400, Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 223-0077).

Council on Social Work Education (CSWE): Capella University’s Master of Social Work programs are accredited by the Council on Social Work Education’s Commission on Accreditation. For more information about social work accreditation, visit: https://www.cswe.org/Accreditation.

Project Management Institute Global Accreditation Center for Project Management (PMI GAC): The following program specializations are accredited by the Project Management Institute (PMI) Global Accreditation Center for Project Management (PMI GAC): BS in Information Technology – Project Management; MS in Information Technology – Project Management; MBA – Project Management; PhD in Information Technology – Project Management.

End Notes
1Includes graduate, undergraduate, and certificate learners; does not include non-degree learners. FTE= 21,529 Full-Time Equivalents (FTE) = Number of full-time learners + 1/3 of the number of part-time learners. Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) definition of full-time and part-time status. By definition, FTE includes graduate, undergraduate, and certificate learners; it does not include non-degree learners.
2CU Total Enrollment as of December 31, 2020.
3CU Total Enrollment as of December 31, 2020. Certificates include post-baccalaureate and post-master’s certificates. Doctorate also includes EdS degree.
4At Capella University, learners can choose between two learning models: 1.) FlexPath, a direct assessment option with flat-rate tuition that gives students flexibility to accelerate their courses based on their schedule, up to two courses at a time. FlexPath was introduced in 2013. Select bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral programs available. 2.) GuidedPath, a more traditional and structured learning model. All programs available.
5Per the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), full-time status is defined as 9 or more credits per quarter for graduate students, and 12 or more credits per quarter for undergraduate students (including FlexPath learners). Doctoral learners in comprehensive, dissertation or capstone are full-time. Data as of December 31, 2020.
6Race and Ethnicity, Other – includes American Indian or Alaskan Native, Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander, Nonresident Alien and Race Unspecified.
7Number of alumni is less than the grand total of all Degrees and Certificates Conferred: some learners have completed more than one degree at Capella.
8The FlexPath option(s) is not included in this specialized accreditation.
Milestones

2020

- The Higher Learning Commission approved direct assessment option for the Doctor of Nursing Practice program and Master of Science in Human Resources program and two MS HRM specializations
- Capella University opened its second campus center
- Capella’s PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision, MS in Mental Health Counseling, and MS in School Counseling programs’ accreditation was reaffirmed by CACREP for a term of eight years
- Dr. Bruce Fischer was awarded designation as Faculty Emeritus
- Capella University was the recipient of the “Golden Shovel” Award for “best use of data” from Yellowdig, the “ed tech” firm focused on peer-to-peer learning
- Capella graduated its 10,000th FlexPath learner

2019

- Capella University opened its first campus center
- Capella graduated its 8,000th FlexPath learner
- Capella published five-year outcomes report for the FlexPath Direct Assessment Program

2018

- The Higher Learning Commission approved direct assessment option for the Bachelor of Science in Health Care Administration program and specializations, and additional specializations in previously approved programs
- Capella University’s parent company, Capella Education Company, merged with Strayer Education, Inc., and was renamed Strategic Education, Inc. Strategic Education is the parent company of both Capella University and Strayer University, which continue to operate as independent and separately accredited institutions
- Capella graduated its 4,000th FlexPath learner
- Capella won a 2018 Blackboard Catalyst Award
- Capella’s Master of Social Work programs accredited by the Council of Social Work Education’s Commission on Accreditation
- Capella’s Master of Science in Marriage and Family Therapy program accreditation was renewed by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE)
- Capella’s Education Preparation Unit, comprised of 8 advanced P-12 educator preparation licensure programs, was accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)
- Dr. Bruce Francis was awarded designation as President Emeritus of Capella University

2017

- The Higher Learning Commission approved direct assessment option for the Master of Education in Teaching and Learning program, Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) program and several MSN specializations
- Founder and Former CEO of Capella Education Company and former Chancellor of Capella University, Stephen G. Shank, retired from the Board of Directors
- The Bachelor of Science in Information Technology program was reaccredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)
- Capella graduated its 60,000th GuidedPath learner and 2,000th FlexPath learner

