



**northern illinois university**  
**FAMILY HANDBOOK**  
**2010-2011**



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## In Case of Emergency

### **If your student lives in university housing, contact:**

Residential Life: 815-753-1525

University Police: 815-753-1212

NIU website for updates: [www.niu.edu](http://www.niu.edu)

### **If your student lives off campus, contact:**

DeKalb Police Department: 815-748-8400

University Police: 815-753-1212

NIU website for updates: [www.niu.edu](http://www.niu.edu)

**Students and families can sign up for emergency text alert messaging system at [www.niu.edu/alert](http://www.niu.edu/alert)**

The information in this calendar/handbook is current as of March 2010 and is subject to change without notice. **The full ten-digit phone number must be dialed for calls in the local area and calls to the university from off-campus phones.** Use only the seven-digit number when calling an on-campus number from an on-campus phone.

## Welcome to Northern



It is our pleasure to present you with this Family Handbook.

Inside you will find a brief overview of the university and a handy reference of university offices and contact information. Also included are perspectives on how family members can support their students in making a successful

transition to the NIU environment. We hope this resource will help you better understand the changes that are likely to occur in your student during his or her university career.

For many students, going to college is a time of transition when they begin to develop a healthy adult identity. From the relative security of family life, most students move through a period of exploration and self-analysis in many new situations to the development of self-reliance and responsibility. This includes keeping their families informed of their progress and concerns. Students are expected to assume major responsibility for their own affairs. Northern regards them from the beginning as young adults who, with the resources of the university community, will continue to develop the knowledge, maturity, judgment, and self-discipline necessary for effective management of their lives.

Your student has received a good foundation for this transition. You have spent years building a strong relationship, and you want it strengthened by the

experience of college. Your role in your student's continued development is of utmost importance. Your interest, moral and financial support, and your sharing in important decisions are essential factors in his or her progress. Many problems, questions, and uncertainties may puzzle you. How much will college cost? What will it be like? How will it change my student? To whom can he or she turn when a problem arises? As the parent of a college student myself, I recognize and appreciate your concerns.

In the family orientation program and in this booklet, we attempt to answer the questions and concerns most frequently expressed by parents and other family members. In some instances we may refer to more detailed materials that you may request. If you have a particular question or concern, please feel free to call on Orientation & First-Year Experience. We will see that you reach the person or department best able to handle your concern.

We welcome you and your student to the NIU community. Best wishes for a rewarding and enjoyable experience as a Northern parent or family member.

Go Huskies!

Denise L. Rode, Ed.D.

Director of Orientation & First-Year Experience

## Welcome from the President



People often speak of a college education as an investment, and I couldn't agree more. However, it is an investment that cannot be reduced solely to the cold calculus of dollars and cents. While that is no small matter, it is far from the only investment required to attain a college degree.

Of equal or greater importance, I would argue, is a student's investment of time, effort, and dedication. All of those things are controlled by the student and ultimately have a far greater impact on the quality of the education than the price tag attached to it.

The handbook you hold in your hands is designed to help students maximize those investments by easing their integration into campus and helping them overcome hurdles on their path to success.

Inside is information on services to assist students with everything from selecting majors to finding their first jobs. It also details resources available to aid them with other challenges such as finding health care on campus or navigating the sometimes rocky road of living on their own for the first time.

I urge you to spend some time becoming familiar with this information so that, should the need arise, you can help your student find the services and resources he or she may need. That small investment of your time could go a long way toward maximizing the value of all that you and your student are investing in an NIU degree.

John G. Peters, Ph.D.  
President

## Welcome to the Huskie Family!



Greetings from Northern Illinois University, and welcome to the Huskie family! The Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management is dedicated to helping NIU families with their transition into the university.

As a family member, your support, encouragement, and involvement are essential to your student's success at Northern. We look forward to engaging you as active partners to more efficiently attain several common objectives for your student including intellectual engagement, academic success, personal growth, and graduation!

I encourage you to use this handbook as a guide to the many services and programs designed to help your student achieve these goals.

I also hope that you'll join the Parents' Association, which will provide you with up-to-date information on services and activities tailored especially for you. Just e-mail the Parents' Association at [parents@niu.edu](mailto:parents@niu.edu) for more information and to sign up.

I do have one request: Please encourage your student to take full advantage of his or her entire college experience. Research has highlighted that students who participate in programs outside of the classroom, as well as in their academic studies, are more likely to earn higher grade point averages and experience higher graduation rates than students who do not get involved.

Thank you for entrusting your student's education to us at Northern Illinois University. We take that privilege very seriously. If I, or any of my staff in the Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management, can assist you or your student, please feel free to contact us.

Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D.  
Vice President for Student Affairs & Enrollment Management

## A Brief History

### 1895

Illinois Legislature authorizes creation of a new normal school to meet an increased demand for public school teachers; DeKalb competes against more than a dozen towns to be selected as the site.

Isaac Ellwood, Joseph Glidden, Jacob Haish, and Clinton Rosette lead the victorious campaign to help establish the new Northern Illinois State Normal School in DeKalb. Thousands gather as Governor John Peter Altgeld comes to DeKalb to break ground for the building that would later bear his name. Four years and \$230,000 later, Altgeld Hall is completed.

### 1899

Twenty white horses pull the Queen's Float in a parade honoring the opening of Northern Illinois State Normal School. The new school opens its gates to 173 students. The 16-member faculty offers a two-year curriculum in elementary and secondary education.

### 1900

First issue of the campus newspaper goes to print.

### 1920-40

Enrollment quadruples as Northern continues to expand, even through the economic devastation of the Great Depression.

### 1950s

The post-WWII enrollments, addition of large numbers of faculty members, and changes in campus life far exceed those that followed WWI. Returning veterans, encouraged by the nation's first GI Bill, flood classrooms and temporary dormitories, and demand a broader curriculum.

### 1954

Campus newspaper changes its name to *The Northern Star*.

### 1957

The college attains university status and becomes Northern Illinois University.

### 1960s

Northern's enrollment triples in just 10 years, from 2,000 to 6,000. To accommodate these students, NIU opens 23 new buildings.

### 1970

Enrollment nearly quadruples, reaching 22,000.

### 1990s

Three regional education centers are established in Hoffman Estates (1992), Rockford (1995), and Naperville (2000).

### 1995

NIU celebrates its Centennial by dedicating the Castle Drive gates and with a convocation featuring famous astronomer and Pulitzer Prize winner Carl Sagan, Tony award winning actress, three-time Oscar nominee, and NIU alum Joan Allen.

### 2002

NIU opens the Convocation Center, a modern and mammoth multi-purpose arena for athletics, concerts, and countless other varied events.

### 2003

NIU announces plans for a regional ultra-high speed fiber optic network, dubbed NIUNet.

### 2008

On February 14, NIU suffers the loss of five students when a shooter enters a lecture hall classroom and fires into the crowd.

With the nation watching, NIU and the DeKalb community show their resilience and unity in moving "Forward, Together Forward" toward recovery from this tragedy.

### 2000

## Overview of the University

### MISSION OF THE UNIVERSITY

Northern's central mission is the transmission, expansion, and application of knowledge through teaching, research and artistry, and public service. In fulfilling that mission, the university meets the needs of students for liberal, professional, technical, and lifelong education.

## Student Body and Faculty

### NIU ENROLLMENT

#### Fall 2009 Total = 24,424 students

- On-campus students = 22,185
- 17,879 undergraduate
- 3,997 graduate
- 309 law students
- Off-campus students = 2,239

#### Undergraduate student profile (Fall 2009):

- Average ACT score = 22
- Average rank = 64th percentile in high school class
- Average age = 21 years old, ranging from 13 to 64 years (Average age of graduate students = 32 years old, ranging from 19 to 74 years)
- Non-traditional undergraduate students over the age of 23 = 14%
- Traditional college-bound population, age 23 or younger = 86 %
- White = 70%
- African American = 15%
- Latino = 7%
- Asian = 6%
- Native American = less than 1%
- Male = 49%
- Female = 51%
- International students = 800  
(representing about 80 countries)

### FACULTY

The teaching faculty of approximately 1,200 conducts courses according to the most appropriate design for the subject matter. Each professor determines the academic and attendance requirements for his or her own classes and is available to talk with students about course activities during scheduled office hours and by appointment.

Eighty percent of Northern's full-time faculty members hold doctoral or terminal degrees in their fields. The student-to-faculty ratio at NIU is about 17 to 1.

The faculty at NIU hold academic ranks that reflect such factors as tenure, scholarly activity, and service to the university. The highest faculty rank is professor, followed by associate professor, assistant professor, and instructor.

Graduate assistants, who are students in master's, sixth-year, or doctoral degree programs, assist faculty in teaching, research, and other academic activities. Graduate assistants who help faculty in teaching are called teaching assistants or TAs.

Professors, associate professors, and assistant professors teach more than half (56 percent) of lower division courses and nearly 75 percent of upper division courses. Instructors and graduate assistants who teach typically have completed advanced course work in their respective fields, and graduate assistants are supervised by senior faculty. Teaching assistants are directly responsible for approximately 20 percent of lower division courses.

The State of Illinois requires that all classroom instructors at public higher education institutions be able to communicate effectively in the English language. Students should communicate concerns about the oral English language proficiency of instructors to the chair of the department in which the course is offered or, if the student prefers, to the Ombudsman, who will work with the department to resolve the matter.

## News from the Colleges

### QUALITY PROGRAMS

**The high standards maintained by Northern Illinois University are evident in the diverse activities and accomplishments of both faculty and students. The richness of the academic environment at NIU enhances each student's opportunity to gain a quality education.**

### COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

The College of Business is accredited by AACSB International—The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business—and is among the 10 percent of business schools accredited in the undergraduate, graduate, and accountancy programs. The College of Business has strong ties to key firms in the region through

extensive student and faculty internship programs, applied research, and continuing professional education programs. NIU's business programs are designed to meet both the immediate and long-term needs of the business community. The Experiential Learning Center (ELC) connects teams of business students with companies and organizations to tackle real-world business issues. Students serve as junior consultants addressing cross functional business issues.

For more than 20 years, NIU's undergraduate accountancy program has ranked in the top 20 nationally in Public Accounting Report's annual survey of accountancy programs and most recently ranked 13th. The accountancy program was also recently ranked 23rd by *U.S. News & World Report*. The Department of Finance has been singled out for having one of the largest Certified Treasury Management programs in the country. The sales program in the Department of Marketing was the first university program awarded the distinction of providing a Certified Sales Curriculum by the Professional Society for Sales and Marketing Training. The Department of Operations Management & Information Systems, a member of IBM's Academic Initiative, serves as a resource for other institutions wanting to learn about service science, management, and engineering as implemented in the department's Service Management Certificate.

