

Northern Illinois University

Supporting Student Success

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Supporting Student Success



Recruitment and Admissions

Student Experience Graduation and Transition to Career

Student Financial Advising Services



• Goal

- Help students understand how to reduce expenses and maximize resources
- Support student financial planning
- Provide guidance from a more holistic and integrated approach
- Organization
 - Director
 - Three full-time financial advisors

Initiatives underway

- Advising appointments for students/family members
 - Over 500 student appointments to date
 - Evening and weekends available; English or Spanish; virtual or in-person
- Created a Financial Task Checklist
- Proactive outreach using multiple modalities
 - Students with balances/holds preventing registration
 - Recruitment events, Orientation and Week of Welcome
- Campus presentations
 - Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) and Appeals
 - Scholarship, Financial Aid and Student Account Basics

Emerging Initiatives

- Multi-year financial planning tools
- Additional presentation topics and outreach
 - Financial literacy and budgeting
 - Understanding loans and loan repayment
 - Understanding the financial aid notification (especially new first-gen students)
 - Students with SAP or scholarship warnings
- Training for campus partners

Student Academic Advising

- Goal: provide students the academic support they need to persist and graduate
- Objectives:
 - Provide consistent, seamless and comprehensive advising to all undergraduates
 - Maintain a student-focused and holistic approach
 - Provide the right information to the right student at the right time

Initiatives underway

- Leverage a high-tech, high-touch model for advising
- Hire sufficient advisors to meet national standards for caseloads
- Train advisors to work across departments and colleges to support students along their individual pathway to a degree

Emerging initiatives

- Integrate financial, career and academic advising
- Ensure every advisor receives the same training and professional development to support this approach
- Leverage high tech solutions and high touch solutions

Final comments

- Empower students with the knowledge that they will be successful at NIU
- Create a culture of belonging
- Develop the resources necessary to execute on this mission