

Update from Georgia Tech President Ángel Cabrera  
August 2025



## From the Desk of the President



Members of the Fall 2025 incoming first-year class gather at McCamish Pavilion for New Student Convocation on Sunday, Aug. 17. (Photo credit: Rob Felt)

Dear Friends:

I'm delighted to report that our campus is once again abuzz with energy. Lots of it!

This year, we welcomed our [largest-ever first-year class](#) of about 4,050 new students. It is incredible how we've managed to make room for so many more students — and yet, we still can't keep up with the surge in demand. Indeed, in six years, we have expanded our first-year class by about 33%, yet our applications have risen by 82% (this year, we received a record 67,000 applications). Add to that a major increase in annual incoming transfer students from 566 to 1,365 (a 141% boost since 2019), and you get the picture. Growing at this rate isn't easy, to be honest — ask any faculty or staff member — but it is a source of pride for all of us to be part of an institution that is in greater demand every day and that does everything it can to serve more students.

Remarkably, this growth trajectory has come with an equally striking increase in selectivity (we're now among the top three public universities in the nation) and yield. Yield describes the proportion of admitted students who decide to study at Georgia Tech. Given our high selectivity, it is reasonable to expect our typical admitted student has several excellent colleges to choose from. If one-third of our admitted students were to pick Georgia Tech

over the competition, we'd be in great company. This year, though, our yield reached an all-time high of 46%, one of the highest in the nation among public universities.

There are very good reasons why Georgia Tech has emerged as one of the most sought-after universities in the country. Thanks to major state investments, we charge less in tuition and fees than most other top public universities. Our in-state students actually pay \$680 less than they did six years ago (a reduction of about one-quarter when adjusted for inflation). Our graduation rates are among the best in the nation: 93.4% of students graduate in six years, and 74.9% graduate in four years (compared to national averages of 63% and 45%, respectively). And our graduates routinely compete for the best-paying jobs. Add all that up, and you have the best return on investment for students in the nation — according to The Princeton Review and the National Student Clearinghouse.

Georgia residents make up almost 60% of our first-year class and were admitted at a rate of about 29%, compared to an overall admit rate of 13%. And thanks to specific outreach programs, rural applications rose 72%, and admitted students from rural areas climbed 71%. We are committed to ensuring every corner of our state sends students to Tech and are proud to have increased the number of Georgia residents enrolled in our campus-based undergraduate programs by more than 3,850 since 2019.

We are most grateful for the investment the state of Georgia makes in us, which grew to \$579 million this year, and we work very hard to make sure that investment pays off. Earlier this month, the University System of Georgia (USG) published its annual economic impact report, which showed that [\*\*Tech's statewide impact in fiscal year 2024 climbed to a record \\$5.8 billion\*\*](#) — 10% higher than the year before and more than a quarter of all 26 USG institutions combined. And those numbers don't include the larger and longer-lasting impact of the startups we incubated, the jobs created by our alumni, the assistance we provided to Georgia companies to help them grow, or the companies we helped attract to our state. (Speaking of which: Georgia Tech's research commercialization efforts just turned in another record year as well. In fiscal year 2025: 143 startups, 464 invention disclosures, and 124 patents issued.)

We are also a high-impact investment for donors. If you want to make a contribution that's guaranteed to create lasting influence on today's students and future generations while reinforcing our state's and nation's prosperity, leadership, and security, there's no better investment opportunity than Georgia Tech. This message is resonating. We just closed the books on the 2025 fiscal year, during which we received nearly [\*\*\\$300 million in philanthropic support\*\*](#), setting an all-time fundraising record for the second consecutive year. Overall, Transforming Tomorrow: The Campaign for Georgia Tech has raised more than \$1.6 billion, and we are on a solid path to meet — and hopefully exceed — our target of \$2 billion (231-1 to be precise).

Last year's giving helped us secure \$100 million in endowed scholarship support for students with low and limited income through Invest in the Best, a dollar-for-dollar matching opportunity sponsored by the Georgia Tech Foundation. Our alumni and friends also set a record by raising \$8.3 million through the 78th Annual Roll Call. Support from our community helps ensure the life-changing opportunities that come with a Georgia Tech degree remain within reach for students of all backgrounds, and we're deeply grateful to all who help make that possible. If you haven't already, I invite you to join us as we build on this momentum and amplify our impact by creating more opportunities for more people to earn and benefit from a Georgia Tech education.

