



LOPER'S COLLEGE

Guidebook

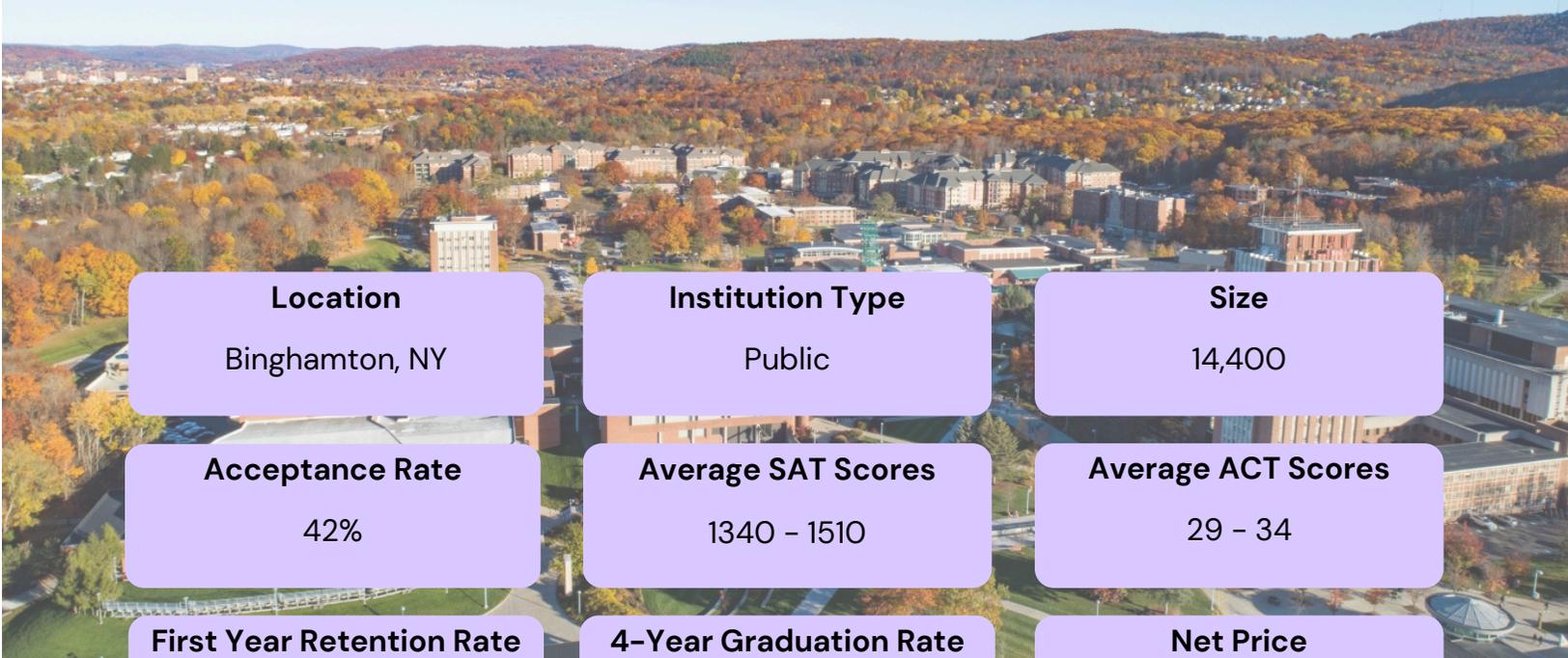
2025

Edition #3



**Binghamton
University**

Learn what the college
experience Binghamton is really
like from current students!



Location
Binghamton, NY

Institution Type
Public

Size
14,400

Acceptance Rate
42%

Average SAT Scores
1340 - 1510

Average ACT Scores
29 - 34

First Year Retention Rate
91%

4-Year Graduation Rate
75%

Net Price
\$17.9k

OVERVIEW

Binghamton University, a mid-sized public school in New York state, is known for strong academics and an active social scene. As a 'Public Ivy,' it blends academic rigor with campus traditions and Greek life, creating a well-rounded student experience.

Location & Campus 📍



Binghamton's campus blends modern buildings with wooded trails and open green spaces. Its compact layout makes it easy to get around, and students love the mix of nature, study spots, and scenic views from Mountainview.



Academics 📖



Binghamton University offers 130+ majors, with standout programs in business, engineering, and sciences. The School of Management is highly ranked for career placement and alumni connections. Students value the challenging academics, research, and supportive professors.

