Learn more
The best way to learn more about Northwestern is to visit campus. See admissions.northwestern.edu for details about on-campus programming.

In the meantime, take a virtual tour and explore Northwestern's vibrant campus community online. Virtual tour: admissions.northwestern.edu/visit/experience/virtual-tour.html
Social media: admissions.northwestern.edu/social.html

If you have questions about financial aid, find answers at undergradaid.northwestern.edu.

Northwestern

Application and financial aid requirements and deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MATERIALS DUE</th>
<th>EARLY DECISION</th>
<th>REGULAR DECISION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Common Application or Coalition Application</td>
<td>November 1</td>
<td>January 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAT or ACT</td>
<td>Lates test date: October</td>
<td>Lates test date: December</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FAFSA*</td>
<td>December 1</td>
<td>February 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSS/PROFILE</td>
<td>December 1</td>
<td>February 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax forms (to the College Board)</td>
<td>December 5</td>
<td>March 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* If you have any questions about Northwestern, our programs, or the application process, don’t hesitate to visit our website or contact us.

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Open minds

At Northwestern, we believe that diversity—of background, identity, belief, interest, expertise—is essential to undergraduate learning and to a healthy society. We also believe in convening a community of open-minded individuals who are eager to benefit from and contribute to the world of perspectives represented on campus.
Who’s in our Class of 2021?

- 12% Hispanic or Latino
- 1% American Indian or Alaska Native
- 19% Asian
- 10% Black or African American
- 48% White
- 10% International students
- 19% Pell Grant recipients
- 10% First-generation college

I get to help students realize their potential. It’s thrilling to watch as an abstract idea develops into a project.”

Harvey Young, professor of theatre
Journalism and sociology major \ North by Northwestern opinion editor \ QuestBridge Scholar \ Maybe minor in global health studies? \ Associated Student Government \ Loves Evanston’s “insanely cute” cafés \ Medill Undergraduate Student Advisory Council
David Guirgis ’20
4,600 undergraduate courses to choose from. More than 77% of courses enroll fewer than 20 students; less than 2% enroll more than 100 students.

6 undergraduate schools across engineering, journalism and media, arts and sciences, communications and performance, education and social policy, and music

200 majors, minors, and certificates

7:1 student-to-faculty ratio

70% of undergraduates combine two or more areas of study

I was nervous about my ability to find a place within Northwestern. I had always struggled to find my people, even in a small school, and it surprised me just how willing everyone was to accept the loud inner-city kid with a billion crazy ideas and mannerisms.”

David Guirgis '20
Northwestern’s excellence across disciplines and extraordinary breadth of resources draw students and scholars from around the world. To make the most of our multidimensional community, the University strives to cultivate inclusive learning environments, cultural exchange, and opportunities for dialogue through intentional engagement with difference—different individuals, different identities, and different ideas.

This leads to an open, collaborative, and supportive campus where students grow and knowledge thrives.
Many doors will be open to you.

Northwestern students find support and counsel across campus, whether from an academic or peer adviser, a faculty mentor, or a staff member.

**Campus Inclusion and Community** promotes students’ self-awareness, empathy, and leadership skills, with the aim of creating an inclusive community on campus. [northwestern.edu/inclusion](http://northwestern.edu/inclusion)

The **Gender and Sexuality Resource Center** is a hub for groups, services, and programs of interest to the LGBTQ and ally communities. [northwestern.edu/norris/services/lgbt](http://northwestern.edu/norris/services/lgbt)

**Multicultural Student Affairs**, an office open to all students, focuses on student populations that identify as underserved or underrepresented. [northwestern.edu/msa](http://northwestern.edu/msa)

**Northwestern Career Advancement** offers career counseling, graduate and professional school advising, employment databases and on-campus recruiting, and workshops. [northwestern.edu/careers](http://northwestern.edu/careers)
Northwestern’s Religious and Spiritual Life staff works to build a community of conscience and spiritual awareness. northwestern.edu/religious-life

Residential Services creates communities of learners, leaders, and responsible citizens by providing students with opportunities for learning in safe, diverse, and respectful living environments. northwestern.edu/living

AccessibleNU supports a diverse student body by removing barriers to education that students with disabilities often experience. northwestern.edu/accessiblenu

Student Enrichment Services works with low-income and first-generation students to enhance their academic success and their personal and professional growth. northwestern.edu/enrichment

