Welcome To Howard University!

The Office of Admission has designed this self-guided tour for those prospective students, families, and visitors who wish to enjoy the convenience of walking around campus at their leisure.

Begin your tour at 2400 Sixth Street NW, the Mordecai Wyatt Johnson Administration Building

Mordecai Wyatt Johnson was Howard’s first Black president. Over his thirty-four years of leadership, from 1926 to 1960, the University grew from eight non-accredited schools to ten fully accredited schools and colleges. The Administration Building houses many of the University’s key administrative offices, as well as the Office of the President and a United States Post Office branch.

With your back to the Administration Building, proceed left to the School of Business.

The School of Business has more than 1500 students and 80 faculty members. Its facilities include a highly-rated library and special centers for accounting education, insurance, banking, and small business development. The school offers such programs as the 21st Century Advantage Program and the School of Business Executive Leadership Honors Program.

Continue forward to Cook Hall.

Cook Hall is a residence hall for freshman men. The hall was built in 1938 and named for Howard alumnus George W. Cook. Born into slavery, Cook earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1881. He went on to serve the University as a professor, dean, secretary, treasurer, and acting president.

Proceed past Cook Hall to Burr Gymnasium.

Burr Gymnasium hosts Bison basketball games, volleyball matches, and swim meets. The gym also houses fitness machines and classrooms for student use. Burr was named for legendary Howard athletics coach John Harold Burr, who led the University’s basketball, swimming, and track teams from 1923 to 1958.

As you exit Burr, see Drew Hall to your left.

Drew Hall is a residence hall for freshmen men. The hall is named for Dr. Charles Drew, who was the nation’s leading authority on the preservation of blood plasma. Dr. Drew served as a professor and chairman of the Howard University Department of Surgery from 1941 until 1950 and as Chief of Staff at Freedmen’s Square Hospital.

With your back to Drew Hall, turn right and move toward Greene Stadium.

Greene Stadium hosts Bison football, soccer, and lacrosse games. The stadium was named for Dr. William H. Greene, a Washington physician and Howard alumnus. Dr. Greene served on the Board of Trustees until 1973, at which point he was named Trustee Emeritus.
Proceed alongside Greene Stadium to approach Cramton Auditorium.

Cramton Auditorium is home to many of Howard’s largest events, including Homecoming pageants, fashion shows, and concerts, two yearly convocations, and weekly chapel services. The auditorium was named for United States Representative Louis Cramton of Michigan. Congressman Cramton was instrumental in the authorization of federal funds for the University.

With your back to Ira Aldridge Theater, proceed left toward the Blackburn Center.

Armour J. Blackburn University Center Opened in 1979, Blackburn Center houses the campus’s largest cafeteria as well as several other casual eateries. The center also hosts guest lectures, student programs, and formal events in its conference rooms and ballrooms. Blackburn Center was named for Armour J. Blackburn, a 1926 graduate of the University who served as the Dean of Students from 1949 to 1969.

Facing Cramton, continue right to the Ira Aldridge Theater.

Ira Aldridge Theater hosts plays and musicals performed by students in the Division of Fine Arts. The University’s Board of Trustees elected in 1956 to name the theater after Ira Aldridge, a 19th-century actor who gained acclaim for his portrayals of Shakespearean characters.

With your back to the Blackburn Center, proceed left toward Locke Hall.

Locke Hall is a classroom building that also serves as the home of the University’s largest undergraduate college, the College of Arts and Sciences. Locke Hall was named for Alain LeRoy Locke, a key figure in the Harlem Renaissance who also served as a professor in and chairman of the University’s Department of Philosophy from 1928 to 1953.

Facing Ira Aldridge Theater, turn right down the stairs, then turn left toward Lulu Childers Hall.

Childers Hall is the home of Division of Fine Arts. The building is named for Lulu Childers, who became first Director of the Conservatory of Music in 1905. She retired as Dean of the School of Music in 1940.

With Locke Hall to your left, move to the end of the building and make a left. The School of Education is at the bottom of the incline.

The School of Education prepares future teachers through an emphasis on pre-service training to meet the needs of diverse student populations.

With your back to Ira Aldridge Theater, proceed right toward Douglass Hall.

Frederick Douglass Memorial Hall is a classroom building that also houses several departments of the College of Arts and Sciences. Frederick Douglass, the building’s namesake and the foremost voice of the 19th-century abolitionist movement, served on the University’s Board of Trustees from 1872 to 1895.

Move back up the incline then turn left. At the sidewalk, make a right. Founders Library is to your left.

Founders Library is the central facility in the University’s seven-library system. Named in memory of Howard’s seventeen founders, the building was designed by African-American architect Albert Cassell.
Harriet Tubman Quadrangle, known as “The Quad,” Tubman Quadrangle comprises five residence halls—Baldwin, Crandall, Frazier, Truth, and Wheatley—which together house hundreds of freshman women. As the oldest all-women hall on campus, the Tubman Quadrangle has helped shape thousands of Howard women’s academic lives. The Quad was named for Harriet Tubman, a heroine of the anti-slavery movement and the Underground Railroad.

Facing Founders Library, proceed to the right toward Rankin Chapel.

Rankin Chapel is the home for spiritual life on campus. It was built in memory of Andrew Evarts Rankin, the brother of Jeremiah Rankin, who served as president of the University from 1890 to 1903.

Proceed down the stairs between Founders Library and Rankin Chapel and enter the Valley. Thirkield Hall is to the right.