## **COLLEGE OF EDUCATION**

The College of Education is recognized nationally as a leader in teacher education, preparation, and research. NIU has been accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) since 1954. Other professional programs of study offered in the college are accredited by their respective professional organizations. Currently, the college has approximately 125 faculty members and 5,000 students equally divided between undergraduate and graduate programs of study.

All NIU students who intend to pursue admission to any teacher education program administered by the College of Education must successfully complete the ICTS Basic Skills Test and attain a minimum GPA between 2.75 and 3.00, depending on the selected program. Students who plan to teach at the secondary level receive advising through their major (subject matter) departments in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, College of Health & Human Sciences, or the College of Visual & Performing Arts.

## **COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING & ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY**

Engineering & Engineering Technology students gain real work experience through the college's cooperative research arrangements with major corporations such as UPS, AT&T, General Motors, Motorola, Rockwell International, and Texas Instruments. The undergraduate electrical engineering, industrial and systems engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering technology, and manufacturing engineering technology programs are accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET). The emphasis in Industrial Technology Management is accredited by the National Association of Industrial Technology (NAIT). Northern's engineering building includes 29 laboratories for electrical, industrial, and mechanical engineering students.

Substantial gifts to the College of Engineering & Engineering Technology enhance the college's ability to prepare the highly qualified graduates demanded by the evolving economy and rapidly developing technologies. In addition, its engineering and technology laboratories and computer systems are state-of-the-art, and the college is uniquely positioned to incorporate the latest educational advances into its curriculum.

## **COLLEGE OF HEALTH & HUMAN SCIENCES**

The College of Health & Human Sciences (CHHS) offers programs that prepare students for entry into specialized careers and professional fields as well as graduate-level study. The programs in CHHS provide didactic, clinical, and internship experiences to prepare graduates to meet increasing expectations in health and human sciences careers. Some programs require graduate study for career entry at the professional level.

Students in the speech-language pathology/audiology emphasis study the normal development of speech, language, swallowing, and hearing processes. The state-of-the-art NIU Speech-Language Hearing and Physical Therapy clinics offer exceptional clinical learning opportunities for advanced students.

The School of Family, Consumer & Nutrition Sciences operates learning, public service, and research facilities, including the Child Development Laboratory that serves as a practicum site for students working with infants and young children; two student-run dining facilities, which

provide hands-on experiences for nutrition, dietetics, and hospitality administration students; and The Family Center of NIU, which offers counseling services for families and individuals.

The nursing program provides students with opportunities for learning in more than 60 hospitals and agencies. The school has established a nursing clinic to provide priority care services in a rural area. Over the past several years, approximately 95 percent of nursing's graduates have passed the nurse licensure examination on the first attempt, far higher than state and national results.

The Department of Military Science offers courses in leadership and management to all students admitted to the university and provides an avenue for commissioning as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

Health education graduates are qualified to apply for teacher certification and to teach in public or private schools. Public health students choose from two emphases: general community health or health administration.

## COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

The College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (CLAS) is the largest of the six undergraduate colleges of NIU, offering majors and minors in 17 departments, two divisions, and seven research centers encompassing the humanities, social sciences, and mathematical and natural sciences. CLAS provides the majority of courses for the general education program for all NIU students and works with its sister colleges to provide essential courses and training opportunities. The college is also the leader in the university's research and scholarship efforts, with basic and applied research that informs and transforms all of the disciplines.

The goal of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences advising is to help students define an educational vision and assist in academic planning to achieve that vision within NIU rules and regulations.

The CLAS engages in research, graduate education, undergraduate programs, general education, and community relations. These missions provide students with the pursuits and practices of a public liberal education. In a dynamic world, students then have the ability to apply their critical thinking skills and new talents to every aspect of their lives.

## COLLEGE OF VISUAL & PERFORMING ARTS

The College of Visual & Performing Arts consists of the Schools of Art, Music, and Theatre and Dance.

The School of Art has one of the finest and most comprehensive university art programs in Illinois. Thirty percent or more of all exhibitions of contemporary art in museums and galleries in the region annually represent the work of alumni, current faculty, or current students of the School of Art.

The School of Music is widely known for the quality of its distinguished faculty members, who have established national and international reputations as performers, composers, arrangers, and scholars. Student performing ensembles have received more *downbeat* student recording awards than all other music schools in Illinois combined.

The School of Theatre and Dance presents more than 70 theater and dance performances each year, giving students practical experience in all facets of theater production. Faculty members in the school have worked with almost every major Chicago theater and on Broadway.

## Academic Success

### ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Students have many reasons for going to college. Some have specific careers in mind when they enter, while others do not. Most students (and families) expect the college experience to help prepare them for a wide variety of personal, social, and occupational developments throughout their lives.

Northern is committed to providing students with a liberal education, often referred to as "education for life." In addition to the focused study of a major field, the university requires exposure to and proficiency in a broad foundation of course work in humanities and the arts, communication, social sciences, sciences and mathematics, and interdisciplinary studies.

As it becomes more difficult to predict economic conditions and job availability, it is estimated that today's young people will change jobs at least seven times in their lives. Undergraduate studies at Northern prepare students to meet change flexibly and resourcefully.

### AREAS OF STUDY

Northern offers undergraduate degrees in 63 majors from anthropology to accountancy and theatre arts to special

education. There are interdisciplinary areas of study in topics such as women's studies, international studies, and environmental studies.

Undergraduate degree programs are usually divided into the three components described below. Most students spend approximately one third of their time in each.

**1. General Education requirements:** Required hours in the general education program, divided between the core competencies and distributive studies. The core competencies include skills in reading, writing, listening, speaking, and mathematics. Because these skills will be applied, reinforced, and evaluated in courses at every level across the undergraduate curriculum, core competency courses should be completed during the first year of a student's program.

The required hours in the distributive studies areas introduce students to varied modes of thinking and points of view. The course work in distributive studies expands the students' awareness of human thought and relations conducive to the understanding and appreciation of cultural heritage. It also gives an appreciation of the scientific method of inquiry, engages the student in an analysis of scientific facts and principles pertaining to the physical, biological, social, and cultural world, and imparts an understanding of their implications for human welfare. Most students should try to complete these requirements during their first two years.

**2. Major requirements:** More specialized courses dealing with a student's chosen academic area. Fifteen percent of the university's entering freshmen enroll without declaring a major, and at least half of those declaring majors change them at least once. It is not necessary for students to declare a major during their first year on campus. Northern encourages them to take their time choosing majors and exploring their interests.

**3. Electives:** Courses that students "elect" or choose to take. These courses are often used to explore interests and broaden the student's background for academic or career goals.

## SEMESTER HOURS/COURSE LOAD

Baccalaureate degree programs at NIU require completion of a minimum of 120 semester hours. Each

course a student successfully completes contributes a certain number of semester hours to his or her record. The number of hours for a course often, but not always, corresponds to the number of hours spent in the class each week. Thus, a three-semester-hour course ordinarily meets three hours every week. In some laboratory or studio courses, however, one hour of credit is given for two hours of work.

The typical course load for undergraduate students is 14-18 semester hours. Those who want to graduate on schedule should complete 15-16 hours each semester. Students in their first semester at NIU may not carry more than 18 semester hours. Students who have established commendable scholastic records at the university (ordinarily at least a cumulative 3.00 GPA) may petition to take up to 21 semester hours of work during the semester and up to 12 semester hours in the summer. Petitions for overloads can be obtained at the student's major college office. Students must be enrolled for a minimum of 12 semester hours to be considered full time.

## UNIVERSITY HONORS PROGRAM

Honors courses with dedicated faculty and small enrollments, an Honors House, study stipends, independent study, priority registration, and personalized advising are all available to Honors Program students at NIU. The goal of the Honors Program is to provide an enriched educational experience for students of high intellectual potential who are committed to the pursuit of knowledge and understanding.

To be eligible for admission, students must have scored an ACT composite of at least 27 or have placed in the upper 10 percent of their high school class. Intellectually curious students who are slightly below these requirements should also apply. Students who wish to enter the program after the first semester of college, either from within NIU, as a transfer student, or as a community college graduate, may visit the Honors Program office, Campus Life Building 110, or call 815-753-0694 for application information.

## GRADE POINT AVERAGES

Grade	Meaning	Points/ Hour
A	Outstanding competence	4
B	Above satisfactory competence	3
C	Satisfactory level of competence	2
D	Marginally satisfactory competence	1
F	Unsatisfactory level of competence	0
I	Incomplete	-
W	Passing at time of withdrawal from a course or from the university	-
S	Satisfactory	-
U	Unsatisfactory	-
O	Audit (no grade and no credit)	-
OW	Audit (requirements not completed)	-
CR	Proficiency credit	-

The total points received for a particular course are computed by multiplying the points earned by the number of credit hours in the course. A student who received a B in a four-semester-hour course would earn 12 grade points. The number of points earned for a semester is the total number of grade points earned in the individual courses taken during the semester.

To compute the grade point average, the total number of grade points earned is divided by the total number of GPA hours attempted at NIU (those for which grades of A, B, C, D, or F are recorded). Therefore, a student who has accumulated 30 grade points in 15 semester hours of course work has a 2.00 grade point average. Grades of I, W, S, U, O, OW, and CR are not used in the calculation of hours or points. Grade reports are available for students online at the completion of the term.

## AVERAGE CLASS SIZE

In the Fall 2009 semester, the average class size for introductory 100-level courses was 31 students. At this level, which encompasses most classes taken by freshmen, 81 percent of courses had 30 or fewer students. Overall, only two percent of all Northern's undergraduate courses

had more than 100 students; 78 percent had 30 or fewer. The average class size overall was 28 students. Typically, classes with large numbers of students are taught in a lecture format two or three days per week and small lab or recitation sections one day per week. The lab/recitation sections are designed to facilitate class discussion, debate, and review of the lecture sessions by smaller groups of students.

## CLASSIFICATION OF STUDENTS

Undergraduate students are classified according to the number of semester hours they have accumulated. Classification is as follows:

Freshman: Fewer than 30 semester hours

Sophomore: 30–59 semester hours

Junior: 60–89 semester hours

Senior: 90 or more semester hours

## GRADING SYSTEM

Except for first-semester freshmen, students must maintain a minimum 2.00 cumulative grade point average to remain in good academic standing. First-semester freshmen must have a minimum 1.60 grade point average. Failure to maintain the minimum grade point average automatically places the student on academic probation.

A student on academic probation may enroll for at least one semester while on probation. Every student on probation is required to schedule an appointment for a probation interview with the dean (or the dean's delegate) of his or her major college. Students failing to be removed from academic probation after one enrollment by attaining a cumulative grade point average in NIU courses of at least 2.00 will become candidates for academic dismissal from the university.

## TRANSFER STUDENTS

Each fall, approximately 2,000 students transfer to NIU and, of this number, about 75 percent are Illinois public community college transfer students. Approximately 800 transfer students enter Northern for the spring and summer terms.

