At a Glance

HISTORY
Founded as Throop University in 1891 in Pasadena, California, and renamed the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) in 1920.

RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

Academic Divisions
- Biology & Biological Engineering
- Chemistry & Chemical Engineering
- Engineering & Applied Science
- Geological & Planetary Sciences
- Humanities & Social Sciences
- Physics, Mathematics & Astronomy

28 academic options (programs)

FACULTY
Approximately 300 professorial faculty
More than 600 research scholars

HONORS

- Nobel Laureates
  45
- National Medal of Science recipients
  64
- National Medal of Technology and Innovation recipients
  13
- Memberships in the National Academies
  122

STUDENTS
987 undergraduate students
1,410 graduate students

Class of 2025
45% women
55% men

- 13,026 applicants
- 270 members of freshman class

*self-identified sex

Top-Caliber Undergraduates

99% placed in top tenth of high-school graduating class

The mission of the California Institute of Technology is to expand human knowledge and benefit society through research integrated with education. We investigate the most challenging, fundamental problems in science and technology in a singularly collegial, interdisciplinary atmosphere, while educating outstanding students to become creative members of society.
AFFORDING CALTECH

Students receiving need-based assistance: 52%
Average need-based financial-aid package: $55,957
Average indebtedness for class of 2021: $16,787

LIVING ALUMNI

Over 24,000 in the U.S. and around the world

GLOBAL FACILITIES

Jet Propulsion Laboratory
- Founded by Caltech in the 1930s and managed for NASA since 1958
- Current missions include InSight, Mars Science Laboratory, Juno, Jason 3, and NuSTAR
- More than 100 research and mission collaborations with Caltech faculty

Caltech Seismological Laboratory
- Internationally recognized for excellence in geophysical research
- Provides research centers for seismic studies, high-performance computing, and mineral physics
- Preeminent source for earthquake information in Southern California and around the world

International Observatory Network
- W. M. Keck Observatory, Hawaii
- Palomar Observatory, California
- Caltech Submillimeter Observatory, Hawaii
- Owens Valley Radio Observatory, California
- Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO), Washington and Louisiana
- Chajnantor Observatory, Chile

EMPLOYEES

Caltech 3,500
JPL 6,500

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1 2021–22 academic year
2 Faculty and alumni
3 Includes trustees