

Northern Illinois University



Douglas D. Baker
President

Chartered in 1895, Northern Illinois University (NIU) is a comprehensive teaching and research institution located near a vibrant technology and development corridor. NIU's main campus is located in DeKalb, 65 miles west of Chicago and 45 miles southeast of Rockford. The university also has facilities in Naperville, Hoffman Estates, Rockford and Oregon, Illinois.

Classified by the Carnegie Foundation as a large research university, NIU has the resources and academic rigor that embodies such a distinction. Students can select from six undergraduate colleges, including: Business; Education; Engineering and Engineering Technology; Health and Human Sciences; Liberal Arts and Sciences; and Visual and Performing Arts, and can choose from 56 undergraduate majors and 80 graduate programs. The university also has a law school.

Regardless of the academic path they follow, students can craft an educational experience that uniquely prepares them for their future. As early as freshman year, they have opportunities to participate in research alongside nationally and internationally recognized faculty working in areas that range from climate change to cancer and from early primates to artificial intelligence. Some students even work with faculty at Argonne National Laboratory or Fermilab, exploring the subatomic realm or helping develop alternative energy sources.

Throughout their time at NIU, students can also engage in hands-on learning, such as tackling real-world problems for business and industry or advising not-for-profit ventures aimed at helping the poor in Mexico.

No matter the path, the goal is the same: to ensure that students who graduate from NIU leave with skills that allow them to succeed in life while making a positive impact on their communities.

Among the recognitions and rankings earned by NIU:

- *U.S. News and World Report* ranks the university among the top 125 public universities in the nation. The magazine also counts the College of Business in the top quartile nationally, and the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology among the top 70 undergraduate engineering programs in the country. The magazine has ranked the College of Education's online graduate program among the top five in the nation for several years.
- CollegeNet ranks NIU 70th in the nation on its Social Mobility Index, a measure of how well colleges succeed at helping economically disadvantaged students attain good paying jobs after graduation.
- According to *Washington Monthly's* 2015 National Universities Rankings, NIU ranks in the top 200 universities in the following categories: Social Mobility – recruiting and graduating low-income students; Research – producing cutting-edge scholarship and Ph.D.s; and Service – encouraging students to give back to their communities.
- *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* magazine consistently ranks NIU in the top 50 institutions nationwide for graduating minority students in 18 different disciplines.
- The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) has designated NIU as one of 16 inaugural institutions nationwide for working with public and private sector partners to support economic development through innovation and

entrepreneurship; technology transfer; and talent, workforce and community development. APLU also recognized NIU for its community, social and cultural development work.

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Northern Illinois University’s east lagoon was part of the original 63 acres deeded to the state by Joseph F. Glidden in 1895. Holmes Student Center is visible on the left and Altgeld Hall is in the center.