

Region	University Name	Year Established	Student Population	Campus Size in Acres	Campus Setting	Location	Nickname	Colors	History of Nickname
East	Coastal Carolina University	1954	9,478	630	Urban	Conway, SC	Chanticleers	Teal & Bronze	Upon its affiliation with the University of South Carolina, the push was made for a mascot more in line with the parent's mascot (the Gamecock); the ultimate choice was the Chanticleer (pronounced SHON-ti-clear), the proud, witty rooster made famous in "The Nun's Priest's Tale" of Chaucer's <i>Canterbury Tales</i>
East	George Washington University	1821	25,653	43	Urban	Washington DC	Colonials	Blue & Buff	This, the school named after George Washington, and having as its colors the Continental Army buff and blue, the colors of Colonial America, should be entitled to bear the name of "Colonials" Declaration of the name change.
East	Harvard University	1636	21,000	210	Urban	Cambridge, MA	Crimson	Crimson	A pair of rowers, Charles W. Eliot, Class of 1853, and Benjamin W. Crowninshield, Class of 1858, provided crimson scarves to their teammates so that spectators could differentiate Harvard's crew team from other teams during a regatta in 1858. Eliot became Harvard's 21st president in 1869 and served until 1909; the Corporation vote to make the color of Eliot's bandannas the official color came soon after he stepped down.
East	Iowa State University	1858	33,241	1,984	Urban	Ames, IA	Cyclones	Cardinal & Gold	The "Cyclones" name dates back to 1895. That year, Iowa suffered an unusually high number of devastating cyclones (as tornadoes were called at the time). In September, the Iowa State football team traveled to Northwestern University and defeated that team by a score of 36-0. The next day, the <i>Chicago Tribune's</i> headline read "Struck by a Cyclone: It Comes from Iowa and Devastates Evanston Town." ^[75] The article reported that "Northwestern might as well have tried to play football with an Iowa cyclone as with the Iowa team it met yesterday." The nickname stuck and the Iowa State team had made a name for itself.
East	Memphis	1219	17,963	1,160	Urban	Memphis, TN	Tigers	Grey & Blue	After the final game of the 1914 football season, there was a parade and the students began to shout, "We fight like tigers." Shortly thereafter, student publications began to refer to the teams and the student body as the Tigers.
East	Michigan State University	1925	49,343	5,200	Suburban	East Lansing, MI	Spartans	Green & White	The Lansing State Journal and Capital News were searching for a shorter and more heroic team name than Michigan Staters. They looked through entries and found Spartans. By coincidence, Justin Morrill once compared Land Grant colleges like Michigan State with the colleges of ancient Sparta. The name quickly caught on!
East	North Carolina Central University	1910	8,612	135	Urban	Durham, NC	Eagles	Maroon & Gray	North Carolina Central University was given its nickname by the school's founder, Dr. James E. Shepard, who was also the president of the school from its beginning in 1910 until 1947. "The Eagle is no common, ordinary barnyard fowl," Dr. Shepard explained. "And while a Sparrow clings to its flock, an Eagle soars alone."
East	Providence College	1917	3,852	105	Urban	Providence, RI	Friars	Black, White, & Silver	It is surmised that the reference to PC athletes as "Friars" came from an on-campus service club formed by John E. Farrell '26 called the Friars Club. Farrell reasoned that since the College was under the jurisdiction of the Order of Friar Preachers, the nickname was a natural.

East	St. Joseph's University	1851	8,860	114	Urban	Philadelphia, PA	Hawks	Crimson & Gray	Saint Joseph's athletic teams have been recognized with the nickname "Hawks" since 1929. At that time, the school's yearbook editor, Charlie Dunn, initiated a contest among the student body for a symbol. More than 100 submissions were narrowed to two, with "Hawks" winning out over "Grenadiers"
East	University of Cincinnati	1819	42,656	137	Urban	Cincinnati, OH	Bearcats	Red & Black	The Bearcat became the UC mascot on October 31, 1914 in a football game against the UK Wildcats. The key players in the birth of the Bearcat were a star UC player named Baehr, a creative cheerleader, and a talented cartoonist. During the second half of that hard-fought football game, UC cheerleader Norman "Pat" Lyon, building on the efforts of fullback Leonard K. "Teddy" Baehr, created the chant: "They may be Wildcats, but we have a Baehr-cat on our side."
