BETHUNE-COOKMAN UNIVERSITY PROFILE
Fall 2026

Bethune-Cookman University (B-CU), founded in 1904 by Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, is a historically Black, United Methodist Church-related, private, coeducational, residential university offering undergraduate and graduate degrees, and non-degree certificate programs. Located in the Atlantic coast city of Daytona Beach, Florida, the University's main campus consisting of 62 academic, administrative, and student support buildings spanning over 86 acres of land is accessible from interstate highways 4 and 95, and Daytona Beach International Airport. B-CU operates John Miller Center, an off-campus instructional site located in Hastings, Florida, to offer six undergraduate degree programs and relevant courses through weekend and evening classes.

The mission of Bethune-Cookman University is to educate a diverse community of learners to become responsible, productive citizens and solution seekers through the promotion of faith, scholarship, creative endeavors, leadership and service. (Revised and approved by the B-CU Board of Trustees, January 17, 2020)

B-CU is classified by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education as Baccalaureate Colleges: Arts & Sciences Focus. The University is authorized by the Florida Commission for Independent Education to operate in the state of Florida and is a member of the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA).

Bethune-Cookman University is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award the baccalaureate and master's degrees. Bethune-Cookman University also may offer credentials such as certificates and diplomas at approved degree levels. Questions about the accreditation of Bethune-Cookman University may be directed in writing to Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, GA 30033-4097, by calling 404-679-4500, or by using information available on SACSCOC's website (www.sacscoc.org).

B-CU is also accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN); the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM); Florida Department of Education (FLDOE); Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP); Commission on Accreditation for Athletic Training Education (CAATE); Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET). Additionally, B-CU is recognized as a Program of Merit (POM) by the Academy for Gerontology in Higher Education (AGHE)–one of the Gerontological Societies of America's (GSA) six membership groups.

B-CU is approved for listing as a United Methodist Church-affiliated University by the University Senate of General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM) of the United Methodist Church. The University is a member of the United Negro College Fund (UNCF); the Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida (ICUF) association for non-profit, private, educational institutions; the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) - Division I and affiliated with the Southwestern Athletic Conference (SWAC) since 2021. B-CU offers athletic opportunities in varsity sports for Women in basketball, softball, tennis, track/field, cross-country, volleyball and golf; and for Men in baseball, basketball, football, track/field, and cross-country.

B-CU offers 52 Degree programs (42 undergraduate; 10 graduate including 1 accelerated 3+2) through five academic Colleges: Arts and Humanities; Business & Entrepreneurship; Education; Nursing and Health Sciences; and Sciences, Engineering & Mathematics to award Bachelor's and Master's degrees and Post-Baccalaureate Certificates. Top five undergraduate fields of study are Pre-Nursing, Business Administration, Psychology, Criminal Justice and Health & Exercise Science.

Total Full-Time teaching faculty = 130, of whom 37% hold terminal degrees and 16% have tenure. Faculty-student ratio = 1:17

During the 2025-26 academic year, B-CU awarded 363 degrees (327 Bachelor's; 36 Master's) and 6 Post-Baccalaureate Certificates. Retention of first-year students returning for a second year is 63% and six-year cohort graduation rate is 34%. Our graduates are employed in sectors such as business, education, media, government, medical and healthcare.

Fall 2026 Headcount Enrollment = 3,607 (3,472 Undergraduate; 122 Graduate; 13 Non-degree seeking) and Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) =3,551. Of the total students enrolled, 64% are female and 36% are male students; 82% are from Florida State, 15% are from out-of-state; and 3% represent the Caribbean Islands and over 30 foreign countries.

Currently there are 14 University operated residential facilities to house over 2,400 students. There are approximately 40 chartered student organizations including social fraternities and sororities.

2026-27 Total Undergraduate Cost of Attendance = $26,924 (Annual tuition/fees = $15,534; Room/Board = $11,390)

B-CU's Economic Impact for FY 2025 is $269,668523 million producing 3437 full- and part-time jobs in FY2025.