As a group, community college transfer students have a cumulative GPA between 2.70 and 3.00 at the end of the first semester at NIU. Although most transfer students are prepared to handle university work, some

students' grades may decline temporarily during the first semester, a phenomenon known as "transfer shock." When this occurs, the average decline ranges from .25 to .35 lower than at the community college. Most of these students recover their GPA in succeeding semesters to approximately the same level as before transferring. Some community college transfers will perform better academically than they did at their previous school.

It is important that transfer students realize that the GPA from their previous institutions does not transfer to NIU, although a cumulative GPA is considered for admission to NIU's "limited admissions" majors.

### FIRST-YEAR CONNECTIONS

Northern's First-Year Connections (FYC) program is designed to help new students make a successful transition to college life. First-Year Connections consists of four components.

UNIV 101 is a one-credit, 12-to-16 week course designed specifically for first-year students. UNIV 201 is a similar course offered exclusively for transfer students. These courses address strategies for adjusting to NIU's undergraduate experience, learning about the resources available on campus, and living in the diverse university environment. The courses also help students develop the necessary skills to succeed in college, such as test-taking, note-taking, time management, and career preparation. These courses are taught by university faculty and staff, and many sections have a volunteer upper-division student who assists with the course instruction.

Student-Faculty Links is an informal mentoring program that pairs students with a faculty or staff person who can help them individually as they adjust to NIU. Mentors volunteer to meet with students one-on-one, attend campus activities together, and help students with any questions or problems that might arise.

The First-Year Success Series is a collection of activities and events that will help students to adjust academically and socially as they transition during their first year at NIU. These events are open to all students and are a collaborative effort of academic support services and student affairs offices on campus.

REACH is a retention initiative in which trained upper-division students call new students to answer any questions they may have, connect them with available resources, and help students establish a sense of belonging in the NIU community.

## Completing the Degree

**Is a college education worth the costs in time, energy, and dollars?** The answer is an overwhelming yes, economists say. As society continues to be transformed at a staggering pace, there is an increasing demand for those who are educationally ready to enter today's workforce. This higher demand for college graduates is also reflected in the rate of return for investing in a college education.

### WHAT CAN EACH STUDENT DO TO ENSURE COMPLETION OF A DEGREE AT NORTHERN?

#### 1. Make a good start.

Students whose first-year grade point average falls below a "C" and/or who withdraw from a number of courses during their first semester generally experience difficulty catching up. If study habits need improvement or if personal counseling is needed, students should seek assistance promptly from resources offered on campus.

#### 2. Attend classes.

In many courses, attendance and participation are tracked to factor into the final grade. Students who regularly attend class benefit as professors share valuable information, answer questions, and provide study strategies. The research is clear: "Attending class helps students pass courses, graduate from college, and increase their future earning potential" (Randy Moore, University of Minnesota, 2006).

#### 3. Find an academic advisor and see him or her regularly.

Students gain from academic, intellectual, and vocational interaction with the faculty. Neither the *Undergraduate Catalog* nor folklore from fellow students can provide the guidance, stimulation, and insights of regular conferences with a faculty advisor. For students undecided about a major and unaffiliated with a specific college, the Academic Advising Center is the best place to work out a schedule of courses that will help them make maximum progress toward a degree. If a choice of a career is the root of the problem, counselors at Career Services can help.

#### 4. Get involved in campus life.

Much learning and personal development occurs outside the classroom. There are approximately 200 clubs and

organizations at Northern to meet any interest and need. A student involved beyond the classroom tends to view the university as a collection of human beings rather than buildings made of bricks and glass. Students should be encouraged to check with Student Involvement & Leadership Development, Recreation Services, the Student Association, a faculty member in their college, or a residence hall staff member to find avenues for involvement.

### **5. Become involved in First-Year Connections, Themed Learning Communities, or other first-year programs.**

Northern offers programs (UNIV 101, UNIV 201, Student-Faculty Links, the First-Year Success Series, REACH, Themed Learning Communities, and Research Rookies) that are specifically designed to provide new students with incentives and opportunities to get connected at NIU. Students who become engaged in campus life are more likely to persist in and be satisfied with their college experience.

### **6. Work.**

Working for wages is a necessity for many students, but work is also a means of making friends, and, if the employment is on campus, of becoming involved in the university. Statistics reveal that students who work on campus are more likely to complete their education. A word of caution: A student should not overdo it. Work should be limited to a maximum of 20 hours each week.

### **7. Live on or near campus.**

The closer students live to campus, the more likely they are to remain in school. At least half of their learning experiences will take place outside the classroom, often in the living environment. Residence hall and group housing arrangements are recommended for the support they provide to the student residents.

### **8. Carry a “full load.”**

To complete the graduation requirement of 120 credit hours in 8 semesters requires an average load of 15 hours per semester. It is best to maintain at least 15 hours per semester or as close to this number as the student’s personal situation allows. It is also good to remember that

unnecessary course withdrawals may require a student to spend an extra semester or more in pursuit of a degree.

### **9. Use student support services.**

Almost any type of assistance a student may need while pursuing a degree is offered by one of Northern’s many student support offices. Some of the services students will use frequently are listed on the following pages. Locations and telephone numbers of these offices and others are given under “Sources of Information” at the end of this handbook.

## **Retention and Graduation**

Retention and graduation patterns at Northern Illinois University are similar to those of other public universities with selective admission standards. Although retention rates for the freshman class vary from year to year, they have risen in recent years. For the five most recent freshman classes for which data is available (2004-2008), 76 percent of freshmen returned for the second year, 65 percent for the third year, and 61 percent for the fourth year.

### **Ability and Preparation Make a Difference.**

Over half of all freshmen (51 percent) graduate from NIU. Their average grade point at graduation is 3.09/4.00. Of the students who have graduated from NIU, 89 percent graduated within five years or less.

### **The First Year is the Hardest.**

About 46 percent of the students who do not graduate leave the university during or after their first year, and 73 percent of those who do not graduate leave before their third year. Students leave for a variety of personal, financial, and academic reasons. About 70 percent of the non-returning students transfer to other Illinois institutions to pursue their education.

Of graduates who were part of the 2002 freshman class, 45 percent graduated within four years or less and 89 percent graduated within five years or less.

## Academic Advising

NIU provides a multifaceted advising system to meet students' individual advising needs. Within each college and department, faculty and staff advisors provide accurate information on academic programs, policies, procedures, and deadlines. Students who have not yet selected a major or college receive advising assistance from the Academic Advising Center.

### ADVISORS CAN HELP STUDENTS:

- Select a major
- Design a program of study that meets individual interests and goals
- Map out a schedule
- Monitor academic progress
- Clarify career goals

### STUDENTS ALSO PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN ACADEMIC ADVISING. IT IS THE STUDENT'S RESPONSIBILITY TO:

- Read and use NIU's
- Know the requirements of a particular program
- Monitor academic progress
- Seek advising on a regular basis
- Schedule and keep advising appointments
- Be prepared for advising sessions

## Money Matters

### APPROXIMATE COST AND ESTIMATED BUDGET

Northern is noted for providing a high quality education for a reasonable cost. Here is a breakdown of a "typical" student budget for one year (fall and spring semesters in 2009-2010). Costs will vary for each student, but the following schedule can be used to estimate the cost for the year.

#### **Tuition** **\$7,260**

This figure represents the cost of 15 on-campus semester hours per semester. The cost will vary with the number of hours enrolled. (Add \$7,260 if not a resident of the state of Illinois.) Some courses may have additional fees for equipment and materials.

#### **Fees** **\$2,131**

Student fees include the facilities, services, athletic, student resource and activity fees, as well as a technology surcharge. These help to fund many of the services, organizations, and activities available to students while enrolled at NIU.

#### **Room and Board** **\$7,988**

This figure represents the average cost for a double room in Grant Towers and a basic meal plan. The final housing assignment will determine whether the cost will be higher or lower.

#### **Injury and Sickness Insurance** **\$790**

This fee can be waived with proof of equal or better insurance coverage.

#### **Yearly Total** **\$18,169**

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#### *Additional Expenses (estimated)*

#### **Books and Supplies** **\$1,400**

#### **Transportation** **\$700**

#### **Personal and Miscellaneous** **\$2,522**

#### **Total of all 2009-2010 Expenses** **\$ 22,791**

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*For the tuition and fee rates for 2010-2011 and more detailed tuition and payment policy information, check the Bursar's Office website at [www.niu.edu/bursar](http://www.niu.edu/bursar).*

A health service fee is included as part of the fees and entitles students to services at Health Services, which is staffed by a wide range of health care professionals.

An Injury and Sickness Insurance Plan is included as part of Northern's fees for those enrolled for nine or more on-campus hours. Students who have equal or better insurance may have this fee waived by completing the waiver process online at [www.niu.edu/healthservices](http://www.niu.edu/healthservices) within the first 15 calendar days of each semester.

## BANKING SERVICES ON CAMPUS

TCF Bank is the only bank on campus to provide banking services to students and the university community. In addition to the branch bank located in Holmes Student Center, there are several TCF-owned ATMs on campus. The university has partnered with TCF Bank to streamline steps in opening a totally free checking account. New students who are interested in opening a campus checking account can sign up for the TCF Bank account option at the time their NIU OneCard ID is issued. Then their NIU OneCard ID also becomes their ATM card. TCF Bank has many Chicago and suburban locations to provide easy access to student accounts while on campus or at home.

## FINANCIAL AID

NIU participates in a number of federal and state assistance programs that include scholarships, grants, loans, and work-study programs. A complete description of each program is available from the Student Financial Aid Office in 245 Swen Parson Hall or at [www.fa.niu.edu](http://www.fa.niu.edu).

The major programs are as follows:

- Federal Pell Grant
- Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (FSEOG)
- Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG)
- National SMART Grant
- State of Illinois MAP Grant
- Federal Perkins Loan
- Subsidized and Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loan
- Federal Work-Study Program (FWS)
- Federal Parent Loan for Undergraduates (PLUS)
- Illinois Veterans Grant
- Educational benefits for veterans
- Federal ROTC and Illinois State ROTC Scholarship
- Federal TEACH Grant
- Illinois National Guard Grant
- MIA/POW Scholarship

To apply for financial aid, complete the 2010-2011 *Free Application for Federal Student Aid* (FAFSA) online at [www.FAFSA.ed.gov](http://www.FAFSA.ed.gov).

***The priority application filing date is March 1 of each year.***

## SCHOLARSHIP OFFICE

**Swen Parson Hall 245K, 815-753-4829**

**[www.scholarships.niu.edu](http://www.scholarships.niu.edu)**

The Scholarship Office works in coordination with the Office of Student Financial Aid to connect NIU students with various scholarship resources and assists NIU offices and departments with the administration of scholarship funds.

