



DONNELLY COLLEGE

Transforming people. Transforming places. Transforming spirits.

1949-2009 A Legacy of Access

The Donnelly College story began with a bold vision from Sister Jerome Keeler and the Benedictine Sisters of Mount St. Scholastica – to create a Catholic community college to serve the urban core of Kansas City and increase access to higher education. When the Archdiocese of Kansas City in Kansas generously offered a building, the vision became a reality in 1949. Sixty years later, the college's original mission rooted in Catholic social teachings still thrives.

Donnelly is an anchor in Kansas City, Kansas, consciously deciding to locate and remain in the urban core. The College first served immigrant families from Ireland and Eastern Europe that largely populated Kansas City, Kansas and worked in the city's meat packing houses. Additional students came from across the region to gain a high-quality, affordable liberal arts education and make their first strides toward a college degree. Today, we increasingly serve students from across the KC metro with our unique programming and educational offerings.

Although the faces of Donnelly students look different over the decades, their life challenges have remained remarkably similar. Donnelly's Benedictine and Catholic values have always created a learning environment where students gain support and achieve success, regardless of whether they are the first in their family to attend college, come from low-income settings, or are a first or second-generation citizen of this country.

NOTABLE FACT: Donnelly College was the second two-year college in the Kansas City metropolitan area.

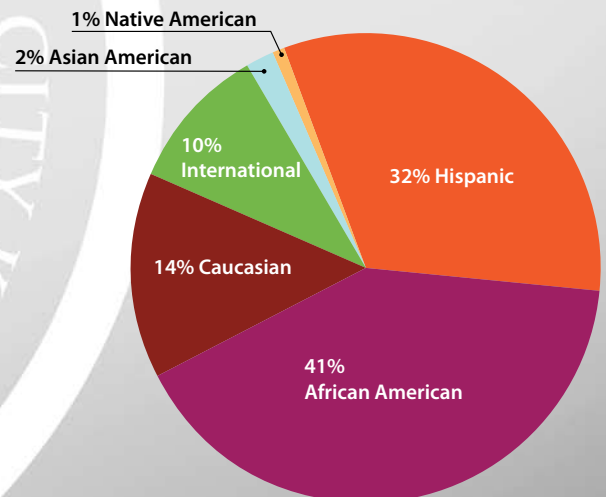
Donnelly Students

According to national research, **low-income students, students of color, and first generation students are significantly less likely to attend or complete college.** Yet these are exactly the students that Donnelly educates. Of the more than 1,100 students we serve each year:

- 78% of our current students have annual family income levels less than \$33,000.
- 78% are first-generation college students – a rate more than twice as high as in four-year institutions nationally.
- 86% of our student population is from diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds.

NOTABLE FACT: Donnelly is the only college in the four-state region to be federally designated as a **Hispanic Serving Institution** as well as a **Minority Serving Institution**.

DONNELLY STUDENTS, 2007-08



Donnelly's Focus

Today, Donnelly focuses on offering programs, financial policies and student support structures that increase college access and success for those underserved in higher education, particularly low-income students.

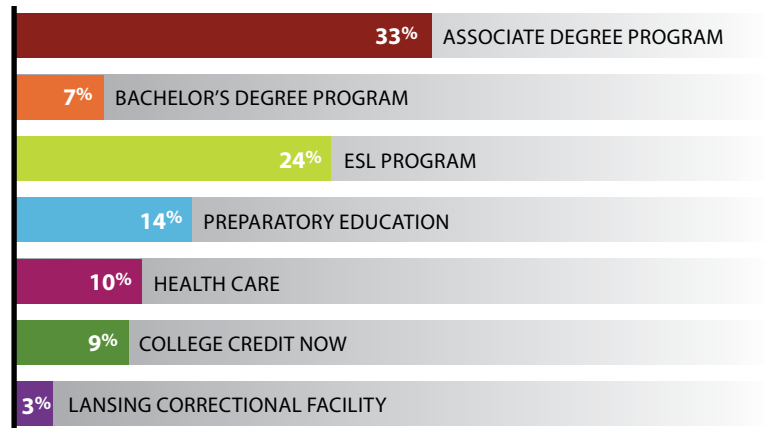
Distinct Educational Offerings

To advance educational access, Donnelly first adheres to an open admissions policy – accepting all high school graduates and GED holders regardless of ACT scores. Donnelly then provides numerous educational programs tailored to meet students' various educational needs, such as:

- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Preparatory Education (college-readiness) program
- Associate degree programs
- Licensed Practical Nursing program (LPN)
- Healthcare Certificate Training (CNA, CMA, HHA, Pharmacy Tech)
- Bachelor's degree program (Organizational Leadership)
- Individualized tutoring and academic support services
- Accredited satellite campus at Lansing Correctional Facility
- Summer enrichment programs for secondary school students
- College credit while in high school
- Continuing Education classes for non-degree seekers

NOTABLE FACT: Donnelly offers a Residence Hall and a variety of student life activities, including **DC** Soccer Clubs, campus ministry, service organizations, honor societies, volunteer and student leadership opportunities.

STUDENT CREDIT HOURS BY PROGRAM, 2007-08



DONNELLY STUDENTS BY THE NUMBERS...

29% Full-time students

13 Students in a typical class

41% Catholic

27 Average age



Why Donnelly?

Besides programming options that can't be found elsewhere, students choose Donnelly for many reasons:

- small class sizes with intensive instruction
- convenient location in the heart of KCK
- diverse student body make-up that lends comfort and confidence
- less-daunting campus size
- open admissions access
- substantial financial aid support making it one of the most affordable college options in KC.

Donnelly students, though often classified as "at-risk" to graduate college, achieve success here for several reasons:

- multiple student support services (tutoring center, supplemental instruction, academic coaching and mentoring)
- nurturing, family atmosphere
- individualized attention
- belief in each student's potential
- high-quality faculty.

Donnelly's rare approach to offering higher education to the underserved is rooted in...

- Catholic Social Teaching, including the belief that every person has a right to an education as well as the duty to work for the advancement of the common good
- Benedictine values of hospitality, community and discipline
- a commitment to live within our means and put student support (financial, academic or social) as our utmost priority

NOTABLE FACT: Donnelly's operating model to increase access to higher education is a national leader – one of only seven schools nationally that operates in similar fashion and focus.



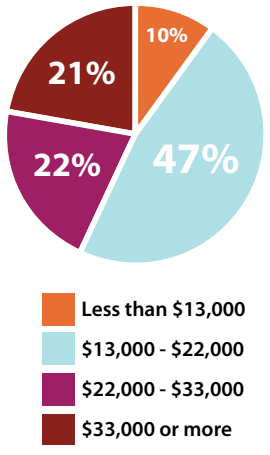


Reducing the financial barrier

For most Donnelly students, cost – not ability – is the single biggest hurdle of achieving a college education. Donnelly takes aggressive measures to help our students access a private education.

- Tuition costs are kept low. Rates are \$187 per credit hour, or \$5,610 a year for a full-time student taking 15 hours in each semester.
- 65% of our students receive Pell Grant assistance, a rate more than twice the national average.
- Donnelly leverages institutional scholarships with state and federal financial aid.
- 92% of Donnelly’s non-international students receive financial assistance.
- Donnelly aims to graduate students without student loan debt.
- Tuition covers only two-thirds of the cost of education, making Donnelly’s Annual Fund a critical source of program support and scholarship aid.

STUDENTS’ FAMILY INCOME LEVELS



NOTABLE FACT: Donnelly has the lowest hourly tuition of any private college in Kansas or Missouri – and is also less expensive than most private high schools in the region.