Social Life 😊



Binghamton has an active social scene with Greek life, bars, and house parties playing a role. State Street is a go-to for nightlife, while campus events and clubs offer other ways to connect. School spirit is solid, but athletics aren't a huge part of campus culture.

LOCATION

Binghamton University is in Binghamton, NY, a suburban area with plenty of restaurants, shops, and student hangouts nearby. Downtown Binghamton has a small but active bar scene, with State Street as the main nightlife spot. Outside of that, most of the social life happens on campus.

Life in Binghamton

Binghamton is a suburban area with plenty of restaurants, stores, and big-box retailers that make day-to-day life convenient for students. While Binghamton University is a big part of the community, the town itself isn't a classic college town. Downtown Binghamton has a small but active nightlife scene, with State Street as the go-to place for nightlife. Some students appreciate the quieter setting, while others find the off-campus options limited. As one student put it, "If you're not on State Street or at a house party, there's not much happening."

Off Campus Dining

Binghamton has plenty of student-friendly food spots. Students rate nearby dining a 6.1 overall. Some favorite student spots include:

Midnight Snack

Maryams,
Nanus

Sweet Treats

Sugar Lips
Ice Cream

Night Out w/ Friends

Courtside Bar and
Grill, Garage Taco

Cheap Eats

China 1, DP Dough,
Moe's

Weather Forecast

Fall: Crisp & cool
Warm, sometimes humid
Spring: Chilly and rainy
Winter: Snowy & cloudy



Binghamton experiences over 200 cloudy days a year, making it one of the cloudiest cities in the U.S.

Outdoor Activities

While outdoor activities aren't common among most students, some enjoy hiking or skiing on weekends, typically at Greek Peak or Hunter Mountain

Location:
Binghamton, NY



**Out of 10, based on student survey results*

19:1

Student to
Faculty Ratio

42%

Acceptance
Rate

7.3

Overall
Academics*

Binghamton University offers a strong academic experience, with standout programs in business, engineering, and the sciences. The School of Management is highly ranked, known for real-world learning and strong career placement. Professors are generally supportive, though students say academic advising is a common weak spot.

ACADEMICS

Majors & Courses

Popular Majors

Biology, Economics, Psychology, Neuroscience and Neurobiology, Mathematics, Accounting, Nursing, Liberal Arts and Humanities, Finance, Human Development

Binghamton encourages **interdisciplinary learning**, allowing students to merge fields like business, engineering, and more for a personalized experience.

As an **R1 institution**, Binghamton gives students access to research opportunities, allowing them to contribute to real-world advancements in their fields.

💡 Fun Fact: In 2024, Binghamton University was named a "New Ivy" by Forbes, solidifying its reputation as one of the top public universities in the nation.

A few classes students love...

★ MGMT 506

Marketing for Managers

Learn strategic marketing through real-world case studies and hands-on projects.

\$ FIN 475

Financial Technology

Explore how tech is transforming finance, from digital payments to blockchain and more.

🎧 UNIV 101V

Taylor Swift, 21C Music

First year students explore Taylor Swift's impact on modern music and culture.

**Out of 10, based on student survey results*



Academic Support Services

Binghamton University offers a wide variety of free academic support services to students including:

First-Year Experience Program to help students transition smoothly with focused academic support

The Writing Initiative offering personalized tutoring, workshops, and writing assistance.

Student Success Initiative for career coaching, networking, and internship opportunities.

Academic Support:

5.4*

Students report mixed experiences with advising, particularly outside of business programs, where guidance can feel lacking.

Professor Availability

7.1*

Professors at Binghamton

While some students find that larger classes can limit personal engagement, faculty are generally accessible at Binghamton. As an R1 research university, professors are actively involved in research, offering students opportunities to participate in innovative projects.

Some favorite Binghamton professors include: Debi Mishra, Alison Dura, Scott Geiger, Mingmei Jones, Andrew Abbott, Amarendra Sharma, Yan Zhang, Kristian Rydqvist, Bradley Cannon, Susan Hanes



Debi Mishra
Marketing

"He cares a lot about marketing and gives a lot of interesting examples."

A passionate and engaging professor, Debi Mishra keeps students hooked with real-world examples and practical insights.



Alison Dura
Nursing

"She makes even the hardest nursing classes enjoyable"

A knowledgeable and caring professor, Alison Dura is highly respected for her engaging lectures and supportive teaching style.