## PAYMENT PROCEDURES

After students register for courses, they will receive an e-mail notification to their NIU e-mail address indicating that their account charges have been posted to their account and are ready for payment. Students are able to access their account information directly by logging into MyNIU, and can also pay their account via credit/debit card or e-check through this login. The student's MyNIU account will show all charges for tuition, fees, and NIU housing, as well as credits for financial aid awarded and accepted through the Student Financial Aid Office prior to the billing notice date.

Payment of all charges on students' accounts is due seven days prior to the start of the term to which the charges apply. Students who make less than full payment will be assessed a late fee.

Students making payments by mail must enter their student ID number on their check payment.

For more information about payment procedures see the Bursar's website at [www.niu.edu/bursar](http://www.niu.edu/bursar).

## Student Services

### REGISTRATION & RECORDS

**Williston Hall 220, 815-753-0681**

**[www.reg.niu.edu/regrec](http://www.reg.niu.edu/regrec)**

The Office of Registration & Records is responsible for managing campus-wide academic course schedules and calendars, documenting academic progress, maintaining student academic records, and evaluating credits for graduation.

## CAREER SERVICES

**Campus Life Building 220, 815-753-1641**

**[www.niu.edu/careerservices](http://www.niu.edu/careerservices)**

Career Services serves all NIU students and alumni with comprehensive career services. Some of those services are:

- Individual career counseling and decision making, including a website for majors, with corresponding career options at [www.niu.edu/careerservices/weblinks](http://www.niu.edu/careerservices/weblinks)
- Victor eRecruiting—an online job search program for current students and alumni
- Career counselors to assist with career-related concerns and internship and job searches
- Career testing/assessments
- Résumé and cover letter reviews and assistance with other job search correspondence
- Workshops on résumé writing, interviewing, and job search strategies
- Campus interviews for all majors with employers offering varied career opportunities
- Part-time, temporary, and seasonal employment for current students
- University-wide job and internship fairs held fall and spring semesters and an Educators' Job Fair, spring semester
- Credentials service for education majors
- Job experience in students' major through cooperative education positions and internships with employers

## CENTER FOR ACCESS-ABILITY RESOURCES

**Health Service Building, fourth floor, 815-753-1303**

**[www.niu.edu/caar](http://www.niu.edu/caar)**

Northern offers a wide range of services and accommodations to students with disabilities, including assistance with admission, registration, housing, and advocacy with faculty and support staff. Other services provided to persons with visual, physical, learning, hearing, or other disabilities include, but are not limited to:

- Special parking arrangements when appropriate
- Information concerning campus accessibility
- Books and exams in adapted media
- Adapted testing arrangements
- Specialized transportation when necessary
- Interpreters for the deaf
- Assistive listening devices
- Assistance in finding note takers

Students are encouraged to contact the office early and to provide appropriate documentation of disability in order to have sufficient time to arrange for needed accommodations.

## COUNSELING & STUDENT DEVELOPMENT CENTER

**Campus Life Building 200, 815-753-1206**

**[www.niu.edu/csdc](http://www.niu.edu/csdc)**

The Counseling & Student Development Center (CSDC) offers free and confidential individual and group counseling, crisis intervention, educational programming, consultation, and referrals to campus and community resources.

Counseling services address a wide variety of student issues, including forming and strengthening relationships, adapting to college life and academic stress, dealing with changes in family relationships, and managing uncomfortable emotions and stressful or traumatic experiences.

Coaching for Academic Success is a program of the CSDC designed to help with general learning assistance and study skills such as time management, note taking, and test-taking skills.

The CSDC staff consists of qualified, mental health professionals who are experienced in working with both traditional and non-traditional college students. Students can expect to meet with someone who:

- Embraces differences of race, cultural background, age, ability, gender, religious affiliation, and sexual orientation
- Maintains the highest ethical and legal standards of confidentiality
- Is interested in listening to student's concerns
- Recognizes students as unique individuals who are valued members of the NIU community.

## EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

Northern Illinois University is committed to providing a college education for all capable students, including those whose precollege education has not fully enabled them to take maximum advantage of their potential and the opportunities of higher education. NIU expresses this commitment, in part, through Educational Services and Programs (ESP).

The CHANCE program uses flexible criteria for admitting students to NIU, considering not only their ACT results

and class rank, but also other factors that help determine potential for completing a university degree. Upon admission, CHANCE provides the following individual and group services:

- Individual and group academic, personal, and career counseling
- Academic monitoring and follow-up throughout the student's undergraduate career
- Academic skills enhancement courses
- Peer Mentoring Program

ACCESS provides free campus-wide tutoring and academic support services to undergraduates through Peer Assisted Learning (PAL) and Supplemental Instruction (SI). PAL offers individualized, appointment-based tutoring in most 100- and 200-level general education courses. PAL walk-in tutoring centers are open to all students in Douglas, Lincoln, and Grant South residence halls. SI is a learning assistance program that targets historically difficult courses. SI leaders attend class with students and hold out-of-class study sessions to help students learn more effectively. The A+ Program provides one-on-one or small group instruction on an appointment basis in effective reading or study strategies. For further information, students may contact the PAL office at 815-753-0203. For SI call 815-753-1141, and for A+ call 815-753-1126, or visit [www.tutoring.niu.edu](http://www.tutoring.niu.edu).

Student Support Services is a federally funded program that provides the following services to enhance students' graduation potential:

- Academic, career, and personal counseling
- Computer lab
- Peer mentoring
- Cultural events and trips
- Career and leadership courses

Student Support Services also has three student organizations to help provide resources and development to participants. TRIO Scholars, College Parents' Group, and Mentoring Valuable Peers (MVP) plan and develop activities throughout the year.

## CULTURAL CENTERS

Northern's Cultural Centers are designed to provide cultural, social, and academic programs to enhance the quality of life for NIU students and the campus community.

The Centers include:

- Asian American Center
- Center for Black Studies
- Latino Resource Center
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Resource Center
- Women's Resource Center

Locations and contact information for the Cultural Centers can be found under "Sources of Information" in the back of this handbook.

## HUMAN SERVICES/PERSONAL CONCERNS

A variety of university departments and community agencies offer assistance to both the university and the community on concerns related to personal well-being, such as pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, sexual assault, relationship violence, eating disorders, suicide, emotional or psychological problems, drug or alcohol use, and harassment. Students with concerns in any area may contact the following offices or agencies for assistance and referral.

### University Offices:

- Affirmative Action and Diversity Resources, 815-753-1118
- Counseling & Student Development Center, 815-753-1206
- Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management, 815-753-1573
- Family Center, 815-753-1684
- Health Enhancement, 815-753-9755
- Health Services, 815-753-1311
- Judicial Affairs, 815-753-1571
- Office of the Ombudsman, 815-753-1414
- Psychological Services Center, 815-753-0591

### Community Agencies:

- Ben Gordon Center, 815-756-4875
- Family Service Agency of DeKalb County, 815-758-8616
- Safe Passage, 815-756-5228 (24 hours)

## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

### Telephone and Security Building

815-753-8100

[www.its.niu.edu](http://www.its.niu.edu)

Information Technology Services (ITS) provides support for research, instructional, and individual computer use

to the NIU community. Students may access more than 1,000 computers in 26 lab locations supported by ITS.

Through NIUNet, NIU picks up 300Mb of Internet Service Provider (ISP) from downtown Chicago and 1 Gigabit from Internet 2, in addition to the Illinois Century Network (ICN), which brings OC3 broadband Internet service to and from the campus. Internet connectivity is available in all NIU residence hall rooms.

ITS computing labs have Intel-based PC computers, networked laser printers, and color scanners. All labs have attendants and/or supervisors to help with students' questions. All labs feature Windows XP, Office 2007, Internet browsers, software for basic productivity, and assistive software for students who are blind or visually impaired. Macintosh computers are available in Jack Arends Hall 310 (UML).

Once admitted to the university, students are assigned an account number known as an AccountID (Z-ID). This account allows access to campus computing resources including the Internet, e-mail, personal web pages, network storage space, and software applications available in the labs. This account also allows students to dial-up from an off-campus location. All registered students have an e-mail account automatically activated and an e-mail alias assigned. To log on to their e-mail account, students can go to [webmail.students.niu.edu](http://webmail.students.niu.edu).

## **JUDICIAL AFFAIRS**

**Campus Life Building 280, 815-753-1571**

**[www.niu.edu/judicial](http://www.niu.edu/judicial)**

Judicial Affairs coordinates Northern's judicial system and advises units of the system and students referred for possible disciplinary action. It publishes student conduct regulations as well as procedural guidelines for the judicial process.

## **OFF-CAMPUS & NON-TRADITIONAL STUDENT SERVICES**

**Holmes Student Center 023J/K, 815-753-9999**

**[www.niu.edu/comnontrad](http://www.niu.edu/comnontrad)**

Off-Campus & Non-Traditional Student Services supports and enhances the educational, interpersonal, and social experiences of off-campus and non-traditional students. The department focuses on the needs of students who live off campus as well as anyone who considers themselves non-traditional (including students who are 24 years old or older, those who have dependents, those

who are married, widowed, or divorced, and/or those who are military veterans). In addition to a comfortable lounge area for students, an adjacent computer lab provides a convenient location to meet students' computing needs. Staff members in this department help off-campus and non-traditional students locate necessary services and assist them in resolving concerns.

## **OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN**

**Holmes Student Center, sixth floor, 815-753-1414**

**[www.niu.edu/ombuds](http://www.niu.edu/ombuds)**

The Office of the Ombudsman offers assistance to anyone who is attempting to resolve a university-related concern. Any type of issue, such as academic, financial, housing, student conduct, employment, or personal, can be brought to the attention of the office staff.

The Office of the Ombudsman provides an objective environment in which to discuss the concern, identify and explain pertinent policies and procedures, and develop options and strategies that may be helpful in resolving the matter. Accurate referral is provided to university officials authorized to address or resolve the concern. All communications with the office are held in strict confidence, and all services are free of charge.

## **ORIENTATION & FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE**

**Holmes Student Center 023D, basement level**

**815-753-1535, [www.orientation.niu.edu](http://www.orientation.niu.edu)**

This office coordinates the orientation, advising, and registration of students new to the university and offers special programs for family members of new students. The office also sponsors First-Year Connections (UNIV 101 and 201 courses, REACH, First-Year Success Series, and Student-Faculty Links) and coordinates with units across the campus to offer Academic Convocation, Welcome Days, and other programs that help first-year and transfer students succeed at NIU.

## **RECREATION SERVICES**

**Student Recreation Center, 815-753-0231**

**[www.recservices.niu.edu](http://www.recservices.niu.edu)**

A variety of programs and services awaits students at the Student Recreation Center and Chick Evans Field House. Students can work out in the cardiovascular/weight rooms or free weight rooms, receive advice from a personal trainer or nutrition intern, get away on a great outdoor weekend trip, or rent gear and plan a trip themselves. Students can join an intramural team or sign

up to play an individual or dual sport. Students who want to compete in a specialized sport can join a sport club and compete against other universities.