No university delivers more value to its students, its state, or its supporters than Georgia Tech, and there's no better place to make a difference. This is Progress and Service in action.

Thank you for everything you do to support our mission.

In Progress and Service,



## **More Than 5,400 Undergraduates Join Georgia Tech**

Georgia Tech welcomed approximately 4,050 summer and fall first-year students alongside 1,365 spring, summer, and fall transfer students to campus this year. The incoming class of about 5,415 brings Tech's total undergraduate population over 20,000.

**[Read More](#)**

---





## Tech's \$5.8 Billion Statewide Economic Impact Leads USG

Georgia Tech's annual statewide economic impact climbed to a record-setting \$5.8 billion in fiscal year 2024, according to a new report released by the University System of Georgia (USG). Tech's impact exceeded the previous year's by 10%, led all 26 USG institutions, and accounted for more than 25% of their combined impact.

[Read More](#)

---

## Georgia Tech Has Historic Fundraising Year

Georgia Tech raised nearly \$300 million in philanthropic support in fiscal year 2025, setting an all-time fundraising record. More than 25,000 donors contributed, including alumni, foundations, corporations, and first-time supporters. This year's total marks a 20% increase over the Institute's previous record-setting year and reflects major strategic investments in financial aid, graduate fellowships, cell biomanufacturing, athletics, and campus upgrades.

[Read More](#)



## Georgia Tech Has Historic Fundraising Year

Georgia Tech raised nearly \$300 million in philanthropic support in fiscal year 2025, setting an all-time fundraising record. More than 25,000 donors contributed, including alumni, foundations, corporations, and first-time supporters. This year's total marks a 20% increase over the Institute's previous record-setting year and reflects major strategic investments in financial aid, graduate fellowships, cell biomanufacturing, athletics, and campus upgrades.

[Read More](#)

---



## A Record Year for Research Commercialization

Georgia Tech has posted its strongest year ever in research commercialization, breaking multiple records for invention disclosures, issued patents, and licensed technologies — clear indicators of the Institute's expanding role in delivering research-driven innovation to the marketplace.

[Read More](#)

---

## Making Communications Work for Everyone

Salimah LaForce, senior research scientist at the Center for Advanced Communications Policy, studies where information systems fail and where they can be improved. From emergency alerts to job search platforms, her work is shaping policies, technologies and resources to ensure that, in a digital world, everyone has access to the same opportunities and protections.

[Read More](#)







## Making Communications Work for Everyone

Salimah LaForce, senior research scientist at the Center for Advanced Communications Policy, studies where information systems fail and where they can be improved. From emergency alerts to job search platforms, her work is shaping policies, technologies and resources to ensure that, in a digital world, everyone has access to the same opportunities and protections.

[Read More](#)

---



## Stepping Into the Future

In 2012, Ignacio Montoya was about to graduate from Georgia Tech and become a fighter pilot in the U.S. Air Force, but then a motorcycle accident left him paralyzed from the chest down. Ever since, he has worked to develop solutions that improve independence and quality of life for people with spinal injuries. After earning a master's degree in biomedical engineering from Georgia Tech in 2018, he joined a neurophysiology research lab at UCLA and is now returning to Tech for his Ph.D., where he hopes to push the boundaries of what the human body and spirit can achieve.

[Read More](#)

---



## **New Degree in Arts, Entertainment, and Creative Technologies**

Georgia Tech is launching a new bachelor of science degree in Arts, Entertainment, and Creative Technologies that will prepare students to become leaders in the film, gaming, immersive media, and music industries. The degree will offer experiential, industry-relevant learning, including studio-based courses, capstone projects, and partnerships with creative studios and tech companies. The degree program will begin enrolling students in Fall 2026.

**[Read More](#)**

Georgia Institute of Technology  
Institute Communications, 221 Uncle Heinie Way NW  
Atlanta, GA, 30332-0181, United States  
[Unsubscribe](#)