The University Academic Advising Center supports students interested in careers in medicine and the health professions with advising about coursework, applications, and the experiential components necessary for a competitive application. northwestern.edu/advising-center

Launched Immigrant Justice Project on campus

Interned at Google

Majored in American studies and Asian American studies

Studied in Dominican Republic and Vietnam

Civic engagement fellow

Favorite hang in the city: Art Institute of Chicago

Oral historian

Hayeon Kim ’17
I regularly meet with my various mentors—faculty, staff, and alumni—on topics ranging from my academic plans, current events, faith, and social justice to just catching up on life. Perhaps this is my favorite part about Northwestern. I am challenged and comforted knowing that there are people rooting for me and supporting me.”

Hayeon Kim ’17 (right), with Professor Jinah Kim
Open minds, many directions

“In my first year, I was mentored in a peer-to-peer program for first-generation and low-income students. Now I am a mentor in the program, and through my mentees’ narratives I am reconnecting with parts of myself I was discovering last year.”

Martina Piñeiro '19 is majoring in communication studies and Latinx studies. She is active in the Immigrant Justice Project, a Northwestern organization that seeks to learn about and advocate for immigrant and undocumented-student rights.

“When I was a new student, I saw myself only as an electrical engineer. Now, three majors later, my connection to engineering has expanded thanks to the opportunities at Northwestern. Although I’m indecisive about what I want to pursue in the long run, I’m also aware of the endless possibilities for my future.”

John Franklin ’18 is majoring in computer science and computer engineering, with a minor in music composition. He has spent the last three summers working at Google.

“My passion for storytelling has inspired the many other interests I have at Northwestern—video journalism, social justice, and artistic hobbies. Northwestern allows room to grow in many areas.”

Zahra Haider ’17, a QuestBridge Scholar and broadcast journalism major, was involved in NU Divest, North by Northwestern, and Al Bayan. She spent her journalism residency at a news outlet in South Africa and has interned at CNN.
“I’m a DJ at WNUR, Northwestern’s independent radio station. Getting involved at WNUR made my transition to college life smoother; I found a group of people with common interests and common aspirations—people I found easy to socialize with and really have bonded with.”

Dimitris Gkoulimaris ’20, who grew up in Greece, is pursuing an ad hoc major in music production and composition. He is considering minors in radio/television/film and political science.

“As an intern in the Engage Chicago program, I was able to meet new people I wouldn’t have met otherwise, explore the city I live so close to, and discover the importance of applying classroom learning to our communities.”

Jourdan Dorrell ’17 was a Posse Scholar and a participant in the Ron Brown Scholar Program. A sociology major and global health and legal studies minor, she also earned a certificate in civic engagement.

“I’ve already received two Northwestern summer internship grants that allowed me to learn about filmmaking and videography. And this summer the Office of Undergraduate Research is funding my documentary film project, which looks at racial categorization in Malaysia and its effects on people of mixed heritage.”

Dominique Teoh ’18, a Davis UWC Scholar from Malaysia, has declared a major in radio/television/film and a minor in political science. He is active in Kaibigan, Northwestern’s Filipino student association.
Northwestern students are engaged in far more than their studies. Experiences outside the classroom abound, whether you’re participating in one of more than 500 student groups, getting involved in the Evanston community, or engaging with the city of Chicago—a metropolis of nearly 3 million that neighbors us to the south along Lake Michigan.
Join in!

Check out the list below to see a sampling of multicultural student organizations you can join on campus. For a complete list of student groups at Northwestern, visit Wildcat Connection at northwestern.collegiatelink.net/organizations.

**Academic and preprofessional**
- Minority Business Association
- National Association of Black Journalists
- National Association of Hispanic Journalists
- National Society of Black Engineers
- One Step Before Premedical Society
- Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers

**Advocacy/sociopolitical**
- Alianza—Latinx Student Alliance
- Asian Pacific American Coalition
- Be The Match
- Challah for Hunger
- China Care
- China Foresee
- For Members Only
- Movimiento Estudiantil Chican@ de Aztlan de Northwestern
- Native American and Indigenous Student Alliance
- Project ShoutOut
- Rainbow Alliance
- Students for Justice in Palestine

