MIDWAY UNIVERSITY

Student Handbook



Midway University Student Handbook

Table of Contents

Midway University Student Handbook.....
Mission Statement.....2
Vision Statement.....2
Values.....2
Non-Discrimination Policy.....2
History & Traditions.....3
Alma Mater (School Song).....3
Ring Shield.....4
School Colors, Mascot, and Motto 4

Mission Statement

Midway University invests in our students, engaging them in personalized learning experiences and preparing them for fulfilling careers (adopted May 11, 2023).

Vision Statement

Midway University is an innovative, vibrant, and welcoming institution committed to excellence.

Values

Midway University fosters core values shared by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and reflects the beliefs of our founder, Dr. L.L. Pinkerton. These values include:

- Valuing the dignity of all people
- Acting with integrity and responsibility
- Viewing self as part of the community
- Living life within a global context
- Providing service to others
- Pursuing life-long learning

Non-Discrimination Policy

View the Non-Discrimination Policy in the Academic Catalog.

History & Traditions

Midway University, formerly the Kentucky Female Orphan School, was the dream of Dr. Lewis Letig Pinkerton, a young physician and minister of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Together with James Ware Parrish, the Midway Christian Church elder, they raised the funds necessary to open the school, they joined with other progressive thinkers to launch a revolutionary educational experiment. In antebellum Kentucky, the few girls who received formal education were taught to read only because it was considered necessary for their role as mothers. When they reached adulthood, they would read the Bible to their children. Female orphans were rarely offered even this meager amount of schooling. Without education or parental support and concern, the most many could hope for was a lifetime of drudgery as a maid or laborer.

The liberal arts curriculum and career preparation proposed by Dr. L. L. Pinkerton was a comprehensive solution to this tragic situation, and the benefits reached far beyond the individual girls who attended the school. Dr. L. L. Pinkerton's dream became a reality as Midway-educated teachers went forth to share their learning with youngsters throughout the state and region. In the years since its inception, the institution has evolved to meet the educational needs of women, and now men, while preserving the goals and standards of its founders.

Today, Midway University has achieved its goal of excellence in education, providing advanced instruction in a broad range of subjects based upon a strong liberal arts curriculum. The campus and programs have grown with the school's enrollment, yet many of the traditional ideals Midway was founded on have remained constant. The university's affiliation with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) remains strong and many members of the student body are active members of Christian Church congregations.

On May 12, 2016, the Midway University Board of Trustees voted to become fully coeducational in all its undergraduate programs by fall 2016. Daytime programs and the residential campus had been solely for women since the school's founding and operated as a Women's College. Evening and online undergraduate programs and graduate programs all have been co-educational since their inception.

Alma Mater (School Song)

Original words by Lucy Peterson, 1907-1962
Sung to the tune of Adeste Fideles
Amended: Dr. Tracey Miller, 1990; Dr. Johnie Dean and Dr. Bonnie Marshall, 2010

Here banded together, dear Old Alma Mater,
Secure in our heritage by those gone before.
Led by its vision and the hopeful future;
We trust in its wise guidance, and heed its voice of wisdom,

We sing now to its glory, its glory proclaim!

Then go forth from these doors, dear Alma Mater send us, All ready to sharpen us where'er we may be,
Strong in self-knowledge, wise in understanding
We trust in its wise guidance, and heed its voice of wisdom,

We sing now to its glory, its glory proclaim!

Ring Shield

Lamp: Truth and Knowledge (Religious symbolism: Let your light shine before all so that they see your good works and praise your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16)

Key: Knowledge and Guardianship

Oak Leaf: Strength – a symbol for the strength and durability of wisdom. It is often used as a symbol of continuous growth.

Star: Merit, guidance, heavenly wisdom – a guiding beacon. Likewise represents the Lord Jesus (Star of Bethlehem) who is our Center

Scales: Justice – Treat all with equality

The Mantling: That which is outside the seal but which surrounds or “mantles” the seal. This is not an official part of the seal, only a decoration for showing it. The overall coat of arms is a Shield

School Colors, Mascot, and Motto

School Colors – Blue, Gold and White

School Mascot – The Eagle

School Motto – “Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself”

Last updated: 07/16/2026

Midway University
512 E. Stephens Street, Midway, KY 40347
1.800.952.4122