

Strategic Plan 2010-2014

Comparator Peer Institutions

The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia, in an empirical study conducted in 2008, used a hybrid approach including both principal components analysis and qualitative judgment to identify a list of institutions with comparable characteristics (such as mission, size, control, programs mix, etc.) for each of the 35 USG institutions. The choice of comparable institutions was restricted to public higher education institutions across the United States.

The initial list of institutions used for the UWG comparator analysis was drawn from the 2006 IPEDS data for public, four-year institutions (excluding military academies) with Carnegie classification of Masters' Colleges and Universities (larger programs), resulting in 165 institutions. A cluster analysis of 166 institutions (including UWG) produced 12 cluster groups and the optimal cluster group narrowed the list down to 45 institutions. It was from the list of 45 institutions that UWG used comparative data and qualitative judgment to identify the following **EIGHTEEN** institutions.

[Bridgewater State College](#)

[California University of Pennsylvania](#)

[Central Washington University](#)

[East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania](#)

[Edinboro University of Pennsylvania](#)

[Jacksonville State University](#)

[Kutztown University of Pennsylvania](#)

[Minnesota State University -- Mankato](#)

[Northeastern State University](#)

[Saginaw Valley State University](#)

[Salem State University](#)

[Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania](#)

[Southeastern Louisiana University](#)

[University of Central Missouri](#)

[Southeast Missouri State University](#)

[SUNY College at Oswego](#)

[University of Central Oklahoma](#)

[University of Wisconsin -- Whitewater](#)

Aspirational Peers

As part of the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia's strategic plan process, each institution was asked to submit a list of other institutions they "aspire" to be like based on some defined set of criteria (such as mission, institutional size, program mix, retention rates, graduation rates, etc). The University of West Georgia (UWG) is committed to attaining "educational excellence in a personal environment through an intellectually stimulating and supportive community for its students, faculty and staff." With the goal of becoming a *destination institution*, UWG has identified the following **TEN** aspirational peer institutions across the nation, based on a number of characteristics that are closely aligned with its 2010-2014 Strategic Plan initiatives.

[Appalachian State University](#)

[California State University -- Chico](#)

[Eastern Illinois University](#)

[James Madison University](#)

[Montclair State University](#)

[Murray State University](#)

[University of Northern Iowa](#)

[University of North Carolina -- Wilmington](#)

[West Chester University of Pennsylvania](#)

[Western Kentucky University](#)