## **STUDENT INVOLVEMENT & LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**

**Campus Life Building 150, 815-753-1421**

**[www.niu.edu/studentinvolvement](http://www.niu.edu/studentinvolvement)**

This department is dedicated to helping students become actively engaged in campus life and to providing opportunities for students to pursue their interests while developing and enhancing skills for effective leadership. Student Involvement & Leadership Development includes Campus Activities Board, Greek Affairs, Event Production Services, Leadership, Student Association (student government), Student Organizational Services, Parents' Association, and Volunteerism. There are over 200 recognized student organizations on campus and this department provides advising and guidance to ensure their success.

## **STUDENTS' LEGAL ASSISTANCE**

**Campus Life Building 120, 815-753-1701**

**[www.niu.edu/legal](http://www.niu.edu/legal)**

Student activity fees support the services of two licensed attorneys who make information and aid available to students in a wide variety of cases including landlord/tenant, criminal misdemeanor, consumer, personal injury, discrimination, employer/employee, domestic relations, public benefits, and traffic violations. Assistance includes advice and consultation, advocacy, and, in appropriate circumstances, court representation.

## **TESTING SERVICES**

**Adams Hall 128, 815-753-1203**

**[www.niu.edu/testing](http://www.niu.edu/testing)**

The Office of Testing Services provides information and administers and maintains files of test scores for a wide range of testing programs. In addition, Testing Services provides faculty with professional help in developing and scoring classroom examinations.

## **TRANSPORTATION**

**Campus Life Building 180G, 815-753-0308**

**[www.niu.edu/sa/mass%20transit/index.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/sa/mass%20transit/index.shtml)**

Transportation around campus and DeKalb is provided by the Huskie Bus Line, which is funded from student fees. Students pay no additional fare to ride these buses;

routes are established for the convenience of students, whether they live in residence halls or off campus. Schedules are available online at [www.huskieline.com](http://www.huskieline.com).

All students may bring vehicles to campus; however, parking is limited. Most parking lots near classroom buildings are reserved for faculty, staff, and commuting students. Students with vehicles must purchase a color-coded parking permit and park in designated areas. Because of the limited amount of parking available on campus and because the Huskie Bus Line provides convenient service throughout the campus and community, students are not encouraged to bring vehicles to campus.

## **TUTORING**

**Coaching for Academic Success**

**Campus Life Building 200, 815-753-1206**

**[www.niu.edu/csdc](http://www.niu.edu/csdc)**

## **ACCESS**

**Williston Hall 100, 815-753-1141 (SI)**

**815-753-0203 (PAL), 815-753-1126 (A+)**

**[www.tutoring.niu.edu](http://www.tutoring.niu.edu)**

ACCESS (Access to Courses and Careers through Educational Support Services) provides walk-in tutoring services, Supplemental Instruction, and other support services for students who require academic assistance to be successful in their chosen courses and majors. The ACCESS website offers a complete listing of campus resources for tutoring and other academic services available.

## **UNIVERSITY WRITING CENTER**

**Stevenson Towers South Lower Level, 815-753-6636**

**Founders Library 302, 815-752-6630**

**[www.uwc.niu.edu](http://www.uwc.niu.edu)**

The University Writing Center (UWC) is a place for all writers at Northern Illinois University to talk one-on-one with trained consultants about their writing. Writers can discuss topics and ideas, gain further understanding of writing assignments, and identify strategies for planning, organizing, and developing drafts. UWC consultants help writers identify better ways to use language; learn appropriate methods of persuading readers; integrate critical reading and thinking skills into written form; and discover effective use of sources and correct documentation. UWC consultants assist writers in identifying the different types of writing required for

various disciplines. They also assist with résumés and applications for internships, scholarships, and/or careers.

### **VETERANS' ASSISTANCE OFFICE**

**Swen Parson Hall 245, 815-753-0691**

**[www.fa.niu.edu/veterans.shtml](http://www.fa.niu.edu/veterans.shtml)**

The Veterans' Assistance Office provides information and assistance to individuals interested in veterans' programs. This office certifies students for federal veterans' benefits, the Illinois Veterans Grant, MIA/POW Scholarship, Illinois National Guard Grant, veterans' dependents' benefits, and tutorial assistance benefits. Links to printable applications for all programs are available on the website.

## **Living On Campus**

### **HOUSING & DINING**

**East Neptune, 753-1525**

**[www.niu.edu/housing](http://www.niu.edu/housing)**

NIU provides a broad range of housing options designed to meet the diverse needs of students. The residence halls provide a unique living environment that offers many opportunities for involvement, leadership, and the development of new relationships.

### **RESIDENCE HALLS**

Each year, approximately 6,000 NIU students live in the residence halls and Northern View Community. First-year involvement in NIU residence halls can be a key contributor to a student's educational and personal success. Housing & Dining uses its resources to ensure that every resident is comfortable and safe, receives academic support, can live a healthy lifestyle, and becomes a part of a community.

### **Professional Staff**

Each building has a full-time or part-time hall director living in the hall who is on call to assist students 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Hall directors have or are pursuing a graduate degree, often in higher education or counseling. These staff members manage a hall's daily operations and implement the hall's education and student development programs. Information, counseling, conflict resolution, and crisis intervention services are available, as are referrals and follow-up consultation.

### **Hall Programming**

To support the academic mission of the university, each residence hall develops activities, events, programs, and functions designed to enhance students' learning environment. More than 1,000 educational programs are presented annually in the halls. Academics, culture, health, and student development are the most popular topics.

### **Lifestyle Options**

Students are most successful when they live in the lifestyle that is most comfortable for them. Most NIU residents live on coed floors in a double room with one roommate. Yet, no one lifestyle fits all students. The lifestyle options offered allow students to choose coed or single-gender floors; singles, doubles, and suites; quiet lifestyle; alcohol-free floors; and transfer student floors.

### **Living-Learning Communities (LLCs):**

LLCs are co-sponsored by Housing & Dining and academic departments. LLCs bring together faculty with groups of motivated students who learn where they live. Special programs, speakers, field trips, and activities geared to the students in each house or floor build added value for students. Programs focus on business; honors; science, engineering, and technology; health professions; fine arts; international interests; First-Year Residential Experience; Exploring Majors; and teacher education.

### **The First-Year Residential Experience**

FYRE is a living-learning program uniquely designed to meet the needs of first-year students. The programs offered in FYRE include a tutoring center for students to receive peer counseling; satellite offices for professional academic advising and personal counseling; learning assistants to provide academic programming and peer assistance; and an Exploring Majors Fair in residence.

### **Student Leadership**

Students participate directly in hall governance, which has real impact on their lives. Hall Councils in each area discuss common concerns and choose new amenities. A partnership between Housing & Dining and the Residence Hall Association (RHA) funds and organizes the residents' own cable movie channel.

## Residence Hall Amenities

All halls feature a 24/7-staffed front desk; a live-in hall director; study, lounge, recreation, and laundry areas; a computer lab and wireless connectivity in public areas; and at least one dining destination.

## Student Room Features

Rooms come complete with furniture, MicroFridge®, high-speed Ethernet connection, and cable TV service.

## Northern View Community

815-752-VIEW (8439)

[www.niu.edu/northernview](http://www.niu.edu/northernview)

Northern View Community is a university-operated apartment complex located on the western edge of campus. The Community offers one-, two-, and three-bedroom units for students with dependents and/or partners, graduate and law students, and other students for whom a traditional residence hall setting is impractical. Residents enjoy full kitchens, washers and dryers, and high-speed Internet access in each unit. Northern View also features a community center complete with computer lab, game room, study rooms, and play rooms.

# Health and Safety

## HEALTH SERVICES

Health Service Building, 815-753-1311

[www.niu.edu/healthservices](http://www.niu.edu/healthservices)

Health Services offers a wide variety of high-quality outpatient care services to help students improve and maintain their health and wellness. Health Services is nationally accredited by the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, Inc.

**Eligibility for Care:** All currently enrolled students (full- or part-time) who have been assessed the on-campus student services fees are eligible to use Health Services. NIU Student Health Insurance, or any other health insurance, is *not* needed to use Health Services.

**Staff:** Health Services physicians, nurses, and other professional and support staff are sensitive to the special needs of the college community. The physicians

specialize in a wide range of areas, including family practice, internal medicine, sports medicine, and men's and women's health.

**Services Available:** Health Services offers a wide variety of services to meet students' health needs and concerns. These include: acute care, allergy injections, general medical care, immunizations, laboratory, mental health, nutrition counseling referrals, pharmacy, physical therapy, radiology, and men's and women's health care.

**Appointments:** Appointments are needed for most health care services. Call 815-753-1311 to schedule an appointment.

**Charges for Care:** The student activity fee covers most of the services provided at Health Services. There are no charges for physician visits, x-rays, most laboratory tests, and most other services. There are charges for prescriptions, missed appointments, immunizations, medical supplies, and some specialized procedures (fees-for-service are subject to change).

**Immunization Policy:** The Illinois College Student Immunization Act (110-ILCS 20) and university policy require that all students born on or after January 1, 1957, enrolling in a class at the NIU DeKalb campus, provide written evidence of immunizations. Failure to provide the required documentation and to be in compliance with the state law by the tenth day of the first term enrolled will result in a late processing fee. A registration encumbrance will also be placed on the records of students who are not in compliance. Students will be notified at their NIU e-mail account if any additional information is required. Immunization information may be obtained from the Health Services web page at [www.niu.edu/healthservices/immunizations](http://www.niu.edu/healthservices/immunizations) or by calling 815-753-9785.

**Meningitis:** Meningitis is an inflammation of the linings of the brain and spinal cord that is caused by either viruses or bacteria. Viral meningitis is generally less severe and resolves without specific treatment. Bacterial meningitis, especially meningococcal meningitis, is more serious and can result in permanent neurological damage or death.

Meningococcal meningitis begins with symptoms of high fever, headache, and stiff neck that may develop over a period of several hours to two days. Other symptoms may include nausea, vomiting, confusion, drowsiness, and discomfort when one looks at bright lights. Meningococcal meningitis is spread through the exchange of oral and respiratory secretions (e.g., coughing, kissing, and sharing eating utensils), not through casual contact. Individuals who live in the same household or have direct contact with an infected person's oral secretions are at increased risk of acquiring the infection.

Two vaccines are available that protect against four of the five strains (or types) of the bacterium that cause meningococcal disease. While both vaccines provide immunity for a number of years to approximately 90 percent of those who are vaccinated, neither medication confers lifelong immunity to meningococcal disease. Health Services provides the meningococcal vaccination for NIU students on request. There is a cost for this vaccination. For more information please call Health Services Preventive Medicine at 815-753-9759.

