

Access, Affordability, Opportunity

- Eliminated out-of-state tuition
- Eliminated application fees
- Huskie Pledge
- Rockford Promise
- Test blind merit scholarships
- Test blind admission

NIU unveils 'Huskie Pledge' to fully fund tuition for low-income freshmen

NIU President Lisa Freeman announces enrollment strategy in State of University address

By **KELSEY RETTKE** [Email](#)
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Over One-Third Of NIU Incoming Freshmen Received 'Huskie Pledge' Grant Covering Tuition & Fees

By PETER MEDLIN • OCT 20, 2020

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Huskie Pledge – Requirements

- 3.0 HS GPA
- Illinois resident; graduate of IL high school
- Family income and assets each less than \$75,000
- Enroll as full-time student

Eligible students receive Huskie Pledge Grant in the amount of any remaining expenses for tuition and general fees (renewable for 4 years)

- After any federal, state and institutional grants/scholarships

Huskie Pledge – Enrolled

- 719 total (35% of freshman class)
- Avg. grant amount: \$2,571
- Avg. HS GPA: 3.57
- First-gen (no parent with 4-year degree): 74%
 - Only 6% reported both parents with 4-year degree
- Race/Ethnicity
 - Black: 307 (42%)
 - Latinx: 207 (31%)
 - White: 154 (20%)
 - Asian: 28 (3%)
 - 2+ Races: 21 (3%)

Huskie Pledge – Student Impact

- “My first reaction getting that email was **tears of joy**, I went speechless and everything seemed like a dream.”
- “My emotions were all over the place... Truly the tuition **made me and my family cry for weeks**. I was honored to be in this program.”
- “I took advantage to **focus on school** and work only on the weekends. **Not only was the program helping us financially but mentally**. It made my family calmer and focused on their work while I was in school.”
- “I was really happy because as a **non-American citizen**, I found it really **hard to get financial aid**, and due to the Huskie Pledge program I was able to go to without worrying about my tuition.”
- “I was honestly so relieved that I would **actually be able to attend** a university now!”
- “Knowing I was actually going to **go to my dream school** and not worry about finances was so overwhelmingly amazing and gracious. I was able to be very **successful this semester** and **not have any distractions and worries about finances** especially during these times of hardship.”

Huskie Pledge – Student Impact

- “It relieved a lot of stress for me, because I am **paying for college without my family's help.**”
- “Due to COVID-19, my dad has been unemployed for most of this year. When I found out my tuition and fees were covered, it was a **complete game changer.** I originally wasn't enrolled here at NIU until I saw my financial aid award. I immediately **canceled my enrollment at another school** and paid for housing and registered for orientation. This was the break my family needed. **The blessing we needed.**”
- “Because I was becoming **discouraged by the money,** it was daunting, but then I learned I received the Huskie Pledge and it was like a **weight was lifted.**”
- “It's helping us SO much. I **don't think I would've been able to attend NIU** if it wasn't for the grant.”
- “This program is **saving my family.** My dad just not that long ago lost his job and this program **saved my career and my future.** This program gives me and my family a **chance for success.**”
- “I can focus on my school work. I don't have to worry about overworking myself to afford an education. My family can **be at peace** that I am **no longer working myself into exhaustion and sickness.**”

'Big dream' con funds NIU scho

Rockford Promise expands to offer RPS 205 students full tuition scholarships to Northern Illinois University

Jeff Kolkey jkolkey@rrstar.com

Published 7:59 p.m. CT Nov. 16, 2020 | Updated

Rockford Promise gets into college for free!



Scholarship program could provide a path to Northern Illinois University

...tors in the
forming a
; full-tuition
ll graduates of
:hools. Dr.