East	University of Connecticut	1881	30,474	4,400	Suburban	Storrs, CT	Huskies	White & Blue	The student newspaper, <i>The Connecticut Campus</i> , conducted a student survey to select a mascot. The top choice was the husky dog.
East	University of Delaware	1743	16,00	2,311	Suburban	Newark, DE	Blue Hens	Blue & Gold	The Blue Hen Chicken is the state bird of Delaware. Which took its name from a Revolutionary war regiment. The regiment named itself after these ferocious fighting chickens, and the bird was later adopted by the state and then the university as well.
East	University of North Carolina	1789	29,127	729	Urban	Chapel Hill, NC	Tar Heels	Carolina Blue & White	Legend has it that the nickname dates back to the American Civil War. Supposedly, during a battle in Virginia the North Carolinian troops held their ground while supporting troops retreated. After the battle, supporting troops asked the victorious North Carolinians: "Any more tar down in the Old North State, boys?" and they replied: "No, not a bit; old Jeff's bought it all up." The supporting troops continued: "Is that so? What is he going to do with it?" The North Carolinian troops' response: "He is going to put it on you'n heels to make you stick better in the next fight."
East	University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee	1885	27,813	104	Urban	Milwaukee, WI	Panthers	Black & Gold	Following a University Student Government referendum to change the school's colors and mascot, the winner of a contest sponsored by the UWM Post is the now-familiar black and gold UWM Panther.
East	Villanova	1842	10,482	254	Suburban	Villanova, PA	Wildcats	Blue, Lt Blue & White	In 1926, a contest was conducted involving the entire university, to adopt a mascot for Villanova. Edward Hunsinger, a former All-American defensive end at Notre Dame, hit upon the nickname "Wildcats". Hunsinger was nicknamed the "Little General" of the legendary "Four Horsemen" and he had recently been added to Villanova's football staff as the assistant coach.
East	University of Virginia	1819	14,641	1,682	Suburban	Charlottesville, VA	Cavaliers	Orange & Blue	The Cavalier mascot is a historical reference to the time when the Commonwealth of Virginia earned its nickname, the "Old Dominion." The Commonwealth was a hotbed of persons loyal to the English crown, called cavaliers in the days of the English Civil War and Interregnum.
Midwest	Arizona State University	1885	58,404	631	Urban	Tempe, AZ	Sun Devils	Maroon & Gold	The State Press, the student newspaper, ran frequent appeals during the fall of 1946, urging the Bulldog to be replaced by the new Sun Devil. And on November 8, 1946, the student body voted 819 to 196 to make the change.
Midwest	Duke University	1924	14,951	8,610	Urban	Durham, NC	Blue Devils	Blue & White	Blue Devils is the mascot for Duke University's athletic teams. The mascot is named after the French Chasseurs Alpins soldier in World War I that wore a distinctive blue uniform with a flowing cape and a beret. For this reason, they were nicknamed "les Diables Bleus" or Blue Devils.

Midwest	Kansas State University	1863	24,581	668	Suburban	Manhattan, KS	Wildcats	Royal Purple	Through its first 19 seasons of athletic competition, Kansas State had used "Aggies" as its nickname. But prior to the 1915 season, new coach John "Chief" Bender gave his squad the nickname "Wildcats." The moniker lasted the one season Bender coached at K-State. Under Coach Z.G. Clevenger in 1917, the school team became known as the "Farmers." In 1920 another new coach, Charles Bachman, took over the program, renaming the team "Wildcats." This time, the nickname stuck.
Midwest	Manhattan College	1853	3,195	22	Urban	Bronx, NY	Jaspers	Kelly Green & White	Br. Jasper brought the then little-known sport of baseball to Manhattan College and became the team's first coach. Since Br. Jasper was also the prefect of discipline, he supervised the student fans at Manhattan College baseball games. During one particularly hot day, Br. Jasper noticed the students were becoming restless during the seventh inning of a close game. To relieve the tension, Br. Jasper called time-out and told the students to stand up and stretch for a few minutes until the game resumed.
