Dear Friends,

There is so much to say about Northeastern Illinois University and why it is an ideal place for students to pursue their higher education goals. You’ll find many of those reasons here in this guide. But to truly experience our unique culture, energy and vibe, you have to discover Northeastern for yourself. And, you have to encourage others to do the same! As we welcome our students as well as visitors back to campus, I want to assure you that Northeastern has taken great efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and we will continue to do so, using current information and best practices.

When you visit, you’ll see faculty interacting with students as advisors, counselors, friends and mentors, not just as teachers. You’ll see dedicated staff who will go out of their way to make sure students get what they need to succeed. And, finally, you’ll see students who are enjoying every bit of their experience at Northeastern—because we are unlike most other places.

Access to education and student success continue to be my top priorities. I also want all of you to know that Northeastern is continuing its approach toward enrollment, recruitment and retention with a vigor like one you haven’t seen before. Over the last several years, we have implemented student programs and services that improve student academics and outcomes, and in turn have improved our retention rates. A student’s journey toward graduation begins with your confidence in us as a choice institution of higher education. Together, we can align our goals to have each student better themselves through education, and find the assurance and tools they need to break barriers that stand in their way.

I hope you will take the time to learn more about what Northeastern has to offer our students.

Thank you!

Gloria J. Gibson, Ph.D.
President, Northeastern Illinois University
Applying to Northeastern

How to Apply as a Freshman
1. Complete the application for admission at neiu.edu/apply.
2. Submit SAT/ACT scores.*
3. Submit official transcript(s).
4. Pay the application fee or submit a fee waiver.**
5. Applicants with a 2.5 GPA will be granted admission.

How to Apply as a Transfer Student
1. Complete the application for admission at neiu.edu/apply.
2. Submit official transcript(s).
3. Pay the application fee or submit a fee waiver.**

*Though scores are not required and will not be used to make an admission decision, we encourage students to submit them to determine math and English course placement and scholarship eligibility.

**Only completed fee waiver forms displaying the official school endorsement or seal will be considered.

Note: Counselors may submit supporting documents on behalf of their students to admissiondocs@neiu.edu.

Admission Criteria
NEIU is test-optional. Standardized test scores are not required for admission to the University. Applicants, however, are encouraged to submit test scores in order to meet some scholarship and prerequisite requirements.

Admission for Transfer Students
Students wishing to transfer to Northeastern Illinois University must have earned a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher for all college coursework attempted, and be in good academic standing at the last college attended.

Students graduating with an A.A. degree or who complete the Illinois Articulation Initiative have fulfilled Northeastern’s general education requirements.

Northeastern accepts transfer credits from regionally accredited institutions. The maximum number of transferable credits are 90 hours from four-year institutions, and 64 hours from community colleges.

Admission for Undocumented Students
Admission requirements are the same for all incoming freshmen, regardless of citizenship. Undocumented students who graduated from an Illinois high school and have been admitted to Northeastern can qualify for in-state tuition by completing the Northeastern Illinois University Affidavit. Social Security numbers are not required.

Undocumented students are eligible for scholarships offered by Northeastern Illinois University, which do not require a completed FAFSA.
Affordable Education

87% of students receive some type of financial aid

$79,006,006 Total federal and state grant assistance
$2,227,838 Total institutional and private scholarship assistance
$3,173,704 Total tuition waiver assistance

2021-2022 Tuition & Fees

In-State Undergraduate
$15,071

Out-of-State Undergraduate
$26,705

The tuition and fees shown are for full-time undergraduate (30 credits) for one academic year. See neiu.edu/tuition for detailed information.

Financial Aid & Scholarships

Applying for Financial Aid

Students can apply for financial aid using two methods: (1) complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid or FAFSA online at studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa, using School Code 001693 for Northeastern Illinois University OR (2) complete the Alternative Application (RISE Act) at studentportal.isac.org/alternativeapp. Both applications are available October 1 for the upcoming award year.

Applying for Institutional and Private Scholarships

Newly admitted students can use their student portal (NEIUport) login to apply for institutional scholarships online at neiu.academicworks.com. New and prospective students are also encouraged to register and create a profile with MyScholly.com – NEIU students have tremendous success with this scholarship search platform. Other scholarship platforms include Scholarship Owl, FastWeb, and Sallie Mae. Monitor the Financial Aid website resources section (neiu.edu/financial-aid/resources) for updates on more private scholarship availability.

New Freshmen Merit Scholarships

The Presidential Scholarship, valued at more than $60,000, is the most prestigious of Northeastern’s scholarships, covering four years of in-state tuition, fees and books. Admitted freshmen who graduate from an Illinois high school and have an SAT score of 1280 or above (composite ACT score of 27 or above) and a cumulative GPA of 3.35 are eligible to apply.

The Provost Merit Freshman Scholarship and Deans Merit Freshman Scholarship are awarded in the amounts of $2,000 and $1,000, respectively. Entering freshmen who apply for early admission and meet SAT/ACT and GPA requirements are automatically considered for these two merit scholarships. No application is necessary.

New Transfer Merit Scholarships

The Deans Merit Transfer Scholarship (up to $1,000) is awarded to entering transfer students with an earned A.A. or A.S. degree and cumulative GPA 3.0 or higher. The Provost Merit Transfer Scholarship (up to $2,000) is awarded to entering transfer students with an earned A.A. or A.S. degree and cumulative GPA 3.5 or higher. Our NEIU Phi Theta Kappa Scholarship (covers tuition for the first 60 credit hours at NEIU) is awarded to one recipient each fall. A recommendation from a Phi Theta Kappa advisor and a minimum 3.5 GPA are required.

Important University Codes

SAT code: 1090
ACT code: 0993
FAFSA code: 001693
Visit Northeastern

Prospective students will have the opportunity to learn about Northeastern’s academic programs, student support programs and services, campus life and much more through a variety of regularly scheduled visit options. Please encourage students to visit our website and to register for the event that fits their specific need as a prospective student.

neiu.edu/visit