Campus Pride is the leading national nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization for student leaders and campus groups working to create a safer college environment for LGBTQ+ students. The organization is a volunteer-driven network for and by student leaders to develop necessary resources, programs, and services to support LGBTQ+ and ally students on college campuses across the United States.

Founded in Fall 2001, Campus Pride started as an online community and resource clearinghouse under the name Campus PrideNet. The original partners were M. Chad Wilson, Sarah E. Holmes & Shane L. Windmeyer. In 2006, Windmeyer expanded the organization's outreach efforts and became the 501(c)(3) educational non-profit organization now known as Campus Pride, led by Founder, Executive Director, and CEO, Shane L. Windmeyer, a national LGBTQ+ civil rights leader.
Campus Pride envisions campuses and a society free of anti-LGBTQ+ prejudice, bigotry, and hate. It works to develop student leaders, campus networks, and future actions to create such positive change.
WHO WE ARE

MISSION

Campus Pride serves LGBTQ+ and ally student leaders and campus organizations in the areas of leadership development, support programs, and services to create safer, more inclusive LGBTQ-friendly colleges and universities. Campus Pride exists to develop, support, and give “voice and action” in building future LGBTQ+ and ally student leaders.
**Campus Pride** believes anti-racism work is LGBTQ+ work and identifies promoting anti-racism as an integral part of its mission. The rich and diverse voices and stories of people of color are important and often silenced. Campus Pride recognizes the liberation of people of color as central to dismantling all forms of oppression. In accordance with these values, **Campus Pride commits to the following actions:**

- Empowering and uplifting the voices of queer and trans students of color.
- Continuing our commitment to offering equitable access to Campus Pride resources and programs.
- Acknowledging and celebrating the accomplishments of queer and trans people of color.
- Having a diverse board and staff represents the diverse students we serve.
- Standing in solidarity with queer and trans undocumented students and advocating for increased accessibility of higher education.
- Recognizing the value and necessity of minority-serving institutions including Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Tribal Colleges, Hispanic Serving Institutions, and Asian American Serving Institutions, and supporting student organizing efforts on these campuses.
Campus Pride offers a wide array of programming and resources to support LGBTQ+ young people on campuses across the country.

- Campus Pride Index
- Campus Pride Sports Index
- Best of the Best LGBTQ-Friendly Colleges & Universities
- The Worst List: The Absolute Worst, Most Unsafe Campuses for LGBTQ Students
- Camp Pride
- Advisor Academy
- Stop The Hate
- Safe Space
- Social Justice Mini-Grants
- Trans Policy Clearinghouse
- Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCU) Clearinghouse
- Campus Pride Career Connect
Since 2007, the Campus Pride Index has been the premiere LGBTQ+ national benchmarking tool for colleges and universities to create safer, more inclusive campus communities. The free online tool allows prospective students, families/parents, and those interested in higher education to search a database of LGBTQ-friendly campuses that have come out to improve the academic experience and quality of campus life.
Campus Pride expanded its strategic research and outreach efforts to address LGBTQ+ safety and inclusion in college and university sports by creating the Campus Pride Sports Index. The standardized tool is the only one of its kind for the national collegiate level, focused on LGBTQ+ inclusion in college sports.
Best of the Best LGBTQ-Friendly Colleges & Universities

Each year, Campus Pride chooses the campuses with the best overall rating on the Campus Pride Index and specific LGBTQ-inclusive benchmark measures. In order to be in the “Best of the Best” listing, an institution has to score the highest percentages in the LGBTQ-friendly benchmarks for policies, programs, and practices.
The Worst List: The Absolute Worst, Most Unsafe Campuses for LGBTQ Students

The Worst List identifies the “absolute worst, most unsafe campuses for LGBTQ+ youth” in the United States. The colleges and universities listed have chosen to openly discriminate against LGBTQ+ youth and/or have requested Title IX exemptions to perpetuate the harms of religious-based bigotry.
Camp Pride is one of the longest-running LGBTQ+ summer leadership camps for youth across the country and the only one of its kind for college students. The first Camp Pride took place in 2007 and was the first of its kind for LGBTQ+ college student leaders. The leadership camp continues to be the premier national training academy for social justice and grassroots activism for LGBTQ and ally young adults at colleges and universities.
LGBTQ+ Professional Academy for Advisors (aka Advisor Academy) operates in coordination with Camp Pride and brings together LGBTQ+ student advisors and higher education staff who support LGBTQ+ youth from around the country.
Stop The Hate is an educational initiative of Campus Pride and supports colleges and universities in preventing and combating hate on campus as well as fostering the development of community. Founded in 2001, the train the trainer program is the only one of its kind in the nation and has more than 7,800 individuals trained in the United States. The national program is the premier source of anti-hate educational resources for higher education institutions and campus communities.
The Campus Pride Safe Space Program is a nationally recognized program that provides training and signage for institutions committed to supporting LGBTQ+ students. A Safe Space Program is one of the measures of a supportive campus on the Campus Pride Index. Since its inception in 2014, Campus Pride has trained more than 7,000 individuals at over 400 campuses across the country.
Social Justice Mini-Grants