**Coalitions and collaborations**
- MIXED Race Student Coalition
- Unity Charity Fashion Show

**Cultural**
- African Students Association
- Arab Student Organization
- CaribNation
- Chinese International Student Association
- Chinese Students Association
- Hawaii Club
- Hong Kong Students Association
- Japan Club

**Performing arts**
- Anubhav—Hindi Film Dance Team
- Ballet Folklórico Mexicano
- Bhangra Dance Team
- Brown Sugar (a cappella)
- Deeva Dance Troupe
- Jewish Theatre Ensemble
- Mariachi Northwestern
- Northwestern Community Ensemble
- Out Da Box (sketch comedy)
- ReFresH Dance Crew
- ReZenance Music Society
- Soul4Real (a cappella)
- Treblemakers (a cappella)
- Typhoon Dance Troupe

**Publications**
- Al Bayan
- nuAsian

**Religious**
- Asian American Intervarsity Christian Fellowship
- House on the Rock Intervarsity Christian Fellowship
- Muslim-cultural Students Association
- OM Hindu Cultural Council
How can we make the world better?
If you find yourself asking this question often—and acting on the answers you come up with—you have a lot in common with students at Northwestern. Here are some of the ways our undergraduates pursue community service, social justice, and civic engagement.

**Alternative Student Breaks** partners with nonprofit organizations to offer service-learning opportunities in which students contribute to and learn from local communities. [northwesternasb.com](http://northwesternasb.com)

The **Center for Civic Engagement**’s programs include Engage Chicago, a summer field study program; the NU Public Interest Program, a yearlong public service fellowship; NU Votes, a nonpartisan voter registration effort; and Jumpstart, an early-childhood education program. [engage.northwestern.edu](http://engage.northwestern.edu)

**Dance Marathon**, one of the largest college philanthropic events in the country, features 30 hours of dancing by hundreds of students to raise money for charity—more than $1 million annually in recent years. [nudm.org](http://nudm.org)

**Freshman Urban Program** participants spend a week in a youth hostel in downtown Chicago and examine the issues that face communities, the organizations that serve them, and the ways students can effect change. [northwestern.edu/orientation/incoming-students/pop/about/fup](http://northwestern.edu/orientation/incoming-students/pop/about/fup)

The **Global Engagement Studies Institute** sends students to such places as Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Ghana, India, Kenya, Nicaragua, and Uganda to work on collaborative community projects. [mycge.org](http://mycge.org)

The **Institute for Policy Research** focuses Northwestern scholarship on matters of poverty, race, inequality, social disparities, and health. [ipr.northwestern.edu](http://ipr.northwestern.edu)

Spurred by the investigative work of journalism faculty and students, the **Medill Justice Project** aims to improve the criminal justice system. [medilljusticeproject.org](http://medilljusticeproject.org)

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Having political science as my only major has given me opportunities to explore other fields, like philosophy, history, and anthropology. I’m incorporating skills and ways of thinking from these other disciplines into political science.”

Kathleen Nganga ’18
Political science major
Ron Brown Scholar Program
Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellow
Northwestern University Community for Human Rights
Truman Scholar
Student government Accessibility and Inclusion Committee
Favorite ways to relax: exercise and reading
Kathleen Nganga ’18
To our students, Chicago is more than a major US metropolis.

At once a patchwork of vital and culturally distinct neighborhoods, the cradle of modern architecture, a bastion of the blues and improv comedy, a hotbed of history, and so much more, this city ranks among Northwestern’s greatest teachers.
Chicago: our vibrant and diverse neighbor

2,695,598 People

29% Hispanic or Latino

5% Asian

33% Black or African American

32% White

1% Other

From 2010 US Census
At an on-campus discussion and screening of *Selma*, director Ava DuVernay talked about the challenges of making a major motion picture as an African American filmmaker with a mostly black cast. Hearing about how she persevered and was so successful inspired me to keep pressing to make my aspirations a reality.”