*Out of 10, based on student survey results

CAMPUS & FACILITIES

Binghamton's campus combines modern facilities with green spaces, creating a peaceful atmosphere. While some facilities could use improvement, the campus is easy to navigate, and students appreciate the balance of nature and academic life.

Campus Overall:

6.8*

Facilities Overall

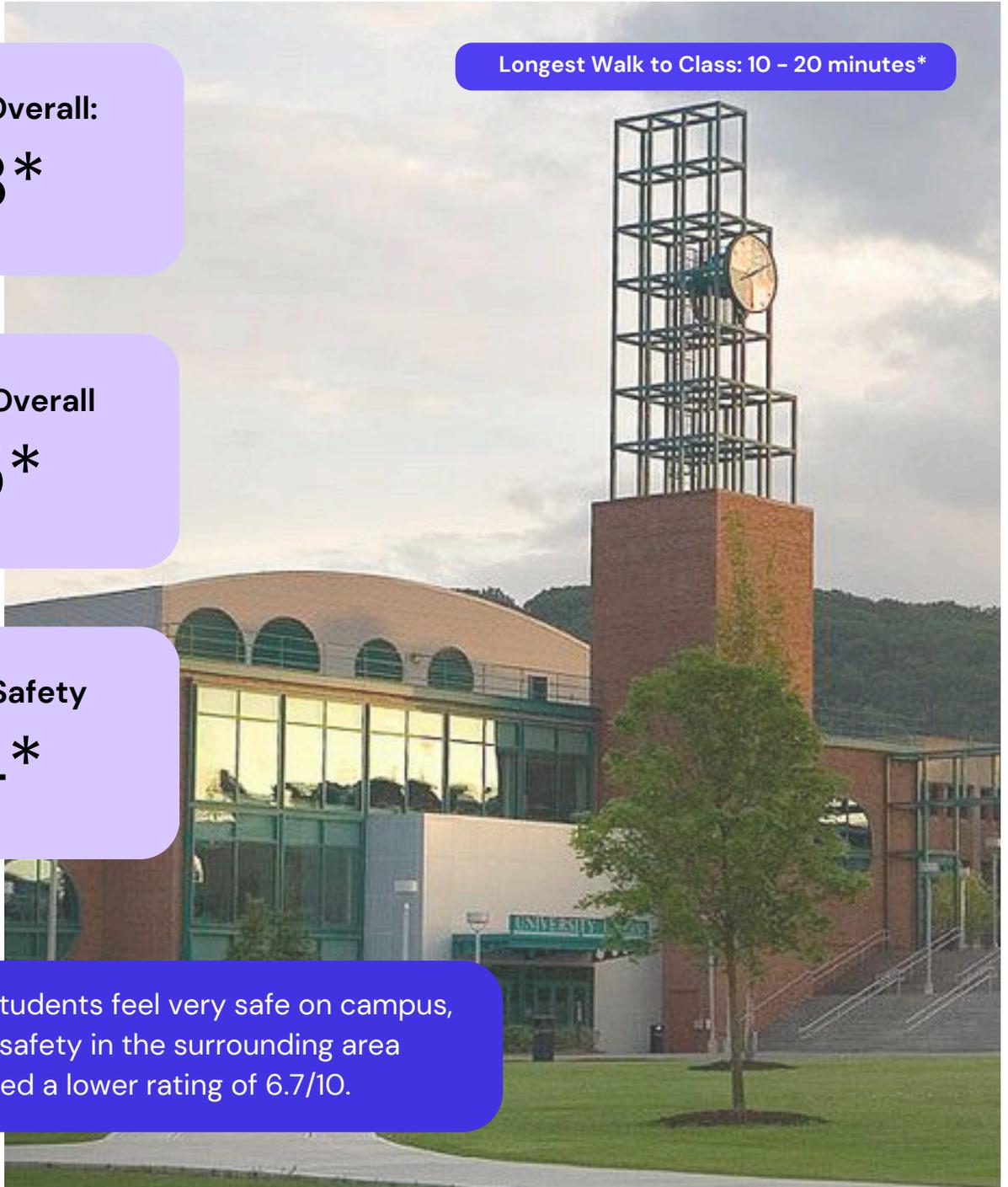
6.5*

Campus Safety

9.4*

Binghamton students feel very safe on campus, However, safety in the surrounding area received a lower rating of 6.7/10.

