

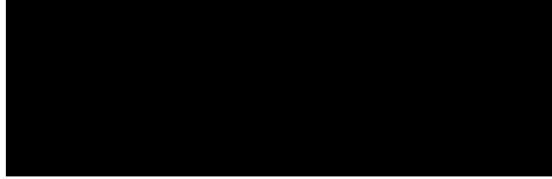
# An Overview

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## Statement of Purpose

### Mission

The mission of Union University, a higher education institution of the Tennessee Baptist Convention, is to provide quality undergraduate and graduate education to students of qualified preparation and good character in ways consistent with the following guiding principles:



### Guiding Principles

**Academic** : Union University is committed primarily to an undergraduate liberal arts education, including a required core curriculum of general education and opportunities for specialization in selected disciplines. Union expects undergraduate students to demonstrate competency in analytical skills and communication skills, knowledge of the cultural, social, historical, and scientific aspects of life, and an understanding of their chosen area of specialization.

Union also offers graduate programs in selected professional areas. Union expects graduate students to demonstrate within their disciplines advanced knowledge and skills. Graduates are expected to demonstrate both leadership and high performance.

**Christian Value** : Union University endeavors to give an articulate and vigorous witness to the Christian faith as the unifying principle around which one relates learning to life. Each student is encouraged to explore in depth the basis, meaning, and implications of his or her relationship to God in Jesus Christ. A distinctive part of Union's purpose is the preparation of students for leadership positions in churches.

**Development of the Whole Person**: Union University defines the whole person under the sovereignty of God to be a person of intellectual, spiritual, social, psychological, and physical dimensions. By means of a holistic educational process, Union University endeavors to approach students from these perspectives and to provide the atmosphere, opportunities, and resources for students to know wholeness within the context of a community of learners.

**Personal Attention**: Union University seeks to practice the Christian faith by demonstrating thoughtful concern for students and by giving personal attention to their needs, both inside and outside the classroom.

### The University's Goals

- To cultivate a Christian community which provides a person-centered, experience-oriented approach to students, faculty, staff, alumni, and other constituents.
- To provide strong educational programs within a highly respected academic environment.
- To admit only students capable of fulfilling completely the educational expectations of Union University.

- To ensure that Union University remains sensitive to students' financial needs by remaining an affordable institution of higher education.
- To increase enrollment and to provide additional personnel services, facilities, and equipment to meet the academic and personal needs of students.
- To provide the atmosphere and services associated with a predominantly residential campus consistent with the University's guiding principles.
- To foster Christian leadership, educate professional leaders, and provide services to the affiliated churches of the Tennessee Baptist Convention.
- To offer informational, artistic, and educational services in selected fields to the West Tennessee community and beyond.

## EXTERNAL ASSOCIATIONS

### Accredited By

Union University is accredited by the Council for American - Southern Colleges (1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097; Telephone 404-679-4501) to award baccalaureate and masters degrees. The University also has the following discipline-specific accreditation:

National Association of Music Teachers  
 National League of Nursing  
 National Endowment for the Arts  
 National Board of Christian Higher Education

The University is a candidate for the following discipline-specific accreditation:

Central European Association of Colleges and Schools

### Member Of

American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
 American Association for Colleges of Teacher Education  
 American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers  
 Associations for Christians in Student Development  
 Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs  
 Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools  
 Baptist Association for Student Affairs  
 Concurrent Admissions Program  
 Council for Christian Colleges and Universities  
 Council of Baccalaureate and Higher Degree Programs of the National League for Nursing  
 Council on Undergraduate Research  
 Council for the Advancement and Support of Education  
 National Art Education Association  
 National Association of College Admissions Counselors  
 Service Members Opportunity Colleges  
 Southern Council of Collegiate Education for Nursing  
 Tennessee Association for Counseling and Development  
 Tennessee Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers  
 Tennessee College Association

# THE CAMPUS

Student housing, arranged in three complexes (Hurt Complex, H.E. Watters Complex and McAfee Complex), features private bedrooms in apartment-like units. Each apartment is on one level in a 2-story construction. All lead to the three Commons Buildings which house the resident directors, provide facilities for lounge areas, laundry and recreation.

Married student housing is located in the Warmath Apartments, north of single-student housing. The complex consists of 32 two-bedroom apartments.

### **Hyran E. Barefoot Student Union Building**

The Barefoot Student Union Building houses the University's cafeteria and dining hall (Gilbert-Powers Student Commons), Coburn Dining Room, President's Dining Room, Lexington Inn, Eldon Byrd Faculty Lounge, George Harvey Lecture Hall, Campus Printing and Mail Services, offices for Student Services (Dean of Students, Student Government Association, Student Activities Council, Counseling, Health Services, and Campus Security), offices of Enrollment Management (Financial Aid, the Learning Center and Enrollment Services), and Campus Ministries (Missionary-In-Residence), Prayer Chapel, the Missionary Wall, and the offices for *L* *F* and *C* *C* .

### **The University's History**

Union University is an heir of three antebellum Tennessee schools—West Tennessee College and its predecessor, Jackson Male Academy, both located at Jackson, and of Union University, located at Murfreesboro—and it is the inheritor of another college in 1927, Hall-Moody Junior College of Martin.

Jackson Male Academy, founded in 1823 shortly after the opening of West Tennessee for settlement, was chartered by the legislature in 1825, making it the earliest school whose roots are linked with what later became the Southern Baptist Convention.

West Tennessee College originated in the mid-1840s when supporters of the Academy secured a charter for a college and received an endowment from the state to come from the sale of public lands. Under its charter, the property rights and governance of the Jackson Male Academy were vested in the trustees of the College. The College offered three degrees—bachelor of arts, bachelor of philosophy, and master of arts—and had four departments: Moral Philosophy, Languages, Mathematics, and Natural Philosophy and Chemistry. West Tennessee College continued until 1874, when at a time of depressed economic conditions, the trustees offered the College's buildings, grounds, and endowment to Tennessee Baptists in the hopes of attracting a southwestern regional university planned by the state's Baptist leaders.

Meanwhile, after years of discussion and the raising of an endowment, the Baptist General Assembly of Tennessee in 1848 established Union University at Murfreesboro, near the geographical center of the state. Union University came upon hard times when in 1859 its highly respected president, Dr. Eaton, died and when during the Civil War its campus was badly damaged. It reopened in 1868 only to close again in 1873, largely because of its financial condition and an epidemic of cholera.

Southwestern Baptist University, the immediate predecessor of the present Union University, originated because of a desire by Tennessee Baptists, who still had a separate convention for each of the state's three Grand Divisions, for greater unification. Education became the core issue around which such unification was promoted. Committees of the three conventions met jointly in Humboldt in 1873 and issued a resolution supporting the establishment of a first-class regional university. An Educational Convention met in Murfreesboro in 1874, and following that a committee was appointed to select a location for the proposed university. The committee recommended the accep-