By Scot Bertram | The Center Square Nov 22, 2020



Rockford Promise – Requirements

- 3.0 HS GPA
- Rockford resident; graduate of RPS high school
- No income requirement
- Enroll as full-time student



Huskie Pledge still applicable. For students with family income above \$75,000, Rockford Promise will contribute \$6,000/year and NIU commits to cover any remaining expenses for tuition and general fees

- After any federal, state and institutional grants/scholarships

Test Blind – Merit Scholarships

Fall 2021 Scholarships for Incoming Freshmen

When you apply for admission as an incoming freshman, you'll automatically be considered for one of the following merit scholarships:

GPA Range	Dollar Amount per Year	Total Dollar Amount
4.0	\$7,000	\$28,000
3.90-3.99	\$6,000	\$24,000
3.70-3.89	\$5,000	\$20,000
3.50-3.69	\$3,000	\$12,000
3.25-3.49	\$2,000	\$8,000
3.00-3.24	\$1,000	\$4,000

*Eligibility for Presidential Scholars begins at 3.8 GPA (holistic review process)

Test Blind – Admission

Auto Admission

- 3.0+ HS GPA

Holistic Review

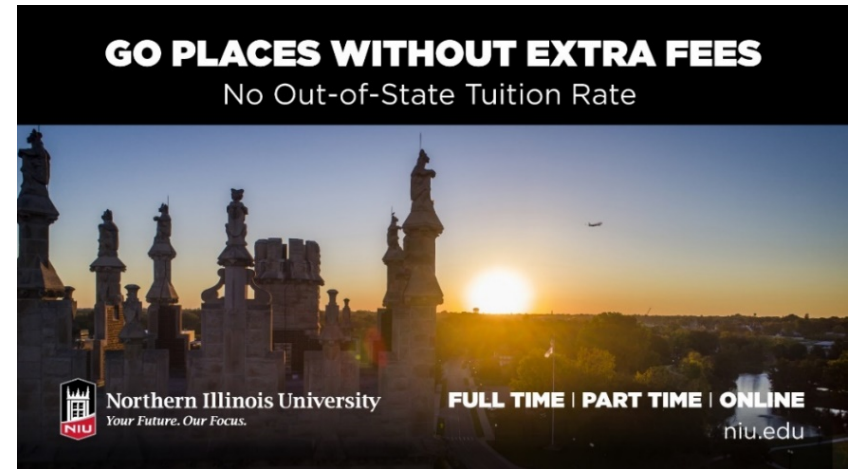
- 2.0-2.49 – University Review Committee
 - Transcript review: trends/rigor
 - Personal statement questions – non-cognitive variables
 - Optional: interviews, 7th semester grades
- 2.5-2.99 – Admission Review
 - Transcript review: trends/rigor
 - Optional: personal statements, 7th semester, interviews



Common App

Common App Welcomes 42 New Members for 2020-2021 Application Season

Common App membership grows to 921 colleges and universities worldwide.



Director of Admissions Search



Division of Enrollment Management, Marketing and Communications

Assistant Vice President of Enrollment Services and Director of Admissions

The AVP/Director leads a team charged with broadly communicating NIU's academic strengths to prospective students, their families, high school counselors, and others, and above all, with recruiting an extraordinarily talented class of highly motivated students who will contribute to campus life and the world as local and global leaders. In addition, the AVP/Director is responsible for ensuring that emerging technologies and other tools to ensure that NIU both reaches the broadest array of prospective applicants in an efficient and expeditious manner.

The AVP/Director will possess superior communication abilities; outstanding leadership and management experience; the capacity to build collaborative relationships across and beyond the institution; the ability to recognize and embrace opportunities for change. The AVP/Director will be committed to a high level of leadership, leading the office, and to the constant assessment and analysis that mark informed decision-making. The AVP/Director will be dedicated to NIU's mission and values, its commitment to making a quality education accessible to a highly diverse class of exceptional students, regardless of their economic circumstances, and to the innovation that defines NIU.

Northern Illinois University

Assistant Vice President of Enrollment Services
and Director of Admissions

LEADERSHIP PROFILE

Fall 2020

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