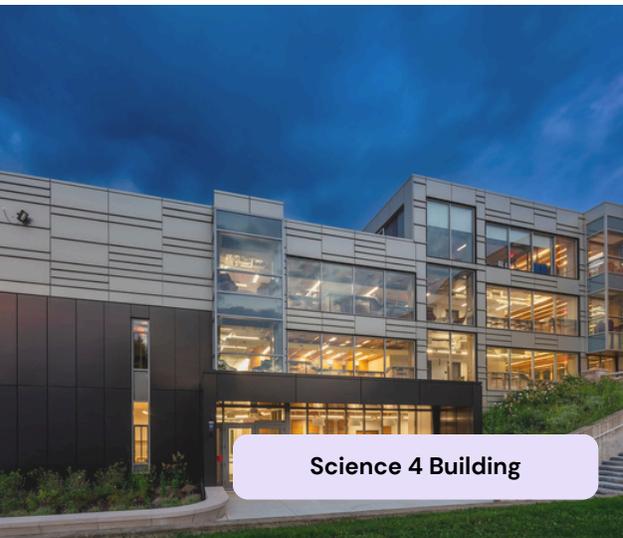
Longest Walk to Class: 10 - 20 minutes*



**Based on student survey results*

ACADEMIC BUILDINGS

Binghamton's academic facilities are a mix of modern buildings and older lecture halls, with ongoing renovations to improve classrooms, labs, and study spaces. While some facilities, like the Science buildings and School of Management, are well-equipped, others feel dated and in need of upgrades.



The Best ✓

Academic A: A central hub for classes and academic resources, featuring large lecture halls, study spaces, and easy access to various campus services.

Science 4: A modern building with state-of-the-art labs and classrooms, serving as a key space for science students engaged in research and hands-on learning.

Engineering Building: Specialized labs, collaborative spaces, and facilities for cutting-edge technical education and innovation.



The Worst ✗

Science 1: A large academic building with science classrooms, though it lacks modern labs found in newer facilities.

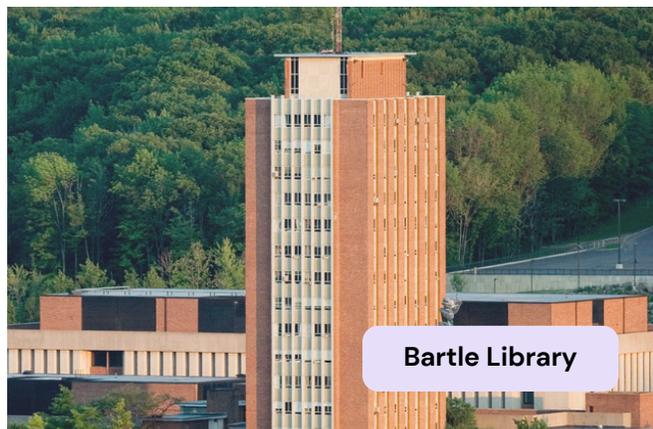
Science 4: Equipped with labs and classrooms, but some areas feel dated compared to other science buildings.

Old Johnson Hall: An older building with classrooms and offices, lacking the modern amenities of newer campus structures.

Bartle Library

Student Rating: 7.5*

Bartle Library is a top study spot with quiet areas, group rooms, and a central location. Students appreciate the variety of study spaces and research support, but it gets extremely overcrowded during finals. Recent renovations have added modern facilities like a Digital Scholarship Center and MakerLab.



*Out of 10, based on student survey results

Most Binghamton freshmen and sophomores live on campus, with dorms ranging from social Newing to quieter CIW. Some are close to classes, while others, like Mountainview, require a longer walk. By junior year, most move off campus to houses or apartments nearby.

Common years to live on campus



Freshman



Junior



Sophomore



Senior



Newing: One of the newest and most social dorms. It's centrally located, close to dining and classes, and offers modern suites and fewer people sharing the bathrooms.

College in the Woods (CIW): CIW has older buildings and isn't as social as other options. Multiple students mentioned it smells, which has become a running joke.

STUDENT HOUSING

How current students rate the quality of housing options* for each grade-level...

Freshman

6.4

Sophomore

5.9

Junior

7.1

Senior

7.5

Most students stay on campus for sophomore year before moving off as upperclassmen. Sophomores often move into Hillside or Susquehanna, the on-campus apartment communities. Juniors and seniors typically live off campus in Downtown Binghamton or Vestal, with popular spots like State Street and U Club. Off-campus housing averages \$700-\$1,000* per month.



