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Purdue University

Purdue University is one of the 68 land-grant colleges and universities which owe their origin to the Land-Grant Act of 1862, otherwise known as the Morrill Act. Three years after the act's passage, the General Assembly of Indiana voted to begin preliminary plans for a school devoted primarily to the agricultural and mechanical arts.

In 1869 the Assembly voted to accept a gift of land and money from John Purdue and other generous Lafayette citizens and, in appreciation, declared the name of the new institution to be Purdue University. The University is supported mainly by state appropriations, supplemented by federal grants.

Actual instruction began in 1874 with 39 students and a faculty of six. Today Purdue University enrolls more than 47,000 students at the West Lafayette Campus and regional campuses at Fort Wayne, Hammond, and Westville.

All instructional and research work is organized under a director for continuing education and under an academic dean for each of the following schools: School of Agriculture (including agricultural engineering, and forestry and natural resources); School of Consumer and Family Sciences; Schools of Engineering (including Aeronautics and Astronautics, Chemical, Civil, Electrical, Industrial, Materials, Mechanical, and Nuclear Engineering; the departments of Agricultural Engineering and Freshman Engineering; and Division of Interdisciplinary Engineering Studies); School of Humanities, Social Science, and Education; School of Management; Schools of Pharmacy and Pharmacal Sciences, Nursing, and Health Sciences; School of Science; School of Technology; and School of Veterinary Medicine.

Extensive experiment stations in both engineering and agriculture are maintained by the University. The Cooperative Extensive Service, through the county agents, services the entire state. A variety of courses is offered through the conferences and continuation services programs sponsored by the University.