

# General Information

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## Mission of the University of Alabama in Huntsville

The University of Alabama in Huntsville is a research-intensive, internationally recognized technological university serving Alabama and beyond. Our mission is to explore, discover, create, and communicate knowledge, while educating individuals in leadership, innovation, critical thinking, and civic responsibility and inspiring a passion for learning.

## History

The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) is a part of the University of Alabama System. In June 1969, the University of Alabama Board of Trustees established the University of Alabama System with three independent, autonomous campuses at Huntsville, Birmingham, and Tuscaloosa. Each campus has a separate president who reports to the Board of Trustees through the chancellor of the system.

Academic programs were initiated in Huntsville in 1950; in 1963 degree opportunities at the master's level were provided and in 1964, at the baccalaureate level. The first master's degree based on work begun and completed in Huntsville was awarded in 1964 and the first undergraduate degrees in 1968. Doctoral programs were initiated in physics and engineering in 1971, and the School of Nursing was established the same year. In 1974, in a component of the Alabama School of Medicine, the first full-time medical students began their core clinical experience in Huntsville. (These programs were transferred to direct UAB management in 1995). In the two decades of the 1970s and 1980s, UAH implemented a broad range of undergraduate degree programs; established master's programs in the liberal arts, nursing, and business administration; initiated professional degree programs at both the graduate and undergraduate levels; and inaugurated selected Ph.D. programs in high-technology fields in the sciences and engineering.

UAH is focused to meet the specific needs of scientific and technological enterprises and the cultural and intellectual needs of a rapidly expanding region. It is UAH's intention to be innovative, even experimental, to explore what is new, to evaluate existing programs continually, to develop and establish curricula and pedagogical techniques calculated to help students live and perform well in a complicated environment.

## Accreditation

UAH is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) to award bachelor's, master's, specialist, and doctoral degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of UAH.

Several UAH programs are accredited by their respective accrediting agencies. Academic programs in chemistry are accredited by the American Chemical Society. Eight undergraduate engineering programs (aerospace engineering, chemical, civil, computer, electrical, industrial and systems, optical, and mechanical) are accredited by the ABET, Inc. Both undergraduate and graduate programs in nursing are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education. Computer science holds accreditation from the Computing Accreditation Commission of ABET, Inc. All programs, both undergraduate and graduate, in the College of Business are accredited by the American Assembly of Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB). In addition, the University of Alabama in Huntsville is an accredited institutional member of the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) and the National Association of Schools of Music (NASM). Teacher education programs are approved by the Alabama State Board of Education, according to standards of the National Association of the State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC), for the issuance of appropriate professional certificates for service in public schools, and the College of Education at The University of Alabama in Huntsville is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).