

Enrollment Updates – Fall 2022

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Northern Illinois University
Your Future. Our Focus.



National Enrollment Narratives

- COVID Impacts

- Challenges present pre-COVID have been exacerbated and the impacts will remain for years
- Mental health
- Belonging and social engagement
- Financial stress
- K-12 learning and academic preparation

“Since the pandemic began in spring 2020, [total] enrollment has declined by 5.1 percent across the board, with 937,500 fewer students enrolled at American colleges and universities.” InsideHigherEd.com (January 2022)

- Enrollment declines at community colleges (transfer)
- Strong job market

Fall 2022 Enrollment Outcomes – Total Enrollment

- Down 3.6% in total enrollment (585) – 15,649
- Down 3.4% in total undergrad enrollment (405) – 11,429
 - 65% first-year retention rate (down from 67% last year)
- Down 4.2% in total graduate enrollment (171) – 3,908
- Flat in total law enrollment – 312
- Up 30% in total international enrollment (223) – 966

Fall 2022 Enrollment Outcomes – New Students

- Up 7% in new freshmen (155) – 2,440
 - *Most diverse class in history – 70% students of color*
 - *Avg. HS GPA 3.42 – highest on record*
 - *56% first-gen students*
 - *50% increase in new Honors students (95) – 283*
- Down 16% in new transfers (240) – 1,252
- Flat in new graduate students – 974
- Up 33% in new international (80) – 326

Access, Equity & Affordability

- Eliminated out-of-state tuition (2018)
- Huskie Pledge (2020)
- Test-free merit scholarships (2020/21)
- Test-free admission (2021)
- Eliminated application fees (2021)
- The Common App (2021)
- Rockford Promise (2021)
- Hope Chicago (2022)



Access, Equity and Affordability

Admission

- 15% increase in freshman applications (~ 26,000)

Scholarships/Financial Aid

- ~ 80% of freshmen received merit awards (1,910)
 - 67% students of color (54% in 2020)
 - Almost 40% with 3.7 GPA or higher (~ 20% with 4.0)
- Huskie Pledge
 - Increased from 877 to 987 (40% of total class)
- Rockford Promise
 - Increased from 96 to 133



Academic Retention & Progression

- Week of Engagement and Week of Welcome
- Huskie First Survey and Response
- Mental and Emotional Health Initiatives
- Quality Initiative for Engaged Teaching
- Re-enrollment Support and Advising

SEM Plan 2.0



Northern
Illinois
University
**Strategic
Enrollment
Management
Plan 2.0**
2022-2025

“Resilient institutions will be those who transition out of pandemic responsiveness with clear plans to become stronger and more sustainable.”

-Lewis Sanborne, Ph.D.

Vice President

Student Success and Enrollment

Ruffalo Noel Levitz

Key Elements of SEM Plan 2.0

- Stable total enrollment – projections updated annually
- Focus on improving retention, graduation, student success and reducing achievement gaps
- Continued focus on DEI and belonging
- Alignment with president's university goals, ILEA 2020-2025 Plan, HLC Quality Initiative and multi-year budget planning



Questions

