

University of North Texas vs University of Georgia

A brief comparison for Indian students planning to study in the USA

The short version: UNT offers a lower tuition, higher acceptance chances and a location inside the large Dallas-Fort Worth job market. UGA offers a stronger national brand, a top-20 public university ranking and a classic flagship campus experience, at a higher cost and with tougher admissions.

At a glance

Factor	University of North Texas (UNT)	University of Georgia (UGA)
Location	Denton, Texas, about 65 km north of Dallas, inside the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex	Athens, Georgia, a college town about 100 km east of Atlanta
Type / founded	Public research university (R1), founded 1890	Public flagship, land-grant and sea-grant university, founded 1785 (first state-chartered US university)
Enrolment	Approx. 40,000+ students	Approx. 40,000 students (about 30,000 UG and 10,000 graduate)
Ranking	R1 research status; strong in niche programs such as music, information science and data science	US News 2026: #19 among public universities and #46 nationally; top-20 public for 10 straight years
Tuition (UG, international)	Approx. USD 21,000 to 28,000 per year	Approx. USD 32,000 per year (tuition and fees, out-of-state)
Total yearly cost	Approx. USD 33,000 to 42,000	Approx. USD 45,000 to 50,000
Admission difficulty	Moderate; accessible for a wide range of profiles	Competitive; freshman acceptance around 40%, SAT 1270-1450 typical
Best known for	Affordability, music, information science, data science, cybersecurity, engineering, DFW job access	Business (Terry), risk and insurance, agriculture, veterinary, journalism, public health, pharmacy

Indian student community and settling in

Both universities have sizeable Indian student communities, Indian student associations and Diwali/Holi celebrations. The DFW area around UNT has one of the largest Indian communities in the US, so groceries, restaurants, temples and part-time job networks are easier to find. Athens has a smaller but active community, with more options in Atlanta.

Detailed comparison

1. Cost and affordability

Item	UNT	UGA
Annual tuition (UG)	About USD 21K to 28K	About USD 32K
Cost of living	Denton: roughly USD 1,200 to 1,800 per month	Athens: roughly USD 1,100 to 1,600 per month
State income tax	None in Texas	Georgia has a state income tax
Scholarships	Merit awards for international students are available	Limited merit aid for internationals; more assistantships at graduate level

2. Academics and programs

Area	UNT	UGA
Business	Ryan College of Business: Business Analytics, Logistics, Marketing, Accounting	Terry College: top-ranked Insurance, MIS, Finance, Real Estate
Tech and STEM	Computer Science, Data Science, Cybersecurity, Materials Science, AI	Computer Science, Data Science, AI (MS in AI), Engineering
Unique strengths	Music (famous jazz program), Information Science, Art and Design, Hospitality	Agriculture, Veterinary, Pharmacy, Public Health, Grady Journalism
Class and research feel	Large university, R1 research, many industry-linked programs	Large flagship, strong research funding, Honors Program

3. Careers, internships and visas

Item	UNT	UGA
Job market	DFW: AT&T, American Airlines, Texas Instruments, Lockheed Martin, banking and healthcare firms; fast-growing tech hub	Atlanta (about 1.5 hrs): Coca-Cola, Delta, Home Depot, UPS, growing fintech; internships often need relocation
Internship access	Easy; most internships are within commuting distance from campus	Good, but many require moving to or commuting to Atlanta
OPT / STEM OPT	STEM-designated programs: up to 3 years total (12 + 24 months)	STEM-designated programs: up to 3 years total (12 + 24 months)
Brand value	Growing, solid regional reputation	Strong national brand and alumni network

4. Campus life

Item	UNT	UGA
Setting	Suburban college town; Dallas is a short drive away	Classic college town with music scene and SEC football culture
Transport	A car or the DART rail link helps for travel to Dallas	Good campus buses; a car helps beyond Athens

Pros, cons and how to choose

UNT	UGA
Pros • Lower tuition and living costs • Easier admission for varied profiles • Large DFW job and internship market • Big Indian community nearby, no state income tax Cons • Lower national brand recognition than UGA • Campus is suburban; a car is useful • Rankings less prominent for general programs	Pros • Top-20 public university with strong brand • Excellent business, agriculture, veterinary, journalism • Lively college-town experience • Strong alumni network and R1 research funding Cons • Higher tuition and total cost • More competitive admission • Smaller city; internships often need Atlanta

Which one should you choose?

If you...	UNT	UGA
Have a tight budget	Better fit	Costlier
Want the strongest brand name	Good value, lesser brand	Better fit
Have a moderate academic profile	Better chances of admission	Competitive; need a strong profile
Want the biggest city job market	Better fit (DFW)	Atlanta is nearby, not in town
Study agriculture, vet, insurance or journalism	Limited	Better fit
Study music, information science or data science	Better fit	Available, less specialised

Our suggestion: Pick by your course and budget first, then by brand. We recommend applying to both and comparing offers, scholarships and the exact program curriculum before you decide.

Want a personalised shortlist? Talk to a Shiksha Study Abroad counsellor for profile evaluation, application help and scholarship guidance.

Sources: UGA news (US News 2026 rankings), Careers360, Yocket, University Living, Collegedunia. Costs and rankings change every year and vary by program; confirm current figures on each university's official website.