



## All About the University of Minnesota Campus and Surrounding Minnesota



### Quick facts:

- The University of Minnesota has three campuses: East and West Bank in Minneapolis, MN (divided by the Mississippi River), and the St. Paul campus in nearby St. Paul, MN (next to the famous Minnesota State Fairgrounds).
- All genetic counseling activities are on the East Bank so traveling between classes takes a couple minutes between buildings. Skyways or tunnels connect most of the campus. Bonus for cold months!
- The area surrounding campus is unique and full of exciting restaurants and shops. The always-fun areas Dinkytown and Uptown are close by.
- The Twin Cities (Minneapolis-St. Paul) are connected well with reliable public transport. There are many bus routes as well as a light rail system. One light rail line connects downtown St. Paul to downtown Minneapolis and passes through campus in the middle.
- As a University of Minnesota student you can purchase a semester unlimited pass for public transport for around \$114. This is a huge discount; a daily pass can cost \$4.
- If you come with a car there is also parking on campus, but it can be expensive! The daily lot by TCF stadium is \$5/day but is a little walk from campus, and the ramps can be around \$13/day.
- Many students live in nearby apartments that are connected to campus by bus or light rail lines. We help new students communicate well before the program starts so they can find roommates within the program! Our current students and alumni are always willing to recommend places to live. Rent can range from \$300-\$1,000 per person depending on the location and amenities.
- Minnesota has four beautiful seasons! The average temperature during the summer is mid 70s-80s and during winter low 30s.

## Student Testimonials

“I really hoped to find a program in a city that could feel like home. I moved from Edmonton, AB, CA, and I can easily say Minneapolis has become that new home for me. I’ve loved the outdoorsy and active culture. Any time I need to take a long deep breath, there are amazing bike paths, walking trails, orchards, and lakes to accommodate me. I’ve found the city has endless things to do like any pro sports games, breweries, musicals, and delicious restaurants. You’ll be wishing you had more free time to see it all! “

-Dana, '19

“Moving from a big metropolitan area in Texas to the Twin Cities was a major life adjustment - in many ways! Everything is located close together, meaning you can navigate from the Cities to most suburbs in 30-45 minutes depending on where you live and between Minneapolis and St. Paul in less than that which makes getting to most rotations entirely manageable. The public transport here (buses and light rail) is amazing - I was used to public transport that was chronically late and could only get you to very, very few places. It's the opposite here: you can get almost anywhere on the public transport (although it could take some time depending on where you are headed) and it's very reliable too (including during the winter with snow and ice!). The fall season is downright gorgeous here and, with the proper layers and shoes, I even love the colder temperatures and the snow! There are events around the Twin Cities all the time as well as beautiful apple orchards, breweries, wineries, theaters, coffee shops, and parks to explore. There is always something to do here or an adventure to discover!”

-Alex, '18

“I've lived in Minneapolis through undergrad, and I'm still amazed with all the things I haven't done here. Concerts, lakes, a wide variety of sporting events, shopping, museums, events, and parks-- you'll never run out of things to do in the Twin Cities and there is something for everyone! I personally recommend Basilica Block Party, St. Paul Saints games, Minnehaha Park, First Ave, and Lake Calhoun. It's been extremely fun exploring the campus and city, I can't think of a better place to complete college. I hear all the time from people that they moved here for school or a short-term job, and have never left. Minnesota is home!”

-Katy, '19

“As a graduate student limited by time, money, and transportation, I was amazed at how much fun I could have for every little cost, in every season, throughout the school year and summer work. I enjoyed biking everywhere all summer visiting parks and having picnics, and perusing street fairs and farmers' markets. Other seasons have great offerings as well from indoor markets to ice skating, with heated light rail stations being the way to go. All sorts of events can be found through Facebook, ads from the university, and walking around town. It was a goal of mine to get to know the Cities in the short time of the program, and I feel like I was able to do that easily.”

-Cheyenne, '18

“My undergraduate university was located in a small rural town outside of St. Louis, Missouri, so I was looking for a graduate program in a bigger city but was hoping to avoid high living costs and still wanted the classic ‘campus’ feel rather than attending a university in a collection of high-rise buildings. Minneapolis is a perfect fit for what I was looking for: there are tons of unique neighborhoods, many parks and beautiful outdoor locations, lots of breweries, and frequent big-city and sporting events. There is also a large young professional population here, as well as a more progressive and open-minded atmosphere, which was important to me when choosing where I wanted to live for two years. I highly recommend the Twin Cities and could see myself living here permanently!”

-Elena, '19

“As someone moving from Seattle, I was definitely not prepared for the frozen tundra that is Minnesota. A solid ankle-length jacket, boots and gloves help. Fleece-lined everything! Cost of living, on the other hand, is great! Public transportation is simple to navigate. There are many cute little nooks throughout the city for exploring. Strolling along the Mississippi River is amazing for hanging out with friends or catching all the Pokemons!”

-Jerri, '18