Midwest	Mercer University	1833	8,300	150	Urban	Macon, GA	Bears	Black & Orange	The "Bears" reference originated in the first football game played between Mercer and Georgia. In those days, athletes wore long hair and sported handlebar mustaches. As a brawny Mercer lineman charged down Old Herty Field in Athens, where the game was played in 1892, a bemused spectator asked, "Whence cometh that bear?" The name stuck.
Midwest	North Carolina State	1887	34,764	2,110	Urban	Raleigh, NC	Wolfpack	Red & White	The "Wolfpack" was first mentioned in association with NC State athletics in 1921, when an anonymous letter-writer to the school newspaper suggested that some of the school's football players were as "unruly as a pack of wolves."
Midwest	Saint Louis	1818	13,785	235	Urban	St. Louis, MO	Billikens	Blue & White	A St. Louis sports writer decided that football Coach Bender resembled the Billiken. Later, a cartoonist drew a caricature of the coach in the form of a Billiken and posted it in the window of a drugstore. The football team soon became known as "Bender's Billikens."
Midwest	University of Cal Poly	1901	19,703	9,678	Suburban	San Luis Obispo, CA	Mustangs	Green & Gold	Homecoming 1924 marked Cal Poly's adoption of the "Mustangs" as the mascot and football team name, a declarations was made "In past years the boys have accepted whatever name was attached to them, but from now on the first teams will be known as the 'Mustangs,'
Midwest	University of Iowa	1847	31,065	1,900	Urban	Iowa City, IA	Hawkeyes	Black and Gold	The school took the nickname from the state itself. The name Hawkeye was originally applied to a hero in a fictional novel, The Last of the Mohicans, written by James Fenimore Cooper. Author Cooper had the Delaware Indians bestow the name on a white scout who lived and hunted with them. In 1838, 12 years after the book was published, people in the territory of Iowa acquired the nickname.
Midwest	University of Kentucky	1865	28,928	784	Urban	Lexington, KY	Wildcats	Blue & White	The nickname became synonymous with UK shortly after a 6-2 football victory over Illinois on Oct. 9, 1909, on the road. Commandant Carbusier, then head of the military department at old State University, told a group of students in a chapel service following the game that the Kentucky football team had "fought like Wildcats."
Midwest	University of Louisville	1798	22,293	438	Urban	Louisville, KY	Cardinals	Red & Black	The Cardinal bird was chosen to give Louisville statewide recognition, since the state bird of Kentucky is the Cardinal

Midwest	University of Massachusetts	1863	28,518	1,463	Urban	Amherst, MA	Minutemen	Maroon & White	When choosing the new name, the Student Senate, through a poll of the student body, came up with several options, the result of which was the Minutemen. This designation is a fitting and proper name for the athletic teams of the University of Massachusetts.
Midwest	University of Michigan	1817	43,710	3,177	Urban	Ann Arbor, MI	Wolverines	Maize & Blue	It derives from the border dispute between Michigan and Ohio in 1803, often referred to as the "Toledo War." While the two sides argued over the proper setting of the state line, Michiganders were called wolverines. It is unclear, however, whether the Michigan natives pinned this name upon themselves to show their tenacity and strength, or whether Ohioans chose the name in reference to the gluttonous, aggressive, habits of the wolverine. From then on, Michigan was labeled the "Wolverine state" and when the University of Michigan was founded, it simply adopted the nickname of the state it represented.
Midwest	University of Tennessee	1794	27,171	560	Urban	Knoxville, TN	Volunteers	Orange and White	Tennessee adopted the name Volunteers, or more popularly Vols, because of a now-official nickname that Tennessee received during the War of 1812, the Volunteer State. The name became even more prominent in the Mexican War
Midwest	Texas Southern University	1927	9,646	150	Urban	Houston, TX	Tigers	Maroon & Gray	
Midwest	Xavier University	1831	6,650	190	Urban	Cincinnati, OH	Musketeers	Blue, Gray, & White	The Musketeer concept was based on the suggestion of the late Reverend Francis J. Finn, S.J., a member of the Xavier University Board of Trustees for many years until his death in 1928. In response to a directive from the Trustees, Father Finn proposed the name Musketeers in 1925. It was adopted and has been a Xavier designation ever since.