Hillside Apartment Community



State Street Apartment



Sophomore Apartment Style

*Based on student survey results

ON-CAMPUS DINING

Binghamton has multiple dining halls and on-campus restaurants, offering buffet-style meals, grab-and-go options, and meal exchanges at select locations. Students find the food decent but not amazing, with some dining halls better than others.

C4: One of the busiest dining halls, C4 serves Newing and Dickinson with a deli, Kosher Korner, allergen-free meals, and a rotating pizza and pasta menu. It also has Nite Owl for late-night food.

Appalachian: Located in Mountainview, it's the only all-you-can-eat dining hall with a pasta bar, deli, and comfort food, plus Nite Owl for late-night meals.

Hinman: Offers customizable meals like noodle bowls, grain bowls, and fresh-made subs. It also has a Starbucks, convenience store, and Garbanzo, a Mediterranean spot.

CIW: Features a plant-based Mexican station, a comfort food lineup with pasta, quesadillas, and wings, plus Grill 86, a gluten-free grill. It's a quieter spot compared to other dining halls.

💡 Some favorite dining hall meals include: C4's chicken tenders, Kosher Korner mac & cheese, CIW pancakes, grilled cheese, tacos, burgers, and curly fries.

Beyond the dining halls, on-campus restaurants are spread across academic buildings, residence halls, and common areas. The Marketplace in the University Union is a central dining hub with quick-service options and a convenience store. Additional food spots in libraries and dorm communities make it easy to grab coffee, sandwiches, or snacks between class.

Chick N Bap 🍗

Einstein's 🍷

ShakeSmart 🍹

Dining hall quality*

6.1

💡 All meal plans include: Buffet meal swipes, dining dollars for on-campus restaurants, and meal exchanges, which let students swap a swipe for a set meal at select on-campus locations. Some plans also include guest meal passes.



*Out of 10, based on student survey results

GYM & HEALTH SERVICES

Rec Center

Student Rating: 5.3*

The Rec Center at Binghamton offers a full gym, free workout classes, a swimming pool, and indoor courts. Students can also join intramural sports, outdoor adventure programs, and personal training.

Recreational activities available on campus:

Basketball

Tennis

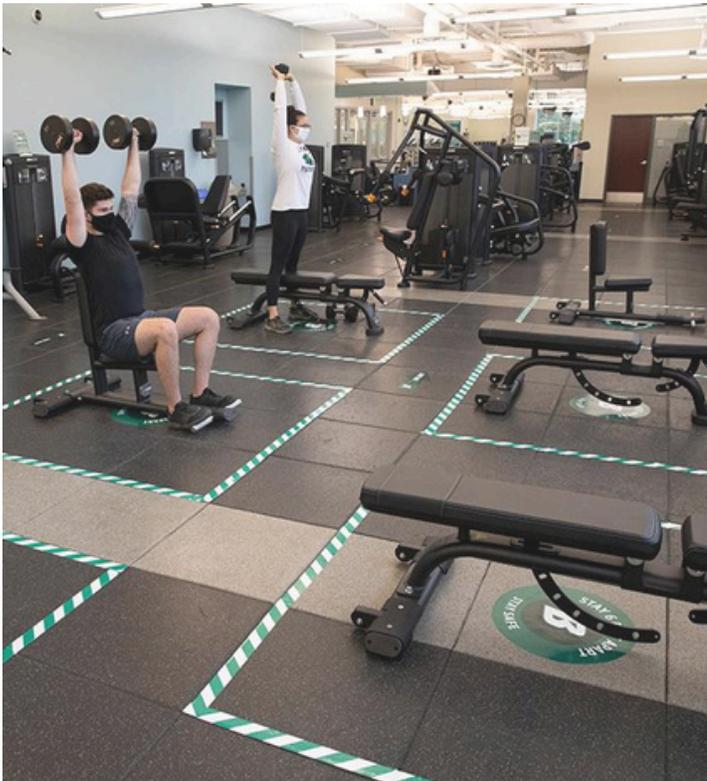
Squash & Racquetball

Rock Climbing

Outdoor Fields

Volleyball (indoor & outdoor)

Esports & Gaming Lounge



Health Services

Binghamton University's Student Health Services (SHS) is affordable and easy to schedule, with on-campus care for illnesses, injuries, and routine checkups. However, some students report mixed experiences with virtual appointments and doctor quality. While SHS provides basic medical care, vaccines, and lab testing, many cases are referred off campus for specialized treatment.

