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# CIVIL ENGINEERING ACADEMY PODCAST

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## EPISODE 43 - TOP CIVIL ENGINEERING UNIVERSITIES IN THE USA

There are plenty of civil engineering schools today, located in all different parts of the country, ranging from the world renowned and relatively expensive ones to the small- and mid-sized schools, with more affordable tuition fees. Even though the range of options can be pretty huge and diversified, everyone will have a unique university experience that includes their own needs and capabilities, both financially, academically and socially.

In face of that, *U.S. News* has put together [a list of the best civil engineering universities for graduate studies in the United States](#), using each school's average rating on a scale from 1 (marginal) to 5 (outstanding), which is based on a survey of academics at peer institutions, to classify and rank them according to their [research methodology](#).

This ranking can help civil engineers currently planning on going through the process of choosing the best university that fits their academic interests and financial capabilities. Let's dissect the top 12 universities, according to *U.S. News*, that civil engineers can choose from.

Since there is a tie for the number one school, there are two universities on the top of the list, and they are the [University of California, Berkeley](#) and the [University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign](#). For UC Berkeley, the in-state tuition is about \$11,000 per year, while out-of-state tuition hovers around \$26,500. UC Berkeley also has an accelerated program that allows students to get their master's degree in one year, instead of the usual 2-year curriculum. For the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, in-state tuition is about \$18,600 per year, and out-of-state tuition is \$35,500.

Moving on to number 3, given that we have two universities tied for number 1, we have the [Georgia Institute of Technology](#), or Georgia Tech. They have enrollments of about 4,000 students and tuition varies from \$14,000 (in-state) to \$29,000 (out-of-state). Another tie here, and this time Georgia Tech is sharing the third spot with the widely famous [Stanford University](#). Given its reputation as a big and excellent university, we all expect tuition at Stanford to be pretty high, and in fact they are. Tuition is about \$56,000 per year, and they take in about 3,400 students per year.

Again, jumping directly to number 5 because we have a tie for number 3, we have the [University of Texas at Austin](#), with a tuition varying between \$10,500 (in-state) to \$19,300 (out-of-state). This one is a little bit smaller, with enrollments of about 2,706 students, but the numbers for tuition fees make it much more affordable.

According to the U.S. News, the number six university in the entire country is [Purdue University in West Lafayette](#), and, surprisingly enough, the renowned [Massachusetts Institute of Technology](#), famously known as MIT, occupies spot number seven, sharing it with the [University of Michigan, Ann Arbor](#), when it comes to civil engineering programs. As of Purdue University, enrollments are about 3,428 students, their student-staff ratio is about 5.7 to 1 and tuition fees vary from \$10,300 (in-state) to \$29,000 (out-of-state). On the other hand, MIT's tuition fee, as we'd expect it, is about \$53,450 per year, for a full-time program.

Even though tuition may seem to be a huge obstacle, MIT is a good destination for many students, obviously, otherwise it would not be famous all over the world. Also, for the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, in-state tuition is about \$27,200 and out-of-state cost of \$51,126, with a full-time enrollment of 3,247 students. Also, another expensive school for those who are out of state.

Jumping to number nine, given the tie for number seven, we have [Virginia Tech](#). This is a tuition of \$13,700, for in-state, and about \$27,600 for out-of-state students. This is a much smaller school, with enrollments of only 1,881 students, which makes the student-staff ratio of about 2.9 to 1. Therefore, you can get much more attention by choosing to go to Virginia Tech.

Tied for number ten on the list, we have [Carnegie Mellon University](#) in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and the McCormick School Of Engineering of [Northwestern University](#), in Evanston, Illinois. Tuition fees are about \$48,500 for Carnegie Mellon, and about \$56,000 for Northwestern. The enrollment numbers show that Northwestern is a much smaller school with enrollments of about 1,910 people, compared to Carnegie's enrollments of 4,112 students.

To wrap up the Top 12 Civil Engineering Universities List, we have [Cornell University](#), with a tuition of about \$29,000, and an enrollment of 2,390 people. And, the last one is the [University of California, Davis](#), tied with Cornell for number 12. UC Davis has an in-state tuition of about \$14,000, and, if you're out of state, it's about \$29,000, with an enrollment of 1,208 students.

Even though these 12 schools were the highest-ranked ones by U.S News, each individual will have a university experience that is unique and that depends on their own capabilities, as previously stated. Many other universities are also notable enough to mention such as, [Arizona State University](#), [Auburn University](#), [Brigham Young University](#), [Clarkson University](#), [Clemson University](#), [Colorado School of Mines](#), [Duke University](#), [Florida A&M](#), and the [University of Utah](#).

### Resources Available

[Civil Engineering Academy](#) - If you need exams, solved problems or courses, make sure to check out our home base

[CEA Community](#) – Haven't joined up on our free community? What's wrong with you? J/K. Ok, just go there and join a group of like-minded civil engineers!

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