Midwest	University of Texas	1883	52,213	423	Urban	Austin, TX	Longhorns	Burnt Orange & White	The Longhorns name came about in 1903, when Daily Texan sports editor D.A. Frank was the first to refer to the team as "Longhorns" in the school paper. For whatever reason, Frank and his chief-editor decided that all reports for the football team would refer to them as Longhorns
Midwest	Wichita State University	1895	14,550	330	Urban	Wichita, KS	Shockers	Yellow & Black	Many Fairmount football players earned tuition and board harvesting, or "shocking," wheat during the summer harvests, so the name seemed appropriate. Early football games were played on a stubbled wheat field. Although the Wheatshockers name was never officially adopted by the university, it caught on and survived until it was later shortened to Shockers.
Midwest	Wofford College	1854	1,580	170	Urban	Spartanburg, SC	Terrier	Black & Gold	The 1909 baseball team adopted a Pit Bull Terrier ("Jack"), and he proved to be the inspiration for a permanent mascot.
South	Eastern Kentucky University	1906	15,968	892	Urban	Richmond, KY	Colonels	Maroon & White	In 1963 President Robert Martin established the Colonel as the mascot, who continues in that capacity to the present day.

South	Florida University	1853	49,913	2,000	Urban	Gainesville, FL	Gators	Orange & Blue	Although stories of who started the nickname vary, the earliest known printed references to the team as the Alligators occurred on Oct. 19 and 20, 1911 in both the South Carolina and Florida newspapers. "Gamecocks clash with Alligators" was the headline in The State, South Carolina's leading newspaper. In his daily sports column for the Florida Times-Union, Laurence "Kiddo" Woltz reported that the team had passed through Jacksonville during the night on its way to Columbia. May the 'Gators' win 'em both."
South	Mount Saint Mary's University	1808	2,100	1,400	Suburban	Emmitsburg, MD	Mountaineers	Bronze & Blue	Named for the fact they are located in a tiny mountain town in Central Maryland. The school refers to itself as "The Mount"
South	Ohio State University	1870	57,466	3,000	Urban	Columbus, OH	Buckeyes	Scarlet & Gray	Ohio State Buckeyes is the team nickname because of the many buckeye trees that once covered its hills and plains. The name itself is of native origin. Because the markings on the nut resembled the eye of a buck, the Indians called it "hetuck" or "buckeye."
South	Pittsburgh	1787	18,427	132	Urban	Pittsburgh, PA	Panthers	Blue & Gold	The Panther was adopted at a meeting of students and alumni in the autumn of 1909. It was chosen for the following reasons: The Panther was the most formidable creature once indigenous to the Pittsburgh region, It had ancient, heraldic standing as a noble animal, The happy accident of alliteration, The close approximation of its hue to the old gold of the University's colors (old gold and blue)
South	Stanford University	1891	15,877	8,180	Suburban	Stanford, CA	Cardinal	Cardinal & White	The nickname for Stanford is the Cardinal – in reference to one of the school colors (and is therefore in the singular). Stanford's history with its nickname began on March 19, 1891 when Stanford beat Cal in the first Big Game. While Stanford did not have an official nickname, the day after the Big Game local newspapers picked up the "cardinal" theme and used it in the headlines.
South	Stephen F Austin University	1921	12,999	406	Urban	Nacogdoches, TX	Lumberjacks	Purple, White & Red	The nickname was chosen in an assembly held shortly after the institution officially opened classes. Students and faculty met to debate the merits of several potential nicknames. T.E. Ferguson submitted "Lumberjacks," a nickname he found appropriate for a university surrounded by the piney woods of Deep East Texas.
South	Syracuse University	1870	21,029	683	Urban	Syracuse, NY	Orange	Orange	Named for their predominant color. Orange was chosen after the school switch from the less fearless pink and blue.