Mylan Henderson ’18

What we love about 

**Chicago**

“*Symphony Center, a beautiful space that is home to one of the greatest orchestras on earth.*” Gavin Brehm

“*Café Jumping Bean in Pilsen. They exhibit local artists’ work and sponsor projects for community organizations.*” Joanne Huang

“The holiday lights all over Water Tower Place and along Michigan Avenue.” Andrew Gordon

“Myopic, a used-book store in Wicker Park. It never fails to suck me in for hours.” Allynna Mota Melville

“The West Loop. It is such a cool place, like an industrial-turned-hippie area.” Candace Nixon

“The Mexican eateries in Rogers Park. Tamales, pan dulce, and paletas are just a (free) bus ride away!” Magdalena Flores

“The Art Institute of Chicago. I’ve visited four times and still haven’t seen even a fraction of the art that I want to see.” Shiwei Wang
Mentors middle school students
Social policy major
Loves Big Ten sports
Ron Brown Captain
Former engineering major
Likes to walk along Chicago’s Magnificent Mile with friends
Dean’s List
Mylan Henderson ’18
Where will Northwestern lead you? Look at our students and alumni, and you’ll see the answer: in any direction you choose. From study abroad, international research, and internships to careers across the globe, the Northwestern community has a presence all over the world.
$100 million  
gift to Northwestern in 2015 earmarked for global initiatives

50+  
global engagement student groups address critical issues

165+  
Northwestern-sponsored and affiliated study abroad programs in 55 countries

$3.5 million  
in funding for undergraduate research
A handful of the schools where our recent alumni are pursuing graduate and professional degrees:

Caltech Columbia Duke Harvard
Johns Hopkins MIT Northwestern Stanford
University of California, Berkeley University of Cambridge
University of Oxford Yale

94% of 2016 grads were employed, studying on a fellowship, or attending graduate or professional school within six months of graduation.

Where will your path lead?

Some of the organizations where our 2016 graduates are working:

Accenture Amazon AmeriCorps Apple Art Institute of Chicago The Atlantic Bank of America Merrill Lynch Facebook Forbes Media Goldman Sachs Google Hearst Digital Media IBM Kirkland & Ellis LinkedIn McKinsey Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center Microsoft National Immigrant Justice Center National Institutes of Health NBC PepsiCo Procter & Gamble SpaceX Sprout Social Teach for America Tesla 3M US Senate Visa
You can do anything when you take a Northwestern Direction.

They did.
Northwestern may be highly selective, but we make it simple for you to apply and make it possible for students of all backgrounds to afford an education here.

Our admissions process is holistic. Before making an admissions decision, we consider your whole story—not just test scores and grades. We get to know your hometown, high school, and family circumstances, and we look to see that you’ve made the most of the opportunities available to you.
Financial aid facts

• Northwestern’s need-blind admissions committee evaluates applications without regard to whether students can afford tuition.

• Northwestern offers loan-free financial aid packages so our students graduate with little to no debt.

• Northwestern students who qualify for financial aid their first year will receive similar aid throughout college, provided they reapply for aid each year with comparable family circumstances.

• Northwestern offers fee waivers to students for whom the application fee poses a hardship.
Partner programs and scholarships

Northwestern students represent a number of organizations and scholarships that you may recognize from your own community. Here are just a few you’ll find on campus:

A Better Chance Scholars  
Chicago Scholars  
College Horizons  
Daniel Murphy Scholars  
Davis UWC Scholars  
Gates Millennium Scholars  
Jackie Robinson Foundation  
National Hispanic Institute  
Point Foundation Scholars  
Posse Scholars  
Prep for Prep Scholars  
Pullman Scholars  
QuestBridge Scholars  
Ron Brown Scholar Program  
Sutton Trust US Programme  
Venture Scholars

Northwestern meets

100% of students’ demonstrated financial need

62% of undergraduates receive financial aid

Total financial aid awarded in 2017–18:

$174 million
What I like best about my peers is, honestly, their stories. Everyone comes from different backgrounds and cultures, and they each have established talents and high achievements.”

Yakira Mirabito ’18
Congratulations on your academic achievements, and thank you for your interest in Northwestern. As you think about your next stage in life, I urge you to consider what sort of world you hope to live in and, more immediately, what sort of university community you would like to join.

Those two questions are deeply intertwined. The world you create in college often shapes your larger world after graduation. Northwestern is a place of great beginnings, regardless of your chosen field. The spirit of inclusion and the celebration of diversity I see and encourage on our campus are truly hopeful signs.

I am confident that we—Northwestern and society at large—are in the process of making history. We have a ways to go before all our institutions can be considered truly inclusive, but the students I meet here care more about inclusion, sustainability, and social justice than did my own or other generations. I can’t wait to see what all of you will do with your lives and how you will change the world.

I hope you will consider joining us at Northwestern.