

COUNSELOR NEWSLETTER

Fall 2018

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On the road again

We hope your school year is off to a great start. Our admission directors are on the road, visiting as many schools and CBOs as they're able to in these early weeks of the academic year. We hope they'll connect in person with many of you, but if the director for your area can't stop by this fall, do feel free to reach out via email or phone. You can find our regional assignment list on our counselor hub:

admissions.northwestern.edu/for-counselors

In the meantime, we've compiled this newsletter to keep you informed as you advise your students about Northwestern. As always, thank you for all of the good counsel we know you'll provide them!

Meet the incoming class

Last year, we saw record application numbers and the most diverse candidate pool in Northwestern's history—across all measures of diversity. The **incoming-class profile** on pages 4 and 5 of this newsletter will provide the most current demographic details, transcript and testing patterns, rate of admission, and the like for our first-year students.

Northwestern

A milestone in affordability and access

A few years back, Northwestern president Morton Schapiro set a goal for the year 2020: welcome an incoming class that was at least **twenty-percent Pell Eligible**. We're thrilled to share that we've met this "20% by 2020" goal—and with two years to spare. The Class of 2022 is our most socioeconomically diverse yet, thanks in large part to our ever-broadening financial aid program. This coming year we will award **\$190 million in no-loan scholarships** to over 60% of our undergraduates.



Students study in The Garage, an innovation and entrepreneurship hub on campus that has ample workspace.

To meet the needs of a more socioeconomically diverse campus, our Student Enrichment Services office has launched initiatives like "Books for Cats," which **makes STEM textbooks available** to students from low-income households; **laptop loans**; and the Compass **Peer Mentor Program**. We're also in the second year of providing **startup assistance** to incoming students with the highest need so they can better manage costs associated with transitioning to campus.

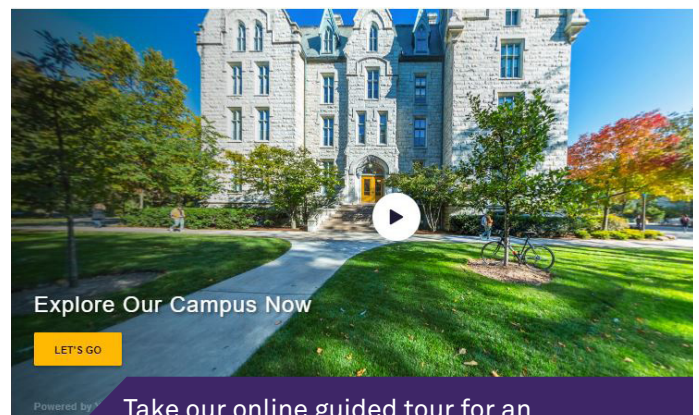
20.5%

OF STUDENTS ARE
PELL ELIGIBLE IN THE
CLASS OF 2022

Campus visits & virtual tour

Your seniors may well be visiting campuses as they finalize college lists, and we'd love to see them at Northwestern. We offer **general information sessions** and tours Monday through Friday, as well as select Saturdays. We offer sessions specific to our academic programs, too: arts & sciences, engineering, communication, journalism, music, and education & social policy. We also offer a limited number of **STEM tours**, as well as "**Purple Preview**" days for seniors to spend the day with a current undergraduate. Students can browse schedules and register [on our website](#).

And if you have students for whom coming to campus isn't feasible, you can point them toward our **virtual tour**, led by Northwestern tour guides. Our **social media channels and blogs** also offer candid insights from current students, as will correspondence with any of our **student admission teams**.



Take our online guided tour for an interactive 360-degree view of the Northwestern campus on your own time.

Application updates & info

Application platforms

We accept either the **Common Application** or the **Coalition Application**. There is no preference for nor difference between these two applications. We are also a longstanding **QuestBridge** partner, and our campus Quest Scholars network is among the nation's largest.

Alumni interviews

As in past years, we offer **off-campus alumni interviews** on a first-come, first-served basis. Important details are as follows:

- Interviews are not required, nor can we accommodate all interview requests, as we do not have alumni interviewers in every region and face further limitations due to applicant volume.
- Early and Regular Decision applicants will be notified via email of interview availability and sign-up procedures.

