

# Campus Facts

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Where is CSU, Northridge located?**

We are located approximately 25 miles from downtown LA in the San Fernando Valley.

### **How big is Northridge?**

356 acres

### **How many students attend Northridge?**

We are the second largest CSU campus with a diverse population of over 35,000 students.

### **What is the student/faculty ratio?**

The average undergraduate class size is 30. The student faculty ratio is 20:1

### **How many majors are there available?**

There are 64 Bachelor degrees available and 52 Master degree programs along with 28 credential programs and a variety of internship opportunities.

### **How many colleges does Northridge have?**

We are comprised of 9 Academic Colleges:

- Arts, Media and Communication
- Business and Economics
- Education (Michael D. Eisner)
- Engineering and Computer Sciences
- Extended Learning
- Health and Human Development
- Humanities
- Science and Mathematics
- Social and Behavioral Sciences

### **How many students receive financial aid?**

About 60% of our undergraduates receive financial aid support.

### **How do I apply for financial aid?**

Students must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by **March 2**. Forms are usually available in November and students can pick them up in their high school guidance office, college financial aid offices, or junior college transfer centers. Filling out the form determines whether or not a student can qualify for grants, loans, and scholarships from the federal government, state government (if California Residents) and the University. Students are encouraged to apply through [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

### **Does California State University, Northridge offer scholarships?**

YES! We offer many different kinds of scholarship opportunities and if you are interested in a complete list contact the Financial Aid Office at 818. 677.4085.

### **Is Northridge on a quarter or semester system?**

We are on the Semester system. The first semester usually starts in late August and ends in mid-December. There are intercession classes available during the January break. Classes begin for the spring semester usually during the last week of January and end in mid May.

### **How many clubs and organizations are there for student involvement?**

There is over 250 clubs and organizations for students to get involved in that help meet the social, cultural, political and academic needs.

### **Are there study abroad programs or exchange opportunities?**

Students have the opportunity to continue their studies in 19 countries. Students maintain home-campus residency, financial aid eligibility and earn full academic credit. The costs are very affordable because you pay Northridge registration fees and are not required to pay foreign tuition. Contact the Office of Student Development and International Programs at 818.677.3053 or stop by their office located in the University Student Union for further information.

### **What division do we compete in?**

NCAA 1A, Big West Conference and others. Contact the athletic department for further information or to speak directly to a coach. Their number is 818.677.3208.

**How many intercollegiate sports does Northridge compete in?**

Division I teams compete in baseball, basketball (men and women), cross-country (men and women), golf (men and women), soccer (men and women), softball, swimming and diving (men and women), tennis (women), track and field (men and women), volleyball (women), and water polo (women). Call Athletics at 818.677.3208 for more specific information or to contact individual coaches.

**Does CSUN have intramural sports?**

Yes, the ASREC/Intramural Sports Program provides the opportunity for students, faculty and staff of California State University, Northridge to engage in individual and team activities in various skill levels.

**Are there any Fraternities or Sororities on campus?**

There are 41 fraternities and sororities on this campus. There are professional, social, honor and independent fraternities and sororities.

**How old is Cal State Northridge?**

We are celebrating our 49th year this year. We were founded as San Fernando Valley State College in 1958 before changing our name to California State University, Northridge in 1972.

**Who is the campus President?**

Dr. Jolene Koester

**What is the Campus Web Portal?**

The campus web portal provides access for CSUN faculty, staff, and students to restricted web pages and commonly accessed campus sites. Among the sites available via the portal are student financial records, class registration, faculty grade sheets, and other PeopleSoft applications.

**Who is my advisor?**

The department will assign you an academic advisor and they will contact you over the summer, prior to registration to discuss your personal academic needs and goals.

**How do I declare my major?**

Students are expected to declare their major by the conclusion of the semester in which they complete 60 units. Each semester, students who have not declared a major and have complete 60 units toward the degree, will be required to obtain academic advisement at the Advising Resource Center/EOP. Until students have obtained such advisement, they will not be able to register.

**How safe is the Northridge campus?**

Many precautions have been taken to ensure the safety of the students here on campus. We have a full-time police force of California State Police, a Community Service Officers Division that provides escort services; the Residential Life Department also has an in house security force that checks identification of residents and guests and has nightly walking patrols. You may contact Public Safety at 818.677.2111 for further information.

**What are impacted majors and which ones are they?**

An impacted major has additional admission requirements and interested applicants should contact the department of the interested major directly to find out the qualifications. The following Cal State Northridge undergraduate programs are impacted:

- Accounting
- Finance

**Is CSUN a commuter school?**

Although most of Northridge's students do not live on campus and there are a number of non-traditional students, CSUN offers many programs and activities for every student to participate in and make their college experience more pleasurable. There are approximately 250 clubs and organizations on campus, therefore helping to dispel the "commuter school" label. These clubs and organizations cater to individual needs of students and can be contacted through the Matador Involvement Center at 818.677.5111.

**Do students have to pay for parking?**

Yes, permits are required the first day of class each semester in ALL Lots. Passes cost \$180.00 per semester or \$360.00 annually.

Two lots (B2 & E6) have parking spaces with solar panels. In addition to the benefit of shaded parking lots for students and staff, these panels lower electricity costs for the university and create a cleaner atmosphere.

