Penn State BERKS

General Campus Information

FOUNDED: 1958

CAMPUS SIZE: 258 acres in Wyomissing, just outside of Reading, PA

ACADEMIC YEAR: Two semesters, late August to mid-December; mid January to mid-May; summer sessions

OFF-CAMPUS OPPORTUNITIES: Internships, research, community service, study abroad programs

FIND OUT MORE:
Penn State Berks
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Reading, PA 19610
Email: BerksAdmissions@psu.edu
Web: berks.psu.edu

The College

Penn State Berks is an undergraduate college of The Pennsylvania State University, one of the nation’s largest and most widely recognized institutions. The campus enrolls more than 2,800 students and offers 25 associate, baccalaureate, and master’s degree programs. Students can also complete the first two years of 160 baccalaureate degree programs offered at Penn State.

At Penn State Berks, students enjoy access to all the advantages the University has to offer. Each baccalaureate degree has an internship requirement in which students work in their chosen fields, earning college credits for their experiences. Students complete 200-250 internships per semester.

The college provides a rich student life with residence halls, a wide variety of clubs and organizations, athletics, cultural events, lectures, and many other activities. Students can work one-on-one with faculty members on research, study abroad, travel as part of course curriculum, and complete community service work as part of their college experience.

Student Housing

Penn State Berks campus housing serves more than 800 students through its modern residence halls, which are made up of fully furnished suites and include amenities such as a refrigerator/freezer, a microwave, air conditioning, computer ports, wifi, and much more.

State-of-the-Art Facilities and Technology

All classrooms are equipped with the most up-to-date teaching and learning technology, and wireless capabilities are available in all campus facilities, including the outdoor Perkins Plaza.

The Gaige Technology and Business Innovation Building is as cutting-edge as the learning and discovery that take place within it: A range of sustainability strategies, including rainwater collection and a heat-recovery system, allowed the building to receive LEED gold-level certification as a “green” facility.

Athletics

Penn State Berks offers 12 varsity athletic programs and competes as members of the NCAA Division III and North Eastern Athletic Conference (NEAC). The college also offers a variety of club and intramural sports. The recent completion of a new artificial turf athletic field enables the college to continue to expand its athletic programs and activities.

Scholarships

In 2014, Penn State Berks awarded $657,575 in total university scholarships to 425 student recipients.

Student Body Profile (Fall 2014)

UNDERGRADUATE

Enrollment: 2,828
Average Age: 21

Minority Enrollment

55.6% Male
44.4% Female

12.3% Part-time
87.7% Full-time

100% Part-time
0% Full-time

9.4% African American
2.5% International

3.8% Asian American
10.6% Hispanic American

GRADUATE

Enrollment: 11
Average Age: 33

Minority Enrollment

18% Male
82% Female

100% Part-time
0% Full-time

0% African American
0% International

0% Asian American
0% Hispanic American

Telephone Numbers

Chancellor’s Office:
Dr. R. Keith Hillkirk: Chancellor 610-396-6010
Dr. Paul Esqueda: Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs 610-396-6120

Admissions: 610-396-6060
Alumni Relations: 610-396-6057
Continuing Education: 610-396-6220
Development: 610-396-6056
Financial Aid: 610-396-6070
Library: 610-396-6339
Planning, Research & Assessment: 610-396-6389
Student Affairs: 610-396-6065
University Relations: 610-396-6053

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Outreach

Center for Service Learning and Community-Based Research is designed to be a forum for sharing knowledge, expertise, and training among faculty who practice service learning in their courses. Through service learning, students are connecting rigorous academic coursework with real issues facing our community. Students are both providing meaningful, hands-on assistance and developing a deeper and more complex understanding of core concepts in their fields. Several projects have been completed by the Center and many others are currently underway.

Penn State Educational Partnership Program (PEPP) is an early-intervention collaboration between Penn State Berks and the Reading School District. The mission of the program is to enhance academic preparedness and motivation levels in its participants to pursue higher education. Offered at no cost to participants, PEPP plans, develops, and implements education-related programs and activities for middle school and high school students. The PEPP partnership between the Reading School District and Penn State has existed for twenty-five years.

Berks Learning Factory integrates industry-sponsored design projects into both first-year and senior engineering design courses. Local industry benefits from fresh, new solutions for real-world design challenges generated by students and by building relationships with students who may serve as future interns and employee. Meanwhile, students benefit from gaining applied experience, which is essential in training future engineers to undertake design challenges with real-world constraints and parameters.

Creativity, Entrepreneurship, and Economic Development (CEED) Center seeks to inspire an entrepreneurial and creative spirit among students and to initiate partnerships with business and industry that foster economic growth for the local community. The CEED Center is an extension of the college’s Entrepreneurship and Innovation Minor. Since the CEED Center was established, it has sponsored Entrepreneurship Speaker Series panel discussions, and several collaborative initiatives have been undertaken between students, faculty, business and industry leaders, and members of organizations from around the world.

Continuing Education

The Penn State Berks Office of Continuing Education offers degree completion programs for adult learners; an accelerated B.S. in Business degree program; an M.B.A. program; an RN to BSN program; an M.Ed. in English as a Second Language; ESL certificates for educators; licensing and credentialing programs in human resources, cyber security, energy systems, business, project management, 2D/3D CAD, PLC for industry, and engineering; credit certificates; and professional workshops tailored to meet the needs of individual businesses and non-profit organizations. Several of these programs are offered directly at business locations in the community, making the education programs convenient and accessible.

Degree Programs

Undergraduate Degree Programs

ASSOCIATE
Business Administration
Information Sciences & Technology
Letters, Arts, and Sciences
Occupational Therapy

BACCALAUREATE
Accounting
Applied Psychology
Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Biology
Business
Childhood and Early Adolescent Education
Communication Arts & Sciences
Criminal Justice
Electro-Mechanical Engineering Technology
Global Studies
Hospitality Management
Information Sciences & Technology
Kinesiology
Mechanical Engineering
Organizational Leadership
Professional Writing
Rehabilitation and Human Sciences
Science
Security and Risk Analysis
Theatre

*Accelerated Business
(Offered in cooperation with Penn State Brandywine.)

Graduate Degree Programs

MBA
(Offered in cooperation with Penn State Great Valley)

M.Ed. Teaching English as a Second Language (ESL)
(Offered in cooperation with the University of Turabo.)

Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.

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