Thirkield Hall is a classroom building commonly called “the Physics Building.” It was dedicated in 1909. The building’s namesake, Wilbur Thirkield, was president of the University from 1906 to 1912.

Facing the Chemistry Building, turn left to proceed to Just Hall.

Just Hall is the home of Howard’s biology department. The building was named for Dr. Ernest Everett Just, a world-renowned zoologist. Dr. Just was head of Howard’s zoology department for twenty-six years. His research on the biology of the cell won him international recognition.

Facing the Chemistry Building, turn left to proceed to Just Hall.

Facing Just Hall, turn left to proceed to Cooper Hall.

Chauncey I. Cooper Hall houses the Howard University School of Pharmacy, one of the University’s seven graduate and professional schools. The building was named for Dr. Chauncey Cooper, who served as the Dean of the School of Pharmacy from 1941 to 1972. Dr. Cooper founded the National Pharmaceutical Association, a professional organization for Black pharmacists.

Continue south toward the Bethune Annex.

The Bethune Annex opened in 1993. The residence hall houses a cafeteria with a capacity of 300 on its main level. It also holds a seminar room that is available for use by campus organizations, academic departments, and University staff. The Annex was named for Mary McLeod Bethune, the acclaimed educator, school founder, activist, and advisor to President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

With your back to Thirkield Hall, proceed right toward the Chemistry Building.

The Chemistry Building was dedicated in 1936. The building was designed by Albert Cassell, who also designed Founders Library and Douglass Hall.

Continue south toward College Hall South.

College Hall South is a residence hall for sophomore, junior, and senior men and women. Like its counterpart to the north, College Hall South opened in 2014. The dorm is equipped with conference rooms, study lounges, and a 24-hour computer lab.

Facing the Quad, turn right toward College Hall North.

College Hall North opened in 2014. It is a residence hall that serves as home to hundreds of freshman women. The hall is equipped with 24-hour fitness centers and study suites.
International Exchange programs.

With College Hall South on your left, proceed toward Bryant Street and make a right. On your right will be WHUT-TV.

Howard University Television (WHUT-TV) was started in 1980. It is the only Black-owned and operated noncommercial station in the United States. The station provides spaces for comprehensive, hands-on training for students in communication, business, engineering, law, and fine arts.

Continuing on Bryant Street, to your left is the Health Sciences Library.

Louis J. Stokes Health Sciences Library is the newest library on campus was named for United States Representative Louis Stokes, the first Black Member of Congress from Ohio. During his thirty years in Congress, Rep. Stokes became known as a principal advocate for the study of health issues that affect Black communities and other communities of color.

Continuing on Bryant Street, the School of Communications is to your right.

The CB Powell Building is home to the School of Communications is to your right. Established in 1971, the School of Communications offers a variety of undergraduate, master’s, and doctoral degree programs. The School also houses two radio stations, WHUR and WHBC, and a television station, WHUT. Its distinguished faculty educates approximately 1500 students annually.

Continuing on Bryant Street, WHUR-Radio is to your right.

Launched in 1971, WHUR was the first Black-owned radio station in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. The station was developed to stimulate intellectual and cultural life in the nation’s capital and to serve as a training ground for Howard students interested in careers in broadcast communications.

With your back to WHUR-Radio, face the Allied Health Building.

The Allied Health Building is home to the College of Nursing and Allied Health Sciences, which comprises the Division of Nursing and the Division of Allied Health Sciences.

At the corner of Bryant and Sixth Streets, proceed up the hill. See the Ralph J. Bunche Center on your left.

Established in 1993, the Ralph J. Bunche International Affairs Center was so named in 1996. The Center makes international affairs services, student exchange support, and career opportunities available to Howard students, faculty, and administrators. Its namesake was a political scientist, diplomat and Nobel Peace Prize Laureate. Bunche served as chair of Howard’s political science department from 1928 to 1950.

Continuing on Sixth Street, pass the Lewis K. Downing Building on the left.

Downing Hall houses the University’s Department of Engineering. The building was named for Lewis K. Downing, who was appointed Dean of the School of Engineering and Architecture in 1934 and served in that capacity for thirty years.

Just north of Downing Hall on Sixth Street sits the Howard Mackey Building on the left.

The Architecture Building was named for Howard Mackey. Mackey led Howard’s Bachelor of Architecture degree program to become the first HBCU program accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board in 1951. He served as chairman of the Department of Architecture for thirty-two years.
Proceed to the corner of Sixth Street and Howard Place. On the left is Lindsay Hall.

Lindsay Hall houses the graduate School of Social Work. The building was named for Ms. Inabel Burns Lindsay, the first female Academic Dean at Howard University.

You have now reached the starting point of your tour. To visit the Howard University Bookstore, proceed south on Sixth Street. Cross the street and turn right on Bryant Street. The Bookstore is at the corner Georgia Avenue and Bryant Street. Barnes & Noble @ Howard University Bookstore

Located at the corner of Georgia Avenue and Bryant Street, the HUB is the University’s home for official paraphernalia, textbooks, and general reading materials.

South of the Howard University Bookstore, at the corner of Georgia Avenue and W Street, sits the University’s Interdisciplinary Research Building (IRB).

Opened in 2016, the IRB contains 81,000 square feet of space for laboratories, offices, and research-support spaces. The building also includes the Washington metropolitan area’s only Class 0 cleanroom space, designated for research requiring a highly controlled, non-contaminated environment.
Once you enter the gateways onto Howard University's main campus, your life will change – forever. The Howard experience is an intellectually stimulating, culturally awakening, socially empowering journey.