From humble beginnings, Penn State Hazleton has grown greatly over the years to offer the area's premier college experience...

1934 Hazleton Undergraduate Center established. Enrollment: 47.

1944 The Hazleton Educational Council (HEC), the campus advisory board, formed.

1948 "Highacres," 66-acre former Markle family estate, purchased as center's new home.

1949 Space leased in A.D. Thomas Elementary School and Walnut Street School to accommodate WWII veterans. Enrollment: 385.

1950 First baccalaureate degree program – in business – announced.

1953 The Pennsylvania State University became official name. Enrollment: 213.

1958 Student Union Building (Commons) built. Board of Trustees designates Hazleton Center a campus of the University.

1960 Men's basketball team wins first state title.

1969 First on-campus housing – South – and dining hall (now the Highacres Café) finished. Enrollment: 593.

1970 The Classroom Building is completed. (Named in memory of former Campus Director Frank C. Kostos in 1985.)

1971 First commencement for associate degree students is held.


1976 The Physical Education Building constructed.

1984 Penn State Hazleton notes 50th anniversary. Enrollment: 1,117.


1988 Bookstore finished.


1994 Dining hall remodeled to Highacres Café.

1998 Penn State Hazleton celebrates 50 years at "Highacres." Enrollment: 1,322.

2000 Nittany Lion statue installed in front of Administration Building. First campus baccalaureate degrees awarded.

2006 Charles T. Butler Teaching and Learning Resource Center dedicated.

2009 Penn State Hazleton celebrates 75th anniversary.

2010 New baccalaureate degree in engineering established. Practical Nursing Program launched.

2011 Dr. Thomas M. Caccese Gymnasium dedicated. 25.5 acres donated by the Engle/Bates families. International programming advanced (India, Norway, France, and Malaysia.)

2012 Bookbinder Rehersal Hall ("Shirt Hall").


2018 Penn State Hazleton celebrates 100 years of administrative education.

2020 Board establishes bachelor's degrees in organizational leadership.

2021 Penn State Hazleton celebrates 105th anniversary.
Penn State Hazleton distinctions...

- Five baccalaureate degrees including a new Engineering Degree with Alternative Energy and Power Generation option.
- Five associate degree programs.
- New 2010 Bachelor's programs including Practical Nursing, Medical Laboratory Technology, Physical Therapist Assistant and Nurse Management Credit Certificate.
- Gateway to more than 160 Penn State majors.
- More than 150 Continuing Education programs.
- 19:1 student-to-faculty ratio.
- Three Fulbright Scholarships awarded to faculty.
- Faculty consistently recognized for research, publication and advancing scholarship.
- Full range of both men's and women's sports programs.
- Economic impact of more than $60 million statewide. (Tripp Umbach report 2009)
- Penn State Hazleton has an enrollment of more than 1,300.

Yesterday... and today

Celebrating our past... creating our future...