McDaniel College, founded in 1867, is a four-year, independent college of the liberal arts and sciences offering more than 70 undergraduate programs of study, including pre-professional specializations and student-designed majors, and over 20 graduate programs. One of the original “Colleges That Change Lives,” McDaniel emphasizes experiential learning and student-faculty collaboration to develop the unique potential in every student. Represented by the Green Terror, its over 20 athletic teams compete in the NCAA Division III Centennial Conference. A student-centered community of 1,800 undergraduates and 1,400 graduate students offers access to both Baltimore and Washington, D.C., plus a European campus in Budapest, Hungary.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

- The college’s signature McDaniel Commitment is a customized program of courses and opportunities that guarantees every student is prepared for personal and professional success. Every student is guaranteed two experiential learning opportunities, including study abroad, student-faculty research, internship, or independent study.

- The Center for Experience and Opportunity (CEO) is McDaniel’s one-stop shop that focuses on experiential learning and career development.

- Global Fellows is an academic and co-curricular opportunity that empowers students to explore the world and create a global portfolio while the National Security Fellows Program provides McDaniel students with robust knowledge, skills, and experience in national security.

- The Program in Innovation and Entrepreneurship allows students in any major to hone their entrepreneurial skills and compete for startup funds at the annual Innovation and Entrepreneurship Challenge.

- Army ROTC has been a tradition at McDaniel since 1919, and the Green Terror Battalion is one of the oldest programs in the nation.

- Over 30% of McDaniel students study abroad for academic credit in more than 50 countries, including at the college’s European campus in Budapest, Hungary.

- Each year, more than 300 students collaborate with their professors on research across all disciplines. Many of these students are published authors by the time they graduate.

- One-third of students are involved in athletics and McDaniel’s over 20 athletic teams, represented by the Green Terror, compete in the NCAA Division III Centennial Conference.

- Students are involved in almost 100 student organizations, intramural sports, and fraternities and sororities.

- McDaniel is known for its campus traditions. McDaniel’s unique tailgating tradition and drive-in stadium have been highlighted nationally as a best college tailgate.

MISSION STATEMENT

McDaniel College is a diverse student-centered community committed to excellence in the liberal arts & sciences and professional studies. With careful mentoring and attention to the individual, McDaniel changes lives. We challenge students to develop their unique potentials with reason, imagination, and human concern. Through flexible academic programs, collaborative and experiential learning, and global engagement, McDaniel prepares students for successful lives of leadership, service, and social responsibility.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY

As one of the first coeducational colleges in the nation, McDaniel is committed to being a diverse and inclusive community and the college’s Diverse, Equity and Inclusion statement, unanimously approved by the Board of Trustees in August 2020, highlights the college’s commitment to break down the walls of division, reject acts of exclusion, and challenge injustice, prejudice, and ethnocentrism.
NATIONALLY RANKED

Colleges That Change Lives
McDaniel is nationally recognized among “Colleges That Change Lives” and has been included in every edition of this essential guidebook.

U.S. News & World Report
McDaniel is the top-ranked Maryland institution on the “Best Value Schools” list among regional universities in the North and is also ranked as one of the best universities in the region.

Money Magazine
McDaniel is among the “Best Colleges in America” for value for providing an affordable, quality education that leads to alumni success.

Forbes
McDaniel is listed among the 500 best institutions in the nation on the “America’s Top Colleges” list.

Washington Monthly
McDaniel is included among the top master’s universities in the nation, as well as consistently ranked on the “Best Bang for the Buck” list.

The Princeton Review
McDaniel is featured as one of “The Best 388 Colleges” and has been recognized as a “Best Value College” for offering the best return on investment (ROI).

Colleges of Distinction
McDaniel is recognized for its honorable commitment to engaged, hands-on education and highlighted for the college’s Business, Education, and Career Development programs. McDaniel is also the only independent college in Maryland on the affordability list.

Military Friendly Schools®
McDaniel is among the top higher education institutions in the nation doing the most for military veterans and their families.

FAST FACTS

Programs of Study
McDaniel College offers more than 70 programs of study, including dual and student-designed majors.

Undergraduate Enrollment
- 1,800 students from over 30 states and Washington, D.C., and 30 countries.
- 40% identify as first-generation college students.
- Average class size is 15 students.
- 80% retention rate from freshman to sophomore year.

Faculty
- 130 full-time faculty.
- 96% hold highest degree in their field.
- Student-faculty ratio is 13:1.

Academic Program
The McDaniel Plan is an undergraduate curriculum based in the liberal arts and sciences. Rigorous and challenging, the program of study features built-in flexibility for students to choose courses that match their interests and fuel their ambitions, plus classes specific to each academic year from an exemplary first-year seminar through a senior capstone research project.

Financial Aid & Scholarships
Over 90 percent of students receive some type of financial assistance. The college invests over $50 million annually in grants and scholarships to ensure that students from all financial backgrounds are able to experience a McDaniel education with an average annual award of $40,000.

Residential Campus
85% of McDaniel undergraduate students live on campus. Special housing options include campus apartments, language houses, and college-owned residences assigned to groups of students with shared interests.

Athletics
McDaniel’s teams compete in NCAA Division III and the Centennial Conference. Over the past five years, four different Green Terror programs have been represented in the NCAA Championships and many student-athletes have also been recognized as All-Americans in their sports. McDaniel student-athletes are regularly named to the Centennial Conference’s Academic Honor Roll.

Alumni
McDaniel’s more than 28,000 alumni reside in all 50 states and the District of Columbia, as well as 75 countries. Notable alumni include Pulitizer Prize-winning investigative journalist Wendy Ruderman; former Perdue Farms Chief Executive Officer Randy Day, the fourth CEO in the company’s 100-year history; elected officials, such as Ellen Sauerbrey, two-time Republican nominee for governor of Maryland who served 16 years in the House of Delegates, and Edward Kasemeyer, a former long-serving member of the Maryland General Assembly; National Teacher of the Year Michelle Shearer; and video game designer Greg Street, known for his work on “League of Legends” and “World of Warcraft.”

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