**Confidentiality:** All health information is confidential except as described in the Health Services Notice of Privacy and as required by Illinois or Federal law. If a patient 18 years or older wishes to release information to any individual or medical facility outside of Health Services, he or she must sign an Authorization for Release of Information form.

**Care Outside of Health Services:** Health Services provides referrals to medical specialists for consultation and/or care when necessary. Additionally, students may seek medical care elsewhere. However, Health Services does not pay for medical care received outside of Health Services; students are responsible for payment of these expenses. Students are advised to check their NIU Student Health insurance and/or private health insurance plans to determine if the expenses are reimbursable. If students are covered by NIU Student Health Insurance, call the insurance office for information at 815-753-0122.

## STUDENT HEALTH INSURANCE

Health Services Building 201, 815-753-0122

[www.studentinsurance.niu.edu](http://www.studentinsurance.niu.edu)

Students who register for nine or more on-campus semester hours by the 30th calendar day of the fall or

spring semesters are charged a fee for health insurance on their tuition account through the Bursar's Office. Students registered for six to eight on-campus hours and students registered for at least six off-campus hours are eligible for coverage and may purchase student insurance directly from the Student Insurance Office on or before the 15th calendar day of the semester. Coverage for dependents is available to eligible students and may be purchased through the Student Insurance Office on or before the 15th calendar day of the semester.

Students who have other comparable health insurance coverage may cancel the NIU plan. There are only two ways to waive the NIU insurance. If the student is 18 years old or older, the cancellation process is done online and must be completed by the 15th calendar day of the semester. Students 17 years old or younger or their parents should contact the Student Insurance Office for more information. Students who have canceled the NIU plan may enroll in the plan at a later date by completing an application during published enrollment periods or within 60 days of being removed from another health insurance plan.

Here are some important points to consider before canceling NIU Student Health Insurance coverage:

- NIU Student Health Insurance provides coverage 24 hours a day, 365 days per year all over the world for less than \$66 a month.
- Many individual or family insurance plans do not cover all expenses. The Student Health Insurance plan may coordinate benefits with other insurance plans to provide up to 100 percent coverage. Consider the NIU plan as an affordable way to lower your out-of-pocket expenses such as co-insurance, high deductibles, and other exclusions not covered by other insurances.
- Not all insurance companies or plans work "in-network" in DeKalb County. Students are encouraged to check with their insurance company to make sure that "out-of-area" coverage is available in the DeKalb area.
- Dependents of students who are enrolled in the NIU Student Health Insurance plan can be added to the NIU insurance plan.
- Students who declare financial independence or drop to a part-time status should make sure that coverage is still available through their family's group insurance plan.

## HEALTH ENHANCEMENT

Evans Field House 139, 815-753-9755

[www.health.niu.edu](http://www.health.niu.edu)

Health Enhancement provides student-centered, relevant health promotion information, materials, and interventions to assist students as they pursue their academic goals. The staff consists of five health educators, a full-time administrative assistant, and a small group of graduate and undergraduate students.

Services provided by Health Enhancement include the provision of health information, educational sessions, and materials. Formats for these health promotion interventions include presentations and trainings in academic classes and for student organizations, outreach events, mobile and stationary resource sites, individual and professional consultations, and electronic and print media.

## DEPARTMENT OF POLICE & PUBLIC SAFETY

The Department of Police & Public Safety is located on the east side of campus, adjacent to and south of the Health Services building at 375 Wirtz Drive.

**911 (emergency)**

**815-753-1212 (non-emergency)**

[www.niu.edu/PublicSafety](http://www.niu.edu/PublicSafety)

## WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFE CAMPUS

The Northern Illinois University Department of Police & Public Safety practices comprehensive community policing to ensure the safety and well-being of students, faculty, and staff. Police & Public Safety works with the entire campus community to create a safe atmosphere, augmenting around-the-clock police patrols of campus with programs to educate students on how to avoid dangerous situations, and networking extensively with the campus community to proactively detect potential problems and solve them before trouble arises.

### Full-time Police Force

With nearly 25,000 students and thousands of faculty and staff, Northern Illinois University is as large as many of Chicago's suburbs. To keep the campus safe, the university has its own full-time police force that has the same powers and responsibilities as any municipal or county police force in Illinois.

The NIU Department of Police & Public Safety has officers patrolling around the clock. They utilize patrol cars, bicycles, and foot patrol in order to ensure full

coverage of the campus. The department also has a security guard unit that checks on building security during evening hours and serves as an extra set of eyes and ears for the police.

Additionally, the department has established Community Safety Centers in each residence hall. Officers staffing those centers patrol their assigned buildings and parking lots around the clock. Officers spend the majority of their time building relationships with students, integrating themselves into the daily life of each building. Doing so allows them to become aware of potentially troublesome situations and to deal with them before they become larger problems. When crimes do occur, police are able to respond quickly and efficiently. This program has reduced crime in and around the residence halls.

All NIU police officers are certified emergency medical technicians, and all squad cars are equipped with automated external defibrillators (AED). Officers also receive specialized training in responding to cases of criminal sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking. Those officers assigned to the department's Critical Incident Response Team also are certified in areas such as hazardous materials, special weapons, tactical response, and explosives detection.

## RESIDENCE HALL SAFETY

Access to all residence halls is controlled. Students are required to provide identification to gain entry to the building and must sign in all guests. The staff at building checkpoints are hired, trained, and supervised by the NIU Department of Police & Public Safety. Doors to the buildings are alarmed to detect unauthorized entrance. All rooms have locks, and stairwell doors and elevators require keys to control access between floors. Most residence hall buildings are equipped with security cameras.

## GETTING AROUND CAMPUS SAFELY

The NIU campus is designed with security in mind. Parking lots, pathways, and common areas are well lit, and landscaping is designed to minimize hiding places for would-be troublemakers. The Department of Police & Public Safety also sponsors services for students who do not wish to walk alone or who need assistance:

- **Walk Safe.** On weeknights, between the hours of 6 p.m. and 2 a.m., students can contact the Huskie Student Patrol at 815-753-9658. A trained member of that organization will meet

and escort them to residence halls, parking lots, or any other destination on or near campus. This service is provided free of charge.

- **Late Night Ride Service.** This service provides no-questions-asked rides to NIU students to and from any location in the greater DeKalb-Sycamore area. The service operates every days between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m. Drivers are trained members of the Department of Police & Public Safety's Security Guard Unit and are dispatched by the department. The vans can accommodate up to seven passengers and are wheelchair accessible. To arrange a ride students should call 815-753-2222.
- **Motorist Assistance.** The Department of Police & Public Safety is available to assist motorists on campus who have locked their keys in their car, need to jump start their battery, or require help changing a flat tire. For assistance call 815-753-1212.

## SAFETY EDUCATION

One of the key tenets of community policing is that individuals should be taught to take responsibility for their personal safety. Toward that goal, the Department of Police & Public Safety offers a wide range of educational courses that are available in residence halls, to campus organizations and to other interested parties, as requested. Those courses include:

- Sexual Assault Prevention
- Theft Prevention
- Identity Theft Prevention
- Alcohol and Drug Awareness

## SAFETY TIPS

Students can help ensure personal safety by observing the following guidelines:

- Shutting and locking doors when leaving rooms and never leaving property unattended.
- Marking property so it can be identified if it is stolen and later recovered.
- Following all rules of the road when driving a car, walking, riding a bicycle, or using other forms of personal transportation, such as rollerblades, skateboards, or scooters.
- Making wise decisions regarding alcohol use and other risky behaviors.
- Attending an educational course and learning what can be done to avoid your vulnerability to crimes like sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking.
- Reporting any criminal behavior to the campus police so that persons responsible can be identified and, if necessary, removed from campus.

- Calling 815-753-TIPS (8477) to provide information that may help the police solve crimes; callers will remain anonymous. Tips that result in an arrest or university judicial action are eligible for a cash reward of up to \$250.
- Learning the location of campus call boxes. When walking at night, students should walk in well-lit areas with companions or take advantage of the Late Night Ride Service or Huskie Student Patrol escorts.

## COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT CAMPUS EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Ensuring the safety of students on the campus is one of the most important tasks at Northern Illinois University. The tragic shootings of 2008 prompted the university to review all safety and law enforcement procedures. The following safeguards are in place.

### How will I (or my student) know if there is a campus emergency or disaster?

In case of an emergency, on-campus students are notified through a variety of channels:

- All students, faculty, and staff have university e-mail accounts that are automatically subscribed to all campus-wide messages that warn of emergencies.
- Broadcast voice mails can be sent to landline phones on campus. To subscribe, students should call 815-752-5900. The service is free.
- Emergency warnings are posted on the university home page at [www.niu.edu](http://www.niu.edu).
- Local television and radio stations broadcast information when emergencies occur.
- All campus buildings are equipped with weather radios to warn campus officials of the approach of dangerous weather, and emergency sirens are located on and around campus.
- For weather emergencies, call the NIU Weather Hotline at 815-752-6736. Hearing impaired students can contact a TTY line at 815-753-9703.
- Students and families can sign up for the text alert messaging system at [www.niu.edu/alert](http://www.niu.edu/alert).

### Which campus and community units respond to emergencies?

NIU is fortunate to be able to call upon the resources of multiple law enforcement agencies—campus, municipal, county, and state—in times of emergency. The university regularly interacts with local police and fire departments

to plan and coordinate responses to emergencies on campus.

NIU has its own police force which patrols the entire campus and has substations in all residence halls. Community advisors and other residence hall staff receive training in how to react to a wide variety of emergencies. The Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management has trained professionals organized into crisis response teams to provide care and support for students both during and after emergencies.

### **How will I know my student is safe?**

The university cannot contact families individually to update them on the well-being of their student. For this reason, discuss with your son or daughter the importance of touching base with you regularly, and especially in the event of an emergency or disaster on campus so that they can put your mind at ease.

### **How does the university handle students who have psychological disturbances?**

NIU's Counseling & Student Development Center (CSDC) trains faculty and staff to recognize when a student is in emotional distress or experiencing symptoms of mental illness. Training includes helping students obtain professional assistance. The Center has a staff of psychologists and counselors who provide a wide range of counseling services and outreach programs. Services are free and confidential.

## **PERSONAL PROPERTY**

The university is not responsible for personal property. This includes damage, loss, fire, theft, or flooding. Families should examine their family insurance policy to find out if their student's personal property at a residence away from home is covered. If not adequately covered, families are encouraged to obtain additional insurance. Students should record the serial numbers of all valuable equipment. In the event of theft, this information will be needed by the police.

## **CAMPUS SERVICE UNITS**

The following list offers telephone numbers and websites of campus units that deal with issues of personal health, safety, and empowerment; substance abuse prevention, assessment, and treatment; and legal assistance.