South	University of Albany	1844	12,950	586	Suburban	Albany, NY	Great Danes	Purple & Gold	A contest was held in the Spring of 1964 and Kathy Earle '67 won a \$25 savings bond for her winning contest entry of the Great Dane. Mrs. Earle picked the great Danes because of their, "Size, weight, strength, character, courage, speed, and stamina"
South	University of California Los Angeles	1882	41,812	429	Urban	Los Angeles, CA	Bruins	Blue & Gold	In 1926, UCLA looked to enter the Pacific Coast Conference, UC Berkeley was using both Bears and Bruins. Berkeley's student leaders voted to give the Bruin name up and finally, UCLA had its mascot.
South	University of Colorado	1876	32,697	786	Urban	Boulder, CO	Buffaloes	Black & Silver	The Buffaloes comes from a contest that the school held to name their program. There was a \$5 prize in 1934 to the winner!
South	University of Dayton	1850	8,069	388	Urban	Dayton, OH	Flyers	Red & Blue	The nickname "Flyers" is a tribute to the Wright Brothers who began their careers and invented the airplane in Dayton.

South	University of Kansas	1865	27,784	1,100	Urban	Lawrence, KS	Jayhawks	Blue & Gray	The Jayhawk is a cross between two hunting birds- the noisy blue jay and quiet sparrow hawk. The term came to prominence just before the Civil War in bleeding Kansas, where it was adopted by militant abolitionist groups known as jayhawkers. With admission to the Union as a free state in 1861, the term jayhawk came to represent the people of Kansas.
South	University of New Mexico	1889	27,197	600	Urban	Albuquerque, NM	Los Lobos	Cherry & Silver	On Sept. 22, 1920, sophomore George S. Bryan, editor of the U.N.M. Weekly and student manager of the football team, was present at a Student Council meeting for the purpose of suggesting that the University teams be given a mascot name as at that time many universities had mascot names for their teams. Bryan suggested Lobo, the Spanish word for wolf, as the nickname. The name was enthusiastically received. The Oct. 1 issue of the student paper said, "The Lobo is respected for his cunning, feared for his prowess, and is the leader of the pack. It is the ideal name for the Varsity boys who go forth to battle for the glory of the school. All together now; fifteen rahs for the LOBOS."
South	University of Tulsa	1894	3,174	230	Urban	Tulsa, OK	Golden Hurricanes	Old Godl, Royal, & Crimson	Legend has it that head TU coach Howard Acher liked the idea of his squad storming over the opposition, and he was set on a new tag for the team — "Golden Tornadoes." Given Tulsa's locale, this nickname made perfect meteorological sense. But a check showed that in 1917, Georgia Tech had chosen that name. So, Acher asked the squad to vote on the name "Golden Hurricane," and the rest is history.
South	Virginia Commonwealth University	1838	3,752	143	Urban	Richmond, VA	Rams	Black & Gold	Way back in 1950, the first full-time athletics director, Ed Allen. Allen was a Providence native, a 1943 graduate of University of Rhode Island, so when it was time to rename the teams he called them the Rams after Rhode Island's mascot.
South	Western Michigan University	1903	19,198	1,200	Urban	Kalamazoo, MI	Broncos	Brown & Gold	The nickname "Bronco" was submitted by legendary WMU alumnus, John Gill, who was then an assistant football coach under M.J. Mike Gray.
West	American University	1893	7,212	84	Urban	Washington DC	Eagles	Red & Blue	Named after the National Bird
West	Baylor University	1845	15,189	1,000	Urban	Waco, Texas	Bears	Green & Gold	Despite competition from two dozen rivals including the buffalo, antelope, frog and ferret, Baylor students chose the bear as the University's mascot, and Doyle Thrailkill of San Antonio won the \$5 prize. Baylor's student newspaper the Lariat soon carried the headline "Bruin is Elected Patron Saint of All Baylordom."
West	BYU	1875	34,150	560	Suburban	Provo, UT	Cougars	Blue, White & Tan	All teams are named the "Cougars", a name that was first introduced by Eugene L. Roberts in the 1920s, initially only applied to the football team.
West	Creighton University	1878	7,730	132	Urban	Omaha, NE	Blue jays	White & Blue	Creighton adopted a Blue jay as its mascot in 1924, when the University's athletic board selected the name from submissions for a contest run by the Omaha Bee newspaper
West	Gonzaga University	1887	7,764	131	Urban	Spokane, WA	Bulldogs	White, Red, & Blue	A San Diego sportswriter was impressed with Gonzaga's Bulldog like tenacity and that moniker was adapted for Gonzaga's athletic teams and has been used ever since that December 25, 1921 game. While Bulldogs has always been the official athletic nickname for Gonzaga, the term Zags has long been used as an alternative nickname when referring to Gonzaga teams.

West	New Mexico State University	1888	18,497	6,000	Urban	Las Cruces, NM	Aggies	Crimson & White	a nickname derived from the university's agricultural beginnings.
West	North Dakota State University	1890	14,629	258	Urban	Fargo, ND	Bison	Yellow & Green	It was developed by head football coach Stan Borleske in 1919 because he and members of the football team didn't like being known as the Aggies. Borleske wanted a strong and fierce mascot. The Bison was a logical choice. The great animals once roamed the North Dakota prairie in vast numbers, and over the years Bison athletic teams added an additional name, the "Thundering Herd."
West	Oklahoma State University	1890	25,708	1489	Suburban	Stillwater, OK	Cowboys	Orange & Black	"Cowboys" had a Southwestern flavor and flair that fit like a favorite pair of boots. The Athletic Council authorized Athletic Director Edward C. Gallagher to have 2,000 balloons printed, "Oklahoma Aggies - Ride 'em, Cowboy" for sale at football games in 1926.
West	Oregon	1876	20,829	295	Urban	Eugene, OR	Ducks	Green & Yellow	Ducks, with their webbed feet, began to be associated with the team in the 1920s, and a live white duck named "Puddles" began to appear at sports events.[2] Journalists, especially headline writers, also adopted the shorter Duck nickname.[3] In 1978, a student cartoonist came up with a new duck image called Mallard Drake, but students chose Donald as the official mascot by a 2-to-1 margin
West	San Diego St. University	1897	32,759	283	Urban	San Diego, CA	Aztecs	Black & Scarlet	In 1925, a small group of students and administrators chose Aztecs as the school's mascot to emphasize Southwestern heritage.
West	University of Arizona	1885	40,223	380	Urban	Tucson, AZ	Wildcats	Cardinal & Blue	A name derived from a 1914 football game with then California champions Occidental College, where the L.A. Times asserted that, "the Arizona men showed the fight of wildcats."
West	University of Louisiana Lafayette	1898	15,321	1,227	Urban	Lafayette, LA	Ragin' Cajuns	Vermilion & White	In 1963 then-football coach Russ Faulkinberry changed the nickname of the football team from "Bulldogs" to "Ragin' Cajuns," a nod to the school's location in Acadiana.
West	University of Nebraska	1869	24,593	613	Urban	Lincoln, NE	Cornhuskers	Scarlet & Cream	Sportswriter Charles Sherman started referring to the Nebraska team as Cornhuskers, and the 1900 team was first to bear that label.
West	University of Oklahoma	1890	30,303	3,00	Suburban	Norman, OK	Sooners	Crimson & Cream	Came about the time fo the Homestead Act of 1862. It relates to the Oklahoma land rush. As time went on, "Sooner" came to be a synonym of Progressivism. The Sooner was an "energetic individual who travels ahead of the human procession."
West	University of Wisconsin	1848	42,820	936	Urban	Madison, WI	Badgers	Cardinal & White	The name Badgers comes from the state motto of "The Badger State" This term came not from the animal, but from the way early settlers of the state lived. They were miners, living in the ground. Hence they were referred to as Badgers. The University adopted this as their mascot as well.
West	Weber State University	1889	26,681	400	Urban	Ogden, UT	Wildcats	Purple & White	The short-tailed cats from the lynx family were native to the area's Wasatch Mountains, drawing fur trappers long before the Mormon pioneers arrived. Bobcats, or bob-tailed cats, were sometimes called wildcats, and the alliteration of "Weber Wildcats" and "Waldo the Wildcat" flowed easily off the tongue.