**Does the University provide transportation to area shops or food stores?**

No, however there is public transportation that stops on campus several times during the day. Many students also find it convenient to use a bicycle.

## QUICK FACTS

### **Accreditation**

Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC)

California State Board of Education; department and programs individually accredited.

### **Fall 2006 Student Demographics**

Enrollment -----	more than 35,000
Men -----	40%
Women -----	60%
Undergraduate Average Age-----	23.6
Graduate Average Age-----	34.5
Average Age of All Students-----	26.1

### **Ethnicity Profile\***

African American -----	8.0%
American Indian -----	0.5%
Asian American -----	8.2%
Latino -----	26.4%
White -----	32.1%

\*For students who indicated an ethnicity; summarized from CSU Statistical Abstract.

### **CAL STATE NORTHRIDGE HIGHLIGHTS (SPRING 2007)**

- Cal State Northridge, part of the 23-campus Cal State system, is one of the largest single-campus universities in the nation and the only public university in Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley.
- Cal State Northridge set an all-time Northridge campus enrollment record in fall 2006 with 34,560 students, a 4 percent increase from 2005, reflecting the university's growing prominence.
- Cal State Northridge has provided credit classes to more than 500,000 students and awarded degrees to about 190,000 graduates since the university's founding in 1958.
- Cal State Northridge's attractive suburban campus covers 356 acres and features nearly 4 million square feet of facilities, including more than 30 major buildings with state-of-the-art technology.
- Cal State Northridge is a major force in its region, with an annual economic impact of nearly \$700 million and responsible for nearly 12,000 jobs, through direct employment and local spending.
- Cal State Northridge plans to begin construction during 2007 on a 1,700-seat regional Performing Arts Center complex to serve the San Fernando Valley region, with completion due by 2009.
- Cal State Northridge ranks second in the nation among all master's-level universities in graduating students who later earned research doctoral degrees from 1995 to 2004.
- Cal State Northridge is California's leading public university in preparing future teachers and has been honored by the Carnegie Corporation of New York as a national leader in the field.
- Cal State Northridge is celebrating the naming of its new Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication, honoring a record \$10 million gift from the chairman/founder of Curb Records and California's former lieutenant governor, who also is a Northridge alumnus.
- Cal State Northridge's College of Engineering and Computer Science has been ranked among the nation's best undergraduate engineering programs by *U.S. News and World Report* magazine for 2007.
- Cal State Northridge ranks 5<sup>th</sup> in the nation for bachelor's degrees awarded to Hispanic students and 11<sup>th</sup> in the nation for bachelor's degrees awarded to all minority students (2004-2005).

***With more than 34,000 students and 4,000 employees, Cal State Northridge is the intellectual, economic and cultural heart of the San Fernando Valley and beyond.***

## **NOTABLE CSUN ALUMNI**

### **Actors**

- Jenna Elfman, Actor, “Dharma & Greg”
- Chris Kattan, Actor, “Saturday Night Live,” “Corky Romano”
- Cheech Marin, Actor, “Nash Bridges” & “Cheech & Chong” Movies
- Eva Mendes, Actor. “Training Day,” “2 Fast 2 Furious”

### **Business**

- Steve Crossland, President, Intercollegiate Enterprises (sports merchandising)
- Tony Palma, President/CEO, Easton Sports (largest producer of baseball bats)
- Larry Twersky, Founder of 1-800-DENTIST

### **Entertainment Executives, Producers, and Directors**

- Michael Bessolo, Senior V.P. Marketing, Walt Disney Records
- Mike Curb, Chairman, Curb Records (former California Lt. Gov.)
- Don Hahn, Executive Producer of “The Lion King” and other Disney Animated Features
- Ronald Lynch, Senior V.P., Walt Disney Motion Pictures Group

### **Government and Politics**

- Richard Alarcon, California State Senator
- Robert Axel, Los Angeles Superior Court Commissioner
- Manuel Covarubias, Ventura County Superior Court Judge
- Linda Lingle, Governor of Hawaii

### **In Space**

- Scott Horowitz, NASA Space Shuttle Astronaut
- John Stoltz, inventor of the Transponder Landing System

### **Media and Journalism**

- Frank del Olmo, Los Angeles Times Associate Editor
- David Gerrold, Author of “Star Trek” Television Episode “The Trouble with Tribbles”
- Robert Hilburn, Los Angeles Times Pop Music Critic
- Dennis McCarthy, Columnist, Los Angeles Daily News

### **Singers, Songwriters and Musicians**

- Paula Abdul, Award-Winning Choreographer, Actress and Singer
- Andy Summers, Guitarist for The Police
- Diane Warren, Oscar and Grammy-Nominated Songwriter (“Unbreak My Heart”)

### **Sports**

- Bob Burns, Professional Golfer
- Robert Fick, Detroit Tigers Catcher
- Florence Griffith Joyner, 1984 and 1988 Olympic Track Medallist (deceased)
- Adam Kennedy, Anaheim Angels Second Baseman
- Bob Samuelson, Volleyball Star and 1992 Olympic Bronze Medallist

### **The Arts**

- Judith Baca, Pioneering Muralist, Creator of “The Great Wall of Los Angeles”
- Greg Evans, Cartoonist/Creator of “Luann” Comic Strip
- Steve Howard, Emmy Award-Winning Costume Designer