Campus Pride launched the Social Justice Mini-Grants for Activism in June 2021 as part of the organization’s 20th-anniversary celebrations, and has continued awarding mini-grants ever since. Campus Pride awards $500 grants to support LGBTQ+ young adult activism. Grantees represent schools from across the country, working on projects ranging from producing an original play with trans artists, to developing and lobbying administrators to adopt more inclusive policies, to forming a mentorship program for LGBTQ+ students, to an LGBTQ+ art installation on campus.
The Campus Pride Trans Policy Clearinghouse is the premier resource for transgender policies at colleges and universities. The clearinghouse is updated regularly by Dr. Genny Beemyn, a noted scholar on trans issues in higher education and the Director of the University of Massachusetts Amherst’s Stonewall Center.
Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCU) Clearinghouse

The Campus Pride HBCU Clearinghouse provides the most up-to-date resource to view each HBCU and review a checklist of LGBTQ-inclusive policies, programs, and practices. Campus Pride seeks to provide positive visibility and support for LGBTQ+ work at HBCUs by highlighting the leading pioneers on our Dean’s List as well as those making steady progress with our Honor Roll and Honorable Mention recognitions. Our hope is to spotlight the positive work and advocate more broadly for institutional responsibility for LGBTQ+ inclusion at HBCUs.
The Campus Pride Career Connect goes beyond the traditional job board and career fair to offer employers the opportunity to mentor and develop the LGBTQ+ talent of tomorrow. The online career engagement portal connects LGBTQ+ young adults to the workplace. LGBTQ+ young adults can search and find LGBTQ-inclusive employers for building professional mentorship and direct one-to-one opportunities to support job prep skills and career readiness.
Campus Pride works annually with more than 1,400 colleges and universities including four-year and two-year institutions both public and private through our program delivery, trainings, and resources.
60%

Percent of those campuses located in the South and/or in rural areas.
WHO WE SERVE

126,000

Our work annually serves 126,000 young adults (ages 18-26).

3,600

We also support more than 3,600 staff, faculty, and administrators in improving the campus climate for LGBTQ+ youth each year.
• 72% identify as LGBTQ+
• 62% identify as LGBTQ+ youth of color (including mixed & multiracial)
• 48% identify as Transgender and NonBinary
• 22% identify as non-LGBTQ+ and advocates
• 6% are younger than 18 years old
• 76% are between the ages of 18 - 26 years old
• 18% are older than 26
- 19% are in high school
- 26% are in their 1st or 2nd year of college
- 30% are in their 3rd year of college
- 22% are in their 4th or 5th year of college
- 3% are in post-secondary school
CEO, Executive Director & Founder
Shane L. Mendez Windmeyer

Shane L. Mendez Windmeyer, M.S., Ed. (they/he) is a best-selling author, LGBTQ+ campus pioneer, and civil rights champion. Windmeyer is the founder and executive director of Campus Pride, the leading national LGBTQ+ organization for student leaders and campus organizations working to build future leaders and create safer campus communities.

Windmeyer is the creator of the Campus Pride Index (CampusPriceIndex.org), the premier national LGBTQ+ benchmarking tool for colleges and universities. Released Fall of 2006 by Alyson Books, Windmeyer is the author of The Advocate College Guide for LGBT Students, the first-ever college guide profiling the “100 Best LGBT-Friendly Campuses.” They are also the editor of Brotherhood: Gay Life in College Fraternities and co-editor of the books Inspiration for LGBT Students & Allies, Out on Fraternity Row: Personal Accounts of Being Gay in a College Fraternity and Secret Sisters: Stories of Being Lesbian & Bisexual in a College Sorority.

Windmeyer is Native Indigenous, part of the Iowa (Ioway) Tribe of Kansas & Nebraska. He was born Shane Mendez and was adopted a year later by Fred Windmeyer when his mother Diann Mendez married. Their family is mixed race Mexican, American Indian, and Irish European. Windmeyer attended Emporia State University as a low-income, first-generation college student and participated in the Upward Bound program in high school and college. They graduated from Emporia State University with a Bachelor’s degree in Communication and then attended Indiana University where he received his Master’s degree in Higher Education and Student Affairs. He lives in Charlotte, NC with his husband Thomas Feldman. They were legally married in 2015 after twenty years of being together.
Trans Policy Clearinghouse Coordinator
Dr. Genny Beemyn

Genny Beemyn, Ph.D., is the director of the UMass Amherst Stonewall Center and the coordinator of Campus Pride’s Trans Policy Clearinghouse. They have published and spoken extensively on the experiences and needs of trans college students, including writing some of the first articles on the topic. Among the more than dozen books and journal issues that Genny has written/edited are The Lives of Transgender People (with Sue Rankin, 2011); A Queer Capital: A History of Gay Life in Washington, D.C. (2014); and the anthology Trans People in Higher Education (2019). With Abbie Goldberg, they edited The SAGE Encyclopedia of Trans Studies (2021) and are an associate editor of the forthcoming 2nd edition of The SAGE Encyclopedia of LGBTQ Studies. They are currently writing Campus Queer: Addressing the Needs of LGBTQ+ College Students with Mickey Eliason for Johns Hopkins University Press. Genny Beemyn is also the associate editor of the Journal of LGBT Youth and an editorial board member of the Journal of Bisexuality, the Journal of Lesbian Studies, and the Journal of Homosexuality. They have a Ph.D. in African American Studies and master’s degrees in African American Studies, American Studies, and Higher Education Administration.
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Oh, You Mean That Safe Space