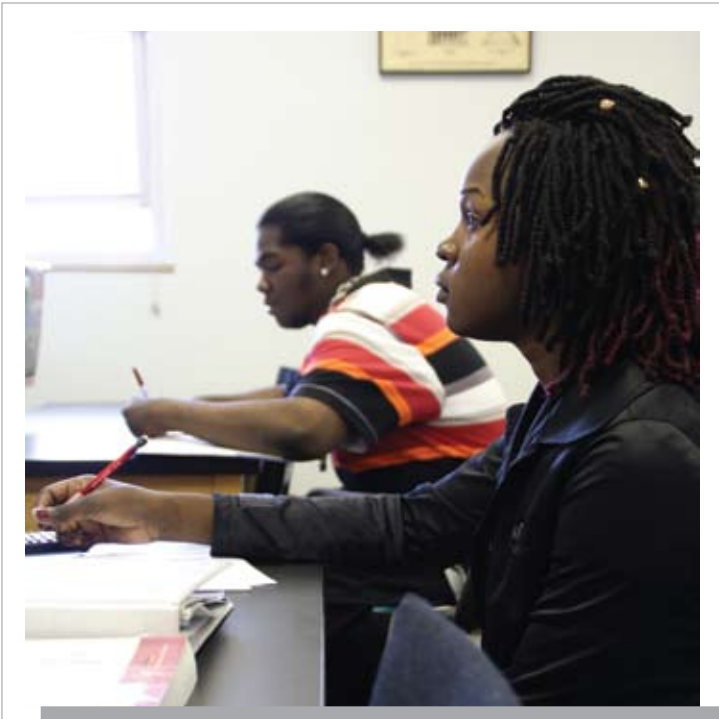
Enabling Transformations

Donnelly is proud of the astounding transformations we witness each year in our students. Of our associate degree graduates, 92% go on to pursue a four-year degree at prominent regional institutions, such as Rockhurst University, UMKC, Emporia State University, Kansas State University, Kansas University and Park University.

Regardless of a student’s individual hurdles – whether it be academic, financial or social – Donnelly helps students overcome them. One example is found in our Preparatory Education program. Because of our open access policy and student focus, Donnelly admits freshmen testing into preparatory courses at a rate higher than the national level. Yet with our intensive instructional model, *Donnelly’s semester-to-semester retention rate is consistently higher than the national average for these students.*

Donnelly’s alumni – totaling more than 30,000 – have had a profound impact on Kansas City and across the country through their careers as nurses, teachers, doctors, dentists, pastors, police officers, lawyers and judges, civic leaders and entrepreneurs. Recent graduates are being placed in leading Kansas City institutions, including Cerner Corporation, Children’s Mercy Hospital, the EPA, Unified Government of Wyandotte County and the Kansas City Kansas School District.

Through Donnelly College, people, places and spirits are continually transformed. The college experience at Donnelly affects students’ lives and spirits throughout their lifespan in immeasurable ways. Further, the whole community is impacted as our citizens realize their educational aspirations, earn more and provide public revenue, and engage in more civically-involved lifestyles. It is our mission to help every individual reach this potential.



Our Mission

Donnelly College is a Catholic institution of higher education that seeks to continue to the mission of Jesus Christ in our time by making the love of God tangible in our world. Specifically, the mission of Donnelly College is to provide education and community services with personal concern for the needs and abilities of each student, especially those who might not otherwise be served.



Want to support Donnelly?

There are many ways you can help!

VOLUNTEER | Numerous volunteer opportunities exist, varying in scope of time and commitment throughout the college. Visit donnelly.edu/volunteer to learn how you can impact the next generation of Donnelly students.

GIVE | Make a financial gift to support Donnelly's mission. Your gift can be designated to scholarships, specific programs, endowment or our most urgent needs. Visit donnelly.edu/give.

CELEBRATE | Attend and sponsor our Annual Scholarship Fundraiser celebrating "The Road Less Traveled" at Donnelly College. For event information, visit donnelly.edu/dinner.

TELL A FRIEND | Share Donnelly's unique story and opportunities with a friend. For an electronic copy of this brochure, visit donnelly.edu/about.

REFER A STUDENT | Know someone looking to further their education? Invite them to explore Donnelly's unique learning environment by visiting donnelly.edu/newstudent.

STAY IN TOUCH | Sign up for Donnelly's quarterly newsletter for friends and alumni, the Donnelly Digest, at donnelly.edu/digest. You can always get the most current news and event information at donnelly.edu.