2016

- Dr. Richard Senese became president of Capella University
- The Higher Learning Commission approved direct assessment options for the Master of Health Administration and Master of Science in Information Assurance and Security programs, post-baccalaureate certificates in these disciplines and additional specializations and certificates in previously approved programs
- Capella received the Excellence in Assessment Award from the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment
- Capella’s business and information technology programs with specializations in Project Management reaccredited by The Project Management Institute - Global Accreditation Council
- Capella’s nursing programs were reaccredited by the Commission for Collegiate Nursing Education
- Capella graduated its 800th FlexPath learner

2015

- The Higher Learning Commission approved direct assessment option for the Bachelor of Science in Nursing program
- Capella’s Master of Social Work programs accredited by the Council of Social Work Education’s Commission on Accreditation
- Capella’s Master of Science in Marriage and Family Therapy program accreditation was renewed by the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy Education (COAMFTE)
- The PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision earned accreditation from the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP)
• Capella University’s accreditation was reaffirmed by the Higher Learning Commission

• Capella graduated its 50,000th learner and 200th FlexPath learner

• Capella University had the largest new academic offerings launch in its history

2014

• The Higher Learning Commission approved direct assessment options for the Bachelor of Science in Psychology, Bachelor of Science in Information Technology, Master of Science in Psychology and Master of Science in Information Systems and Technology Management programs

• Capella launched the new School of Nursing and Health Sciences

• Capella’s FlexPath format won the 2014 WCET Outstanding Work (WOW) Award

• Capella’s bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral business programs earned accreditation from the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP)

• Capella’s FlexPath won the National University Technology Network (NUTN) 2014 Distance Innovation Award

• Capella designated by the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance/Cyber Defense (CAE IA/CD) for academic years 2014–2021

• Capella graduated its 40,000th learner

2013

• The Master of Science in Marriage and Family Counseling/Therapy earned accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Marriage and Family Therapy (COAMFTE)

• The Higher Learning Commission approved direct assessment options for the Bachelor of Science in Business, Business Administration specialization and the Master of Business Administration (MBA), General Business Administration specialization. These options were called FlexPath

2011

• The Master of Science in Nursing and Bachelor of Science in Nursing earned accreditation from the Commission of Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)

• The Bachelor of Science in Information Technology program earned accreditation from the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET)

• The Master of Science in Education specialization in Early Childhood Education earned National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) National Recognition

• The Masters of Science (MS) in Education, Education Specialist (EdS) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Education specialization in Leadership in Educational Administration earned Educational Leadership Constituent Council (ELCC) National Recognition (Building Level)

2010

• Larry A. Isaak became president of Capella University

• The Professional Education Unit at Capella earned accreditation from The National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The accreditation covered advanced educator preparation offerings

• Capella graduated its 20,000th learner

• Capella was awarded the 2010 CHEA Award for Outstanding Institutional Practice in Student Learning Outcomes by The Council for Higher Education Accreditation

• Capella University accepted invitation to join the President’s Alliance of the New Leadership Alliance for Student Learning & Accountability

• Capella University awarded the NUTN Distance Education Innovation Award by the National University Telecommunications Network

2009

• Dr. Christopher Cassirer became President of Capella University

• Launched Doctor of Education (EdD) degree

• Capella granted full institutional approval by the Minnesota Board of Teaching

• Capella established the new School of Public Service Leadership

• Capella received the 2009 Learning Impact Award from IMS Global Learning Consortium

• Scott L. Kinney became president of Capella University

• The Doctor of Nursing Practice earned accreditation from the Commission of Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)

• The Doctor of Psychology (PsyD) in School Psychology received approval from the Arizona State Board of Education

• Capella graduated its 30,000th learner
• The Specialist Certificate in School Psychology was granted approval with conditions from January 1, 2010, to December 31, 2011, by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP)

• Capella became a charter member of Transparency by Design, the initiative that developed and officially launched the College Choices for Adults website in August 2009

• The Master of Science in School Counseling earned accreditation from the American Counseling Association’s Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP)

• Capella received the 2009 Outstanding Work (WOW) Award from WCET

• The PhD in Education specialization Special Education Leadership earned Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) National Recognition

• Enrollment exceeded 30,000 learners

2008

• Capella University’s accreditation was reaffirmed by the Higher Learning Commission

• Dr. Michael Offerman was awarded designation as President Emeritus of Capella University