Affirmative Action & Diversity Resources

**815-753-1118**, [www.niu.edu/aadr](http://www.niu.edu/aadr)

Counseling & Student Development Center

**815-753-1206**, [www.niu.edu/csdc](http://www.niu.edu/csdc)

DeKalb County Crime Stoppers

**815-895-3272**, [www.dekalbcounty.org](http://www.dekalbcounty.org)

Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management

**815-753-1573**, [www.niu.edu/stuaff](http://www.niu.edu/stuaff)

Family Center

**815-753-1684**, [www.chhs.niu.edu/familycenter](http://www.chhs.niu.edu/familycenter)

Health Enhancement

**815-753-9755**, [www.niu.edu/he](http://www.niu.edu/he)

Health Services

**815-753-1311**, [www.niu.edu/healthservices](http://www.niu.edu/healthservices)

Huskie Bus Line

**815-758-6900**, [www.huskieline.com](http://www.huskieline.com)

Huskie Patrol/Late Night Ride Service

**815-753-2222**, [www.finfacil.niu.edu/publicsafety](http://www.finfacil.niu.edu/publicsafety)

Interpersonal Violence Response Team (IVRT)

**815-753-6102**, [www.niu.edu/he/topics/relationships/information.asp#IV\\_team](http://www.niu.edu/he/topics/relationships/information.asp#IV_team)

Judicial Affairs

**815-753-1571**, [www.niu.edu/judicial](http://www.niu.edu/judicial)

NIU Tip Line

**815-753-TIPS (8477)**, [www.niu.edu/tipline](http://www.niu.edu/tipline)

Office of the Ombudsman

**815-753-1414**, [www.niu.edu/ombuds](http://www.niu.edu/ombuds)

Police & Public Safety (University Police)

**911** (Emergency), **815-753-1212** (Non-emergency)  
[www.finfacil.niu.edu/publicsafety](http://www.finfacil.niu.edu/publicsafety)

Students' Legal Assistance

**815-753-1701**, [www.niu.edu/legal](http://www.niu.edu/legal)

## **Sources of Information**

**University offices generally are open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4:30 p.m. Summer hours vary. All offices are closed on legal holidays.**

## **ADMINISTRATION**

Office of the President

Altgeld Hall 300, 815-753-1271  
[www.niu.edu/president](http://www.niu.edu/president)

Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost  
Altgeld Hall 215, 815-753-8387  
[www.niu.edu/provost/executive](http://www.niu.edu/provost/executive)

Office of the Vice President for Administration  
and University Outreach  
Third floor, Lowden Hall 307, 815-753-1272  
[www.outreach.niu.edu/outreach/anne.shtml](http://www.outreach.niu.edu/outreach/anne.shtml)

Office of the Vice President for University Advancement  
Altgeld Hall 135, 815-753-7406  
[www.niu.edu/about/adminoffices.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/about/adminoffices.shtml)

Office of the Executive Vice President  
for Finance and Facilities  
Altgeld Hall 235, 815-753-1508  
[www.finfacil.niu.edu](http://www.finfacil.niu.edu)

Office of the Vice President for Student  
Affairs & Enrollment Management  
Altgeld Hall 208, 815-753-1573  
[www.stuaff.niu.edu/stuaff](http://www.stuaff.niu.edu/stuaff)

## **UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGE ADVISING OFFICES**

Academic Advising Center  
Academic Advising Center Building 107  
815-753-2573  
[www.aac.niu.edu](http://www.aac.niu.edu)

College of Business  
Barsema Hall 201, 815-753-1325  
[www.cob.niu.edu](http://www.cob.niu.edu)

College of Education  
Graham Hall 327, 815-753-8355  
[www.cedu.niu.edu](http://www.cedu.niu.edu)

College of Engineering & Engineering Technology  
Engineering Building 331, 815-753-1442  
[www.ceet.niu.edu](http://www.ceet.niu.edu)

College of Health & Human Sciences  
Wirtz Hall 227, 815-753-1891  
[www.chhs.niu.edu](http://www.chhs.niu.edu)

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences  
Zulauf Hall 201, 815-753-0114  
[www.clas.niu.edu](http://www.clas.niu.edu)

College of Visual & Performing Arts  
Music Building 141, 815-753-1635  
[www.vpa.niu.edu](http://www.vpa.niu.edu)

University Honors Program  
Campus Life Building 110, 815-753-0694  
[www.honors.niu.edu](http://www.honors.niu.edu)

## **ACADEMIC SUPPORT SERVICES**

Admissions  
Williston Hall 101, 815-753-0446  
[www.admissions.niu.edu/admissions](http://www.admissions.niu.edu/admissions)

Graduation/Transfer Evaluations  
Williston Hall 220, 815-753-0681  
[www.reg.niu.edu/regrec](http://www.reg.niu.edu/regrec)

Registration & Records  
Williston Hall 220, 815-753-0681  
[www.reg.niu.edu/regrec](http://www.reg.niu.edu/regrec)

Student Employment  
Swen Parson Hall 232, 815-753-1394  
[www.hr.niu.edu/employment](http://www.hr.niu.edu/employment)

Student Financial Aid  
Swen Parson Hall 245, 815-753-1395  
[www.niu.edu/employment/students.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/employment/students.shtml)

Testing Services  
Adams Hall 128, 815-753-1203  
[www.niu.edu/testing](http://www.niu.edu/testing)

Transcripts  
Williston Hall 220, 815-753-0681  
[www.reg.niu.edu/regrec](http://www.reg.niu.edu/regrec)

## **DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS & ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT**

Asian American Center  
429 Garden Road, 815-752-1177  
[www.niu.edu/aac](http://www.niu.edu/aac)

Campus Child Care  
Annie Glidden Road, southwest of Gabel and Graham  
Halls, 815-753-0125  
[www.niu.edu/cc](http://www.niu.edu/cc)

Career Services  
Campus Life Building 220, 815-753-1641  
[www.niu.edu/careerservices](http://www.niu.edu/careerservices)

Center for Access-Ability Resources  
Health Service Building, fourth floor, 815-753-1303  
[www.niu.edu/caar](http://www.niu.edu/caar)

Counseling & Student Development Center  
Campus Life Building 200, 815-753-1206  
[www.niu.edu/csdc](http://www.niu.edu/csdc)

Health Enhancement  
Evans Field House 139, 815-753-9755  
[www.health.niu.edu](http://www.health.niu.edu)

**Health Services**

Health Service Building, 815-753-1311  
[www.niu.edu/healthservices](http://www.niu.edu/healthservices)

**Housing & Dining**

Neptune East Lobby, 815-753-1525  
[www.housing.niu.edu](http://www.housing.niu.edu)

**Judicial Affairs**

Campus Life Building 280, 815-753-1572  
[www.niu.edu/judicial](http://www.niu.edu/judicial)

**Latino Resource Center**

515 Garden Road, 815-753-1986  
[www.niu.edu/lrc](http://www.niu.edu/lrc)

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Resource Center**

Holmes Student Center 707, 815-753-5428  
[www.niu.edu/lgbt](http://www.niu.edu/lgbt)

***Northern Star***

Campus Life Building Suite 130, 815-753-0101  
[www.northernstar.info](http://www.northernstar.info)

**Off-Campus & Non-Traditional Student Services**

Holmes Student Center 023J/K, 815-753-9999  
[www.niu.edu/comnontrad](http://www.niu.edu/comnontrad)

**Orientation & First-Year Experience**

Holmes Student Center 023D, 815-753-1535  
[www.orientation.niu.edu](http://www.orientation.niu.edu)

**Planning & Assessment**

Campus Life Building 240A (Career Services Suite)  
 815-753-1834  
[www.stuaff.niu.edu/stuaff/departments/assessment.shtml](http://www.stuaff.niu.edu/stuaff/departments/assessment.shtml)

**Recreation Services**

Student Recreation Center, 815-753-0231  
[www.rs.niu.edu](http://www.rs.niu.edu)

**Scholarship Office**

Swen Parson Hall 245K, 815-753-4829  
[www.scholarships.niu.edu/scholarships](http://www.scholarships.niu.edu/scholarships)

**Student Academic Success**

Academic Advising Center Building 107  
 815-753-5721  
[www.niu.edu/osas](http://www.niu.edu/osas)

**Student Financial Aid Office**

Swen Parson 245, 815-753-1395  
[www.niu.edu/fa](http://www.niu.edu/fa)

**Student Involvement & Leadership Development**

Campus Life Building 150, 815-753-1421  
[www.niu.edu/studentinvolvement](http://www.niu.edu/studentinvolvement)

**Students' Legal Assistance**

Campus Life Building 120, 815-753-1701  
[www.niu.edu/legal](http://www.niu.edu/legal)

**Support & Advocacy**

Gilbert Hall B-123, Phone 815-753-0940  
[www.niu.edu/osa](http://www.niu.edu/osa)

**Women's Resource Center**

105 Normal Road, 815-753-0320  
[www.niu.edu/women](http://www.niu.edu/women)

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICES  
AND PROGRAMS (ESP)****ACCESS**

Williston Hall 100, 815-753-1141  
[www.tutoring.niu.edu](http://www.tutoring.niu.edu)

**CHANCE**

Williston Hall 120, 815-753-0201  
[www.chance.niu.edu](http://www.chance.niu.edu)

**Peer Assisted Learning**

Williston Hall 100, 815-753-0203  
[www.tutoring.niu.edu](http://www.tutoring.niu.edu)

**Student Support Services**

Adams Hall 419, 815-753-1142  
[www.niu.edu/sss](http://www.niu.edu/sss)

**Supplemental Instruction**

Williston Hall 100, 815-753-1141  
[www.tutoring.niu.edu](http://www.tutoring.niu.edu)

**Upward Bound**

Grant North D Tower, 815-753-1867

**OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES****Bursar's Office**

Swen Parson Hall 235, 815-753-1885  
[www.niu.edu/bursar](http://www.niu.edu/bursar)

**Center for Black Studies**

Lincoln Terrace, 815-753-1709  
[www.cbs.niu.edu](http://www.cbs.niu.edu)

**Cooperative Education/Internship Program**

Campus Life Building 220, 815-753-1641  
[www.niu.edu/careerservices](http://www.niu.edu/careerservices)

**Founders Memorial Library (Information)**

Normal Road, 815-753-1995  
[www.ulib.niu.edu](http://www.ulib.niu.edu)

**Intercollegiate Athletics**

Convocation Center 200, 815-753-1295  
<http://niuhuskies.cstv.com>

**International Student & Faculty Office**

Williston Hall 406, 815-753-1346  
[www.niu.edu/isfo](http://www.niu.edu/isfo)

**Office of the Ombudsman**

Holmes Student Center 601, 815-753-1414  
[www.niu.edu/ombuds](http://www.niu.edu/ombuds)

**Police & Public Safety**

Telephone and Security Building, 815-753-1212  
[www.finfacil.niu.edu/PublicSafety](http://www.finfacil.niu.edu/PublicSafety)