Our application rounds and deadlines will remain as follows:

November 1 **January 1**
Early Decision Regular Decision

Testing policies

Students may **self-report SAT and/or ACT scores** to fulfill our testing requirement, taking care to report their highest individual section scores for the SAT and/or their highest composite ACT score. (That is, we “superscore” the SAT, but not the ACT). We will continue to require **official English proficiency test scores**.

As in past years, **SAT subject tests are optional** for most applicants, as are the **SAT and/or ACT writing sections**. Homeschooled students and applicants to special programs should visit our website for specific testing policies.

What's new on campus

- This year's **One Book One Northwestern** read is *The Handmaid's Tale*, and author Margaret Atwood, will deliver the keynote address Oct. 30 at both our Chicago and Evanston campuses. One Book One Northwestern is a community-wide reading program aimed to engage the campus in conversation on a carefully chosen, thought-provoking book.
- Over the summer, construction was completed on the **Ryan Fieldhouse and Walter Athletic Center** for our athletic community. The new 96,000+ square-foot athletic facility encompass a full-sized indoor athletic field with incredible lake views, top-of-the-line strength & conditioning centers, and meeting & dining spaces.
- Expansion continues on our **Arch Scholars**, a suite of 4 summer transition programs that support students pursuing STEM coursework, humanities studies, or research.

Newsletter archives

Be sure to visit our newsletter archives for more information about:

- New and expanded academic programs
- Academic programs you don't see every day
- Recent campus policies
- Admissions initiatives and partnerships



Fall 2017



Spring 2018



Fall 2018

Class of 2022 Facts and Figures

40,426
TOTAL APPLICANTS

8.4%
ADMIT RATE

1,936
STUDENTS IN
FIRST YEAR CLASS

ABOUT
1/2
OF FIRST-YEAR CLASS
ADMITTED THROUGH
EARLY DECISION

Our Students Are¹:

1.0% American Indian, Alaska Native or Pacific Islander

23.5% Asian American

10.1% Black or African American

13.5% Hispanic or Latinx

11.1% International

56.0% White

13.5% First-generation college students

20.5% Pell Grant recipients

¹Our reporting method tracks students who identify as multiple races/ethnicities in each category, so the numbers will exceed 100 percent. Over 17 percent of our first-year class indicated two or more races/ethnicities.

>90% ARE IN THE TOP TEN PERCENT
OF THEIR GRADUATING CLASS

Admitted students middle 50% scores



New SAT
Combined Critical Reading & Math



ACT
Composite

73% OF UNDERGRADS COMBINE TWO OR MORE AREAS OF STUDY



Our 8,000+ undergrads come from more than

80 COUNTRIES

60+ languages spoken

Albanian / Amharic / Arabic / Belarusan / Bengali / Bulgarian / Cantonese / Catalan-Valencian-Baleare / Chinese / Czech / Dutch / English / French / German / Greek / Gujarati / Hebrew / Hindi / Indonesian / Italian / Japanese / Kamba / Khmer, Central / Korean / Malay / Mandarin / Marathi / Nepali / Norwegian / Polish / Portuguese / Romanian / Russian / Serbian / Sindhi / Spanish / Swahili / Tagalog / Tamil / Telugu / Thai / Turkish / Ukrainian / Urdu / Vietnamese / Yoruba

61%
OF UNDERGRADUATES
RECEIVE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

**\$190
MILLION**
IN NEED-BASED FINANCIAL AID
AWARDED IN 2018-19

■ **FINANCIAL AID:**

Northwestern meets 100% of demonstrated financial need for all admitted students with loan-free financial aid packages. A very limited amount of need-based financial aid is available to international students. Students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid and the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE to apply for financial aid.

■ **FIRST-YEAR APPLICATION PROCESS:**


Students can submit an application from either The Common Application or the Coalition for Access, Affordability, and Success; Northwestern has no application preference. The QuestBridge application is accepted in conjunction with either The Common Application or the Coalition application.


■ **EARLY DECISION:**


Applicants to our Early Decision admission round agree to withdraw all applications at other colleges and enroll at Northwestern if admitted. In recent years, Early Decision applicants have comprised roughly one half of the incoming class. Given early applicants' high level of interest and the high concentration of academic and personal strengths represented across the early applicant pool, our Early Decision acceptance rate is typically higher than that of Regular Decision.


Learn More

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