• The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM™) acknowledged that three Capella HR specializations (in the BS, MS and MBA programs) fully align with SHRM’s HR Curriculum Guidebook and Templates

• The Master of Science specialization in School Counseling received approval from the Arizona Department of Education

• The Doctor of Philosophy in Education specialization in Special Education Leadership received approval from the Minnesota Board of School Administrators

• The Bachelor and Master of Science in Information Technology specializations in Project Management earned accreditation from the Project Management Institute (PMI®) Global Accreditation Center for Project Management (PMI-GAC)

2007

• The Master of Science in Education specialization in Reading and Literacy received approval as a program leading to professional licensure by the Minnesota Board of Teaching. This was the first and only online Reading and Literacy program to be approved by this agency

• Capella University designated by the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education for the academic years 2007-2012

• Enrollment exceeded 20,000 learners

• Launched Education Specialist (EdS) degree

• Capella graduated its 10,000th learner

2006

• The first comprehensive AQIP check-up visit was highly successful: the visiting team recommended that all accreditation stipulations be removed, and complimented Capella University for achieving what has taken other institutions years to accomplish

• The Higher Learning Commission removed the Statement of Affiliation Status stipulation and extends Capella accreditation to develop and deliver new undergraduate programs and degree offerings

• Capella Education Company, the parent company of Capella University, completed its initial public offering of common stock and started to trade under the ticker symbol CPLA on the Nasdaq stock market

2005

• The MS in Human Services specialization in Mental Health Counseling earned accreditation from the American Counseling Association’s Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP)

• Capella University graduated its 5,000th learner

2004

• Enrollment exceeded 10,000 learners

2003

• Approved by Minnesota Board of School Administrators to offer education leadership specializations in School of Education

• The mental health counseling specialization in School of Human Services earned accreditation from the American Counseling Association’s Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP)

• Approved by the Higher Learning Commission to launch four-year undergraduate programs in Business and in Information Technology

• Approved by the Higher Learning Commission to offer PsyD in School of Psychology

• Formed collaboration with Augsburg College to offer four-year baccalaureate degree starting in 2004
2002
• Graduated its 1,000th learner

2001
• Dr. Michael Offerman became president of Capella University; Stephen Shank became chancellor
• Approved by the Higher Learning Commission to offer upper-division bachelor’s degree in Business

2000
• Became charter member of the Academic Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) of the North Central Association’s Higher Learning Commission; accreditation extended to 2007–2008
• Approved by Minnesota Higher Education Services Office to grant BS degree
• Approved by the Higher Learning Commission to offer upper-division bachelor’s degree in Information Technology

1999
• Joined the US Department of Education’s Distance Education Demonstration Program
• TGSA became Capella University
• Founded School of Psychology
• Stephen Shank became president of Capella; Bruce Francis became chancellor
• University enrollment exceeded 1,000 learners; celebrated 100th graduate

1998
• Approved by the Higher Learning Commission for MS and PhD degrees in Psychology
• Approved by Minnesota Higher Education Services Office to grant MBA

1997
• Accredited by the Higher Learning Commission; at that time, TGSA offered MS and PhD degrees in Organization and Management, Education, Human Services and Interdisciplinary Studies
• Graduated first learners (9 MS degrees, 5 PhD degrees)

1995
• Dr. Bruce Francis became president of TGSA

1993
• The Graduate School of America (TGSA) founded by Stephen Shank and Dr. Harold Abel
• Dr. Harold Abel became first president of TGSA
• Approved by Minnesota Higher Education Services Office to grant MS and PhD degrees in Organization and Management, Education, Human Services and Interdisciplinary Studies
Capella University Leadership

Richard Senese, PhD, LP          President
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Ying Iverson, PhD          Assistant Provost, Academic Affairs
Elizabeth Riley, PhD          Assistant Provost, Faculty Affairs
Curtis Brant, PhD          Dean, Office of Research and Scholarship
Lisa Kreeger, PhD, RN          Interim Dean, School of Nursing & Health Sciences
Joshua L. Stanley, EdD, NCC, ACS          Dean, School of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Jennifer Straub, PhD          Dean, Division of Arts and Sciences
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Questions or Comments

For investor related questions on this fact sheet, contact Strategic Education Investor Relations. For other questions related to this fact sheet, contact Strategic Education Public Relations.