

WHITTIER COLLEGE

13406 PHILADELPHIA STREET, WHITTIER, CA 90608 • ADMISSIONS: 562-907-4238 • FAX: 562-907-4870

CAMPUS LIFE

Quality of Life Rating	70
Fire Safety Rating	84
Green Rating	71
Type of school	private
Environment	city

STUDENTS

Total undergrad enrollment	1,361
% male/female	47/53
% from out of state	27
% frosh live on campus	86
% ugrads live on campus	60
# of fraternities (% ugrad men join)	4 (14)
# of sororities (% ugrad women join)	5 (20)
% African American	6
% Asian	9
% Caucasian	41
% Hispanic	30
% Native American	1
% international	2
# of countries represented	24

SURVEY SAYS . . .

Great library
Diverse student types on campus
Great off-campus food
Student publications are popular
Lots of beer drinking

ACADEMICS

Academic Rating	79
% students graduating within 4 years	55
% students graduating within 6 years	61
Calendar	4/1/4
Student/faculty ratio	13:1
Profs interesting rating	81
Profs accessible rating	79
Most classes have 10–19 students.	
Most lab/discussion sessions have 20–29 students.	

MOST POPULAR MAJORS

criminal justice; biology/biological sciences;
psychology

STUDENTS SAY “. . .”

Academics

At tiny Whittier College in California, there's a proud emphasis placed on the interconnectedness of all of the liberal arts disciplines. Students are challenged to learn things relevant to their field and "encouraged to take courses in seemingly unrelated fields and then make connections to see how they actually all relate." In being allowed "to pursue their educations in a comfortable and friendly environment," students enjoy how the school allows for a "strengthening of student integrity" by providing a tight-knit community. Professors are "all passionate about their subject material," and their understanding and flexibility are spoken of highly; although "a course [may be] geared to a particular subject, the professors make it a point to relate the discipline to others we may be interested in, too." "All of your professors will know you by name, and not by number, because you matter to them." Aside from being knowledgeable and sincere, faculty also help students to "pursue larger goals in life," and encourage students "to take their own initiative in developing their goals and future." Small class sizes (and an "amazing" range of classes) at Whittier provide students with the opportunity to ask questions and to receive personalized attention, and teachers "make you feel welcome and always informed." Academics are "challenging, but not...difficult to where it is impossible." Whittier also offers a January term to help students graduate on time [or] early, and there's free tutoring to help with homework and studies. Internships, work study, and leadership are all available starting as a freshman, and it's "easy to travel abroad." Basically, "If you utilize the resources available on campus, you can truly make your own experience."

Life

When schoolwork is done, busy Whittier students "do their best to promote their own strengths in extracurricular activities." This is a true California school at heart, and "You can always find students laying out on the quad soaking up the beautiful Southern California sun." "On sunny days (which is basically everyday), I have seen slip-n-slides on the quad." The whole town "is supportive of Whittier College," and "There are several unique mom-and-pop shops and eateries throughout Uptown, along with a movie theater," all within walking distance. Still, a lot of students get out of Whittier by driving to Los Angeles or the nearby beach, and "getting a Disneyland annual pass is very popular." In recent years, housing has been overcrowded, resulting in some busy cafeterias and creative living arrangements. On weekends, some "like to party at the houses off campus that certain students rent out," but for those who don't, there are a "lot of on-campus activities are offered in the evening." "The school does not revolve around the 'party scene' like other campuses, although one does exist if it's desired," says a student. Societies, intramurals, and clubs on campus "are constantly organizing events" though some commuter students who aren't able to participate in these events speak of feeling disconnected from the Whittier community.

Student Body

Predictably, there are a number of California natives at Whittier, but those from out-of-state find themselves happily adopted. Students here are extremely friendly and "mostly fit in with their types," but there's a fair amount of cross-pollination among the groups because "everyone sort of meets each other in all the different classes." Everyone at Whittier "has a niche," and for the most part, "Everyone respects, as well as embraces, each others' uniqueness." The Division III school is athletically inclined, and a fair number of people play sports, though "it's not 'that' athletic of a student body."