Student Rating: 5.6*

Binghamton University's University Counseling Center (UCC) offers short-term individual therapy, group counseling, and crisis support. The Let's Talk program provides informal, drop-in sessions at various campus locations. Psychiatric services are available, but students needing long-term care are typically referred off campus. Some students find the services helpful, while others report challenges with appointment availability.

⚠️ We include information on the social scene, including parties and nightlife, to give students a realistic understanding of campus culture. Our goal is to provide transparency—not to encourage any behavior. We believe that informed students make safer, smarter choices.

SOCIAL LIFE

Social Life Rating*

6.9

Binghamton's social scene is more laid-back compared to traditional party schools. While Greek life is important for some, it's not the dominant social force, and many students find other ways to connect through clubs and campus events. It's a place where students focus on academics but also have space to build meaningful social connections.

Do you feel like your college fosters a strong sense of community & belonging?*

90%

YES

10%

NO



How has your social life experience met your expectations for your college?*

90%

Met
Expectations

10%

Did NOT Meet
Expectations

0%

Exceeded
Expectations



💡 You should know...

- Most make friends through dorms, Greek life, or clubs, though some say the social scene feels cliquey.
- Without football, athletics aren't a big social focus, but club sports and student orgs offer plenty to do.
- There's a party scene for those who want it, but many focus entirely on academics instead.

*Based on student survey results

GOING OUT

Binghamton isn't a huge party school, and many students prioritize academics over nightlife. That said for people who do want to go out, there's always something to do whether it be a dorm party, frat party, or hitting the bars downtown.

 **OCCT (Off Campus College Transport)** is a student-run transit services that offers free rides from campus to downtown (and back) on weekend nights



- **Greek Life:** Even though only 15% of students are in Greek life, many say it's a dominant force on campus, especially in the social scene. Binghamton has ~40 fraternities and sororities. While it's an easy way to meet people, some students feel it can be exclusive. For those not in Greek life, 450+ clubs, intramurals, and campus events offer plenty of other ways to socialize.
- **Party Scene:** Binghamton has an active but not overwhelming party culture, with most big parties happening off campus at frat houses or student apartments. Spring Fling, SantaCon, and Halloweekend are some of the biggest party weekends of the year. On campus, dorm parties and small gatherings are popular, but stay smaller due to RAs.
- **Bar Scene:** State Street is the center of Binghamton nightlife, with a few popular bars that students frequent. The scene is small and can feel repetitive, but it's still the go-to for students looking to go out. Thursday through Saturday are the busiest nights, and free late-night buses make it easy to get downtown.



“The Rat” (Rathskeller Pub)

Short for The Rathskeller Pub, The Rat is one of Binghamton's most well-known college bars, located on State Street. It's a popular spot for cheap drinks, loud music, and a packed dance floor on weekends. Students either love it for its rowdy energy or avoid it for the same reason. Its reputation has made "The Ratz" a nickname for the entire State Street bar scene.

 **Other popular bars include:** Tom & Marty's, The Colonial, and Dillingers

SCHOOL SPIRIT

Athletics

Athletics aren't a major focus at Binghamton, largely due to the lack of a football team or tailgating culture. Some students do attend basketball, baseball, and lacrosse games, but it isn't a defining part of the social experience. While athletics don't define campus life, students take pride in Binghamton through campus traditions and events



💡 Baxter the Bearcat, Binghamton's mascot, crowd-surfs at basketball games when the team is winning

Campus Events

Binghamton's campus offers plenty of ways to get involved, whether through clubs, campus events, or Greek life. While athletics don't play a major role, other traditions bring students together.

🎡 **Spring Fling** – One of the biggest events of the year, featuring carnival rides, games, food, and live music to celebrate the end of the school year.

🌙 **Late Nite Binghamton** – A weekly event with free activities like bowling, trivia, movies, and live performances, offering an alternative to the party scene.

🎅 **SantaCon** – A massive holiday-themed bar crawl where students dress up as Santas, elves, and reindeer to take over State Street.



*Out of 10, based on student survey results



Basketball Game



BU Swag



Science Building IV



Nature Preserve



Baseball Field



Downtown Center



Greenhouse



Baxter the Bearcat



Spring Fling

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23 intercollegiate teams