**ROTC**

Chick Evans Field House, 815-753-6234  
<http://armyrotc.com/edu/northernil>

**Southeast Asian Studies**

Adams Hall 412, 815-753-1771  
[www.cseas.niu.edu](http://www.cseas.niu.edu)

**Student Insurance Office**

Health Service Building 201, 815-753-0122  
[www.niu.edu/shi](http://www.niu.edu/shi)

**University Bookstore**

Holmes Student Center, 815-753-1081  
[www.niubookstore.niu.edu](http://www.niubookstore.niu.edu)

**Women's Studies**

Reavis Hall 103, 815-753-1038  
[www.clas.niu.edu/wstudies](http://www.clas.niu.edu/wstudies)

**RESIDENCE HALLS****Housing & Dining**

Neptune Hall East  
 815-753-1525  
[www.niu.edu/housing](http://www.niu.edu/housing)

**Douglas Hall Main Desk**

815-753-1789

**Grant Towers**

(A, B) Main Desk, 815-753-1784  
 (C, D) Main Desk, 815-753-1994

**Lincoln Hall Main Desk**

815-753-1205

**Neptune Hall Main Desk**

815-753-1725

**Stevenson Towers**

(A, B) Main Desk, 815-753-0371  
 (C, D) Main Desk, 815-753-0515

**ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS AND SCHOOLS****Accountancy**

815-753-1637  
[www.cob.niu.edu/accy](http://www.cob.niu.edu/accy)

**Anthropology**

815-753-0246  
[www.niu.edu/acad/anthro](http://www.niu.edu/acad/anthro)

**Art**

815-753-1473  
[www.niu.edu/art](http://www.niu.edu/art)

**Biological Sciences**

815-753-0433  
[www.bios.niu.edu](http://www.bios.niu.edu)

**Chemistry & Biochemistry**

815-753-1131  
[www.chembio.niu.edu/chembio](http://www.chembio.niu.edu/chembio)

**Communication**

815-753-1563  
[www.comm.niu.edu](http://www.comm.niu.edu)

**Communicative Disorders**

815-753-1484  
[www.niu.edu/ahcd](http://www.niu.edu/ahcd)

**Computer Science**

815-753-0378  
[www.cs.niu.edu](http://www.cs.niu.edu)

**Economics**

815-753-1031  
[www.niu.edu/econ/Econ\\_main](http://www.niu.edu/econ/Econ_main)

**Electrical Engineering**

815-753-9974  
[www.niu.edu/ee](http://www.niu.edu/ee)

**English**

815-753-0611  
[www.engl.niu.edu](http://www.engl.niu.edu)

**Family, Consumer and Nutrition Sciences**

815-753-1543  
[www.niu.edu/fcns](http://www.niu.edu/fcns)

**Finance**

815-753-1114  
[www.cob.niu.edu/fina](http://www.cob.niu.edu/fina)

**Foreign Languages & Literatures**

815-753-1501  
[www.forlangs.net](http://www.forlangs.net)

## Geography

815-753-0631

<http://globe.geog.niu.edu>

## Geology &amp; Environmental Geosciences

815-753-1943

[www.niu.edu/geology](http://www.niu.edu/geology)

## History

815-753-0131

[www.niu.edu/history](http://www.niu.edu/history)

## Industrial Engineering

815-753-1269

[www.ceet.niu.edu/depts/ie](http://www.ceet.niu.edu/depts/ie)

## Kinesiology and Physical Education

815-753-1407

[www.cedu.niu.edu/knpe](http://www.cedu.niu.edu/knpe)

## Leadership, Educational Psychology &amp; Foundations

815-753-4404

[www.cedu.niu.edu/lepf](http://www.cedu.niu.edu/lepf)

## Literacy Education

815-753-8556

[www.cedu.niu.edu/ltcy](http://www.cedu.niu.edu/ltcy)

## Management

815-753-1124

[www.cob.niu.edu/mgmt](http://www.cob.niu.edu/mgmt)

## Marketing, 815-753-1714

[www.cob.niu.edu/mktg](http://www.cob.niu.edu/mktg)

## Mathematical Sciences, 815-753-0566

[www.math.niu.edu](http://www.math.niu.edu)

## Mechanical Engineering, 815-753-9979

[www.ceet.niu.edu/depts/me](http://www.ceet.niu.edu/depts/me)

## Military Science, 815-753-7682

<http://armyrotc.com/edu/northernil>

## Music, 815-753-1551

[www.niu.edu/music](http://www.niu.edu/music)

## Nursing &amp; Health Studies, 815-753-1231

[www.niu.edu/nuhs](http://www.niu.edu/nuhs)

## Operations Management &amp; Information Systems

815-752-OMIS (6647)

[www.cob.niu.edu/omis](http://www.cob.niu.edu/omis)

## Philosophy

815-753-0331

[www.niu.edu/phil](http://www.niu.edu/phil)

## Physical Education

815-753-1407

[www.cedu.niu.edu/knpe](http://www.cedu.niu.edu/knpe)

## Physical Therapy

815-753-1383

[www.niu.edu/ahcd/graduate/pt](http://www.niu.edu/ahcd/graduate/pt)

## Physics

815-753-1772

[www.niu.edu/physics](http://www.niu.edu/physics)

## Political Science

815-753-1011

<http://polisci.niu.edu/polisci>

## Psychology

815-753-0372

[www.niu.edu/psyc](http://www.niu.edu/psyc)

## Sociology

815-753-0365

[www.sociology.niu.edu](http://www.sociology.niu.edu)

## Teaching &amp; Learning

815-753-1619

[www.cedu.niu.edu/tlrn](http://www.cedu.niu.edu/tlrn)

## Technology

815-753-1349

[www.ceet.niu.edu/depts/tech](http://www.ceet.niu.edu/depts/tech)

## Theatre and Dance

815-753-8269

[www.niu.edu/theatre](http://www.niu.edu/theatre)**ASSOCIATION OF CAMPUS  
RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS**

## Baptist Campus Ministry, 815-756-2131

[www.niu.edu/student\\_orgs/judson](http://www.niu.edu/student_orgs/judson)

## Campus Crusade for Christ, 815-758-5699

[www.niucru.com](http://www.niucru.com)

## Campus Missions International, 815-757-5980

[www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml)

## Circle Sanctuary Campus Ministries, 815-757-5980

[www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml)

## DeKalb Church of Christ, 630-544-4393

[www.chicagochurch.org/dekalb](http://www.chicagochurch.org/dekalb)

## Hillel Jewish Student Organization, 815-756-1227

[www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml)

## Impact Christian Fellowship, 630-747-8389

[www.iniu.org](http://www.iniu.org)

InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, 815-761-6535

[www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml)

Latter Day Saints Student Association  
(The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day  
Saints) (LDSSA), 815-899-6205

[www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml)

Lutheran Campus Ministry (ELCA)  
and United Campus Ministries (UCC  
and Episcopal), 319-269-0678

[www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml)

Lutheran Student Fellowship (Refuge) at Immanuel  
Lutheran Church (LCMS), 815-756-6675

[www.refugelsf.org](http://www.refugelsf.org)

The Navigators (NAVS), 773-882-8012

[www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml)

Newman Catholic Student Center, 815-787-7770

[www.newman-niu.org](http://www.newman-niu.org)

The Rock Christian Church, 815-758-3700

<http://therockchristianchurch.com>

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship  
of DeKalb, 815-756-7089

[www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml](http://www.niu.edu/stuaff/ministries.shtml)

Wesley Foundation, 773-882-8012

[www.niuwesley.com](http://www.niuwesley.com)

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 815-756-2905

[www.geocities.com/westminstercollegegroup](http://www.geocities.com/westminstercollegegroup)

## LOCAL HOTELS

America's Best Value Inn

1860 DeKalb Avenue, Sycamore, 815-899-6500

[www.americasbestvalueinn.com](http://www.americasbestvalueinn.com)

Best Western DeKalb Inn & Suites

1212 W. Lincoln Highway, DeKalb, 815-758-8661

[www.bestwestern.com/dekalbinsuites](http://www.bestwestern.com/dekalbinsuites)

Comfort Inn

1475 S. Peace Road, Sycamore, 815-895-4979

[www.choicehotels.com](http://www.choicehotels.com)

Country Inn & Suites by Carlson

1450 S. Peace Road, Sycamore, 815-895-8686

[www.countryinns.com](http://www.countryinns.com)

Holiday Inn Express

1935 DeKalb Avenue, Sycamore, 815-748-7400

[www.hiexpress.com](http://www.hiexpress.com)

Holmes Student Center Guest Rooms

Normal Rd. and Lucinda Ave., 815-753-1444

[www.niu.edu/hsc](http://www.niu.edu/hsc)

Magnuson Inn & Suites

1314 W. Lincoln Hwy., 815-748-4800

[www.magnusonhotels.com/magnuson-inn-and-suites-dekalb](http://www.magnusonhotels.com/magnuson-inn-and-suites-dekalb)

Stratford Inn

355 W. State Street, Sycamore, 815-895-6789

[www.stratfordinnhotel.com](http://www.stratfordinnhotel.com)

Super 8 Motel

800 Fairview Drive, 815-748-4688

[www.super8.com](http://www.super8.com)

Travelodge

116 W. Lincoln Highway, 815-756-3398

[www.travelodge.com](http://www.travelodge.com)

## CAMPUS WEATHER STATUS

Weather Closing Hotline

On campus, 815-752-OPEN (6736)

Off campus, 1-888-4 NIU-OPEN (464-8673)

[www.niu.edu/weather](http://www.niu.edu/weather)

Weather Closing Hotline (Hearing Impaired)

On campus 815-753-9703

Off campus 1-888-NIU-WTHR (648-9847)

[www.niu.edu/weather](http://www.niu.edu/weather)

**Access to Student Records**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) as amended is a federal law intended to protect the privacy of student educational records accumulated from early childhood through college. FERPA provided parents with certain rights with respect to their children's education records. However, once a student reaches the age of 18 or enters college, the rights previously held by the parents transfer exclusively to the student.

Ordinarily, parents of Northern students obtain information about their children's records directly from their children. FERPA does state that the University may release information to the parents of a student but is not required to do so. The Office of Registration & Records may disclose information to parents of dependent children by obtaining the student's written consent or by submitting a copy of the first page of the parent's most recent income tax return indicating that the student is a dependent as defined in Section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954. Additional information is available at [www.reg.niu.edu/regrec/confidentiality/index.shtml](http://www.reg.niu.edu/regrec/confidentiality/index.shtml). Questions concerning these procedures may be directed to the Office of Registration & Records at 815-753-0681.

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**Orientation & First-Year Experience**

Division of Student Affairs & Enrollment Management

Holmes Student Center 023D

DeKalb, IL 60115

815-753-1535

815-753-7480 (fax)

[orientation@niu.edu](mailto:orientation@niu.edu)

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