THE PRINCETON REVIEW SAYS

Admissions

Very important factors considered include: Application essay, rigor of secondary school record. *Important factors considered include:* GPA, recommendation(s), standardized test scores, character/personal qualities, extracurricular activities, interview, talent/ability, volunteer work. *Other factors considered include:* Class rank, alumni/ae relations, first generation, geographical residence, racial/ethnic status, state residency, work experience. SAT or ACT required; ACT with Writing component required. TOEFL required of all international applicants. High school diploma is required and GED is accepted. *Academic units required:* 3 English; 2 mathematics; 1 science; (1 science lab); 2 foreign language; 1 social studies. *Academic units recommended:* 4 English; 3 mathematics; 2 science; 3 foreign language; 2 social studies.

Financial Aid

Students should submit: FAFSA, institution's own financial aid form. Regular filing deadline is 6/30. The Princeton Review suggests that all financial aid forms be submitted as soon as possible after January 1. *Need-based scholarships/grants offered:* Federal Pell, SEOG, state scholarships/grants, private scholarships, the school's own gift aid. *Loan aid offered:* Direct Subsidized Stafford Loans, Direct Unsubsidized Stafford Loans, Direct PLUS loans, Federal Perkins Loans. Federal Work-Study Program available. Off-campus job opportunities are good.

The Inside Word

Whittier is looking for well-rounded students, and so activities and recommendations are just as important as scores and grades—the admissions office hates to focus just on numbers. Though 65 percent of students hail from California, no preference is given to state of origin. Through the Whittier Scholars program, students may construct a personalized major that fits academic and career goals.

THE SCHOOL SAYS “. . .”

From the Admissions Office

“Faculty and students at Whittier share a love of learning and delight in the life of the mind. They join in understanding the value of the intellectual quest, the use of reason, and a respect for values. They seek knowledge of their own culture and the informed appreciation of other traditions, and they explore the interrelatedness of knowledge and the connections among disciplines. An extraordinary community emerges from teachers and students representing a variety of academic pursuits, individuals who have come together at Whittier in the belief that study within the liberal arts forms the best foundation for rewarding endeavor throughout a lifetime.

“Whittier College is a vibrant, residential, four-year liberal arts institution where intellectual inquiry and experiential learning are fostered in a community that promotes respect for diversity of thought and culture. A Whittier College education produces enthusiastic, independent thinkers who flourish in graduate studies, the evolving global workplace, and life.”

SELECTIVITY

Admissions Rating	74
# of applicants	2,263
% of applicants accepted	72
% of acceptees attending	22

FRESHMAN PROFILE

Range SAT Critical Reading	470–580
Range SAT Math	470–590
Range SAT Writing	470–570
Range ACT Composite	19–25
Minimum paper TOEFL	550
Average HS GPA	3.1
% graduated top 10% of class	30
% graduated top 25% of class	42
% graduated top 50% of class	82

DEADLINES

Early action	
Deadline	12/1
Notification	12/30
Regular	
Priority	2/1
Nonfall registration?	Yes

APPLICANTS ALSO LOOK AT AND OFTEN PREFER

University of Redlands; Occidental College

AND SOMETIMES PREFER

Loyola Marymount University

AND RARELY PREFER

Chapman University

FINANCIAL FACTS

Financial Aid Rating	76
Annual tuition	\$36,632
Room and board	\$10,428
Required fees	\$360
Books and supplies	\$1,638
% needy frosh rec. need-based scholarship or grant aid	89
% needy UG rec. need-based scholarship or grant aid	92
% needy frosh rec. non-need-based scholarship or grant aid	10
% needy UG rec. non-need-based scholarship or grant aid	7
% needy frosh rec. need-based self-help aid	87
% needy UG rec. need-based self-help aid	89
% frosh rec. any financial aid	92
% UG rec. any financial aid	89
% UG borrow to pay for school	67
Average cumulative indebtedness	\$24,687
% frosh need fully met	14
% ugrads need fully met	12
Average % of frosh need met	78
Average % of ugrad need met	74