

Northwestern

June 2022

Dear colleagues,

It's hard to believe the school year is ending, and equally hard to lean into summer given so many awful events in past weeks. I hope your school communities are holding up and managing to find joy in the milestones and traditions that mark the end of the academic year.

I am thankful that this June newsletter brings some measure of respite from the firehose of updates and reassurances necessitated over the past two admission cycles. Nevertheless, I wanted to connect before summer officially kicks off next week.

A few admissions nuts and bolts to start:

This year we reviewed **over 51,500 applications** for first-year admission, with an **admit rate of about 7%**. While our **waitlist activity** has more or less slowed down, we have not yet closed the class. We'll be in touch with students on our waitlist one way or another in the coming weeks, likely later this month.

While we won't share statistics about our Class of 2026 until next fall, we're **thrilled to welcome this brilliant, remarkably diverse cohort of Wildcats from around the world** in September. If your students are looking for statistics to guide their college search in the meantime, you can refer them to our [Class of 2025 profile](#). We are also **finalizing a fantastic transfer cohort**; in recent years, incoming transfer students have numbered just over 200.

For the coming cycle, students can [apply](#) through the Common Application, Coalition Application, or QuestBridge application. Our Early Decision deadline will remain November 1st, and our Regular Decision deadline will be Monday, January 2.

Our **financial aid deadlines** are December 1st for Early Decision and February 1st for Regular Decision candidates who wish to receive financial aid information with their admission decision. Note that the latter deadline has been moved up from February 15.

Our **test-optional policy** is extended for the upcoming 2022–23 admissions cycle. [See our testing FAQs](#) for more context.

And **now for some campus updates**, starting with the big news, which I also shared in our [February newsletter](#): this summer, **Morton Schapiro will retire** after serving as Northwestern's president for over a decade. **Rebecca Blank**, current chancellor of the University of Wisconsin's flagship campus in Madison, will succeed Schapiro as Northwestern's 17th president.

Throughout his tenure, President Schapiro has strengthened Northