

***100+ Good Reasons to Attend
an Adventist College or University***

CollegelImpact Research Report

***Results from a study of the college experiences of
alumni of Adventist colleges and universities
and Adventist graduates of public colleges and universities
in North America***

November 2014



**Adventist Colleges
and Universities**

Graduates of Adventist colleges and universities are:

1. 8x more likely to experience *professors who helped me develop spiritually and/or develop spiritual values* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
2. 7x more likely to experience *professors who studied the Bible with me and/or increased my faith in the Bible* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
3. 7x more likely to experience *professors who prayed with me* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
4. 7x more likely to experience *professors who positively influenced my relationship with Christ* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
5. 7x more likely to experience *friends who attended worship services with me* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
6. 7x more likely to develop *a deeper personal relationship with Jesus* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
7. 6x more likely to experience *professors who provided meaningful classroom worship experiences* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
8. 5x more likely to experience *mission service for a semester/quarter or more* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
9. 5x more likely to develop *a stronger commitment to my church* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
10. 5x more likely to develop *a meaningful prayer life* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
11. 5x more likely to develop *a deeper desire to study the Bible* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
12. 5x more likely to develop *a deeper desire to be involved in my church* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
13. 5x more likely to develop *a deeper desire for mission service* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
14. 5x more likely to develop *a deepened sense of spirituality* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
15. 5x more likely to agree, *“There were faculty or staff after whom I modeled my spiritual life,”* than their Adventist peers from public universities.³
16. 4x more likely to *participate in music groups, such as band, orchestra, choir* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
17. 4x more likely to experience *friends who prayed or studied the Bible with me* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
18. 4x more likely to experience *friends who positively influenced my walk with Christ* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
19. 4x more likely to develop *a sense of God’s calling for my life* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
20. 3x more likely to *work on campus* while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹

CollegImpact Research Footnote Key

¹Percent reporting their college experience “often” or “always” included the item.

²Percent reporting their college was “quite effective” or “extremely effective” at helping them develop the item.

³Percent reporting they “agree” or “strongly agree” with the statement.

⁴Percent reporting they have “often” or “always” been involved in the following in the last 5 years.

⁵Percent reporting “very satisfied” or “completely satisfied” with this area of their life now.

Graduates of Adventist colleges and universities are:

21. 3x more likely to ***work as a resident hall assistant or peer advisor*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
22. 3x more likely to ***participate in a student-led group Bible study or prayer group*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
23. 3x more likely to experience ***professors who invited me to their home for a meal*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
24. 3x more likely to experience ***positive dating experiences*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
25. 3x more likely to experience ***friends with values and beliefs similar to mine*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
26. 3x more likely to experience ***a short-term mission trip (less than a semester or quarter)*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
27. 3x more likely to develop ***moral principles that can guide actions*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
28. 3x more likely to develop ***knowledge and skills in preparation for marriage*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
29. 3x more likely to develop ***a deeper understanding of my religious values and beliefs*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
30. 3x more likely to develop ***a deeper desire to be a church leader*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
31. 3x more likely to agree, ***“My college helped me integrate my faith with other aspects of my life,”*** than their Adventist peers from public universities.³
32. 2x more likely to ***participate in campus sports programs (i.e. intramurals, intercollegiate sports)*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
33. 2x more likely to experience ***professors who helped me develop a personal code of ethical values*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
34. 2x more likely to experience ***positive social experiences*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
35. 2x more likely to experience ***friends who positively influenced my attitudes and values*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
36. 2x more likely to experience ***close personal relationships with many of the students I had contact with*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
37. 2x more likely to develop ***lifelong friendships with faculty and/or staff*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
38. 2x more likely to develop ***lifelong friendships with classmates*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
39. 2x more likely to develop ***a meaningful philosophy of life*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
40. 2x more likely to develop ***a deeper understanding of the importance of healthy living*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²

Graduates of Adventist colleges and universities are seven times more likely to develop a deeper personal relationship with Jesus while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.

Graduates of Adventist colleges and universities are:

41. 2x more likely to **contribute to or working on campus publications (i.e. student newspaper, yearbook)** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
42. 2x more likely to **contribute money to campus ministry projects** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
43. 2x more likely to **be spiritually mentored while in college** than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
44. 2x more likely to **attend church or campus worship services** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
45. Statistically significantly more likely to **serve as a spiritual mentor** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
46. Statistically significantly more likely to experience **personal Bible study** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
47. Statistically significantly more likely to experience **personal prayer and meditation** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
48. Statistically significantly more likely to **contribute money to my church** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
49. Statistically significantly more likely to **participate in evangelistic outreach programs** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
50. Statistically significantly more likely to **participate in community service** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
51. Statistically significantly more likely to develop **a passion for volunteering and community service** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
52. Statistically significantly more likely to develop **a deeper appreciation for the fine arts, such as music, literature and/or theatre** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
53. Statistically significantly more likely to develop **personal compassion for the underprivileged** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
54. Statistically significantly more likely to develop **the ability to relate to people of different cultures** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
55. Statistically significantly more likely to develop **a sense of purpose in my life** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
56. Statistically significantly more likely to experience **high-quality, teaching-oriented faculty** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
57. Statistically significantly more likely to develop **public speaking skills** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
58. Statistically significantly more likely to develop **leadership abilities** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.²
59. Statistically significantly more likely to say, **“There was a sense of community among the students at my college,”** than their Adventist peers from public universities.³

CollegImpact Research Footnote Key

¹Percent reporting their college experience “often” or “always” included the item.

²Percent reporting their college was “quite effective” or “extremely effective” at helping them develop the item.

³Percent reporting they “agree” or “strongly agree” with the statement.

⁴Percent reporting they have “often” or “always” been involved in the following in the last 5 years.

⁵Percent reporting “very satisfied” or “completely satisfied” with this area of their life now.

Graduates of Adventist colleges and universities are:

60. Statistically significantly more likely to say, ***“It was easy for me to meet and develop friendships with other students,”*** than their Adventist peers from public universities.³
 61. Statistically significantly more likely to ***participate in student government activities*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
 62. Statistically significantly more likely to ***hold leadership positions in student government or other campus organizations*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
 63. Statistically significantly more likely to ***participate in campus clubs*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
 64. Statistically significantly more likely to ***contribute money to my alma mater in the last 5 years*** than their Adventist peers from public universities.⁴
 65. Statistically significantly more likely to ***participate in mission projects or mission trips in the last 5 years*** than their Adventist peers from public universities.⁴
 66. Statistically significantly more likely to experience ***friendships that developed from my classroom experiences*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
 67. Statistically significantly more likely to experience ***friends who positively influenced my intellectual growth*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
 68. Statistically significantly more likely to experience ***professors who integrated values and ethics in classroom discussions*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
 69. Statistically significantly more likely to experience ***professors who provided emotional support/development*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
 70. Statistically significantly more likely to experience ***professors who knew me by name*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
 71. Statistically significantly more likely to experience ***professors who helped me outside the classroom*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
 72. Statistically significantly more likely to experience ***professors who challenged me academically and helped me meet those challenges*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
 73. Statistically significantly more likely to experience ***professors who positively influenced my intellectual growth*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
- Graduates of Adventist colleges and universities are statistically significantly more likely to feel more satisfied with their present marriage or dating relationship than their Adventist peers from public universities.***
74. Statistically significantly more likely to experience ***professors who provided advice about my academic program*** while in college than their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
 75. Statistically significantly more likely to ***feel more satisfied with their present marriage or dating relationships*** than their Adventist peers from public universities.⁵
 76. Statistically significantly more likely to ***feel more satisfied with their present family life*** than their Adventist peers from public universities.⁵
 77. As likely to ***participate in classroom discussions while in college*** as their Adventist peers from public universities.¹

Graduates of Adventist colleges and universities are:

78. As likely to **give class presentations while in college** as their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
79. As likely to develop **writing skills** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.²
80. As likely to develop **ability to work on a team** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.²
81. As likely to develop **self-confidence and initiative** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.²
82. As likely to develop **analytical thinking skills** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.²
83. As likely to develop **ability to make effective decisions** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.²
84. As likely to develop **conflict resolution skills** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.²
85. As likely to develop **time management skills** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.²
86. As likely to develop **creative thinking skills** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.²
87. As likely to develop **skills needed to land my first job** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.²
88. As likely to develop **a professional network** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.²
89. As likely to agree, **“My college experience effectively prepared me for life after college,”** as their Adventist peers from public universities.³
90. As likely to agree, **“Compared with students from other colleges, my college experience prepared me better for life after college, such as graduate school or my first job,”** as their Adventist peers from public universities.³
91. As likely to **participate in art, drama, or theatre groups** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
92. As likely to experience **professors who provided encouragement for graduate school** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
93. As likely to experience **professors who provided assistance with study skills** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
94. As likely to experience **professors who were well-qualified in their teaching area** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
95. As likely to experience **professors who were outstanding, superior teachers** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
96. As likely to experience **positive professor interaction** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
97. As likely to **receive a letter of recommendation from a professor** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
98. As likely to **participate in professional organizations related to my major** while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.¹

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³Percent reporting they “agree” or “strongly agree” with the statement.

⁴Percent reporting they have “often” or “always” been involved in the following in the last 5 years.

⁵Percent reporting “very satisfied” or “completely satisfied” with this area of their life now.

Graduates of Adventist colleges and universities are:

99. As likely to experience *an off-campus study tour* while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
100. As likely to experience *a college-sponsored internship or practicum or field experience* while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.¹
101. As likely to *feel satisfied with their present career* as their Adventist peers from public universities.⁵
102. As likely to *feel satisfied with their present finances* as their Adventist peers from public universities.⁵
103. As likely to *feel satisfied with their present social support* as their Adventist peers from public universities.⁵
104. As likely to *feel satisfied with their present level of fun and leisure* as their Adventist peers from public universities.⁵
105. As likely to *feel satisfied with their present mental health* as their Adventist peers from public universities.⁵
106. As likely to *feel satisfied with their present physical health* as their Adventist peers from public universities.⁵
107. As likely to *feel satisfied with their present faith/spirituality* as their Adventist peers from public universities.⁵
108. As likely to develop *a deeper understanding of racial issues* while in college as their Adventist peers from public universities.²

About the ColleeImpact Study

The ColleeImpact Study was commissioned by the Association of Adventist Colleges and Universities (AACU) to investigate the experiences and involvement of Adventist graduates of Adventist colleges and universities as compared to Adventist graduates of public colleges and universities in the following areas:

- Career preparation
- Personal and professional experiences
- Academic experiences
- Values
- Spiritual experiences
- Social interaction
- Extracurricular activities

In 2008, AACU contracted with the Andrews International Center for Educational Research (AICER) to develop and complete the study. The first survey instrument was tested in 2010, and the survey was launched in 2011.

Alumni from 10 AACU colleges and universities participated in the study:

- Adventist University of Health Sciences
- Andrews University
- La Sierra University
- Oakwood University
- Pacific Union College
- Southern Adventist University
- Southwestern Adventist University
- Union College
- Walla Walla University
- Washington Adventist University

These alumni were contacted through each Adventist institution's alumni office, and queried using an online survey and telephone interviews.

Adventist graduates of public colleges and universities in North America were contacted through Adventist Christian Fellowship, randomly selected North American Division churches, and announcements in *Spectrum* and *Adventist Today*. A snowball sampling of these graduates were queried using an online survey and telephone interviews.

The Association of Adventist Colleges and Universities (AACU) comprises 13 accredited Seventh-day Adventist colleges and universities in North America, which enroll more than 25,000 students in undergraduate and graduate programs.

For more information about AACU colleges and universities—including admissions requirements, careers and majors offered at each, scholarships and campus life information, and tools for parents—visit adventistcolleges.org.



**Adventist Colleges
and Universities**

Adventist University of Health Sciences *Orlando, Florida*

Andrews University *Berrien Springs, Michigan*

Canadian University College *Lacombe, Alberta, Canada*

Kettering College *Kettering, Ohio*

La Sierra University *Riverside, California*

Loma Linda University *Loma Linda, California*

Oakwood University *Huntsville, Alabama*

Pacific Union College *Napa Valley, California*

Southern Adventist University *Collegedale, Tennessee*

Southwestern Adventist University *Keene, Texas*

Union College *Lincoln, Nebraska*

Walla Walla University *College Place, Washington*

Washington Adventist University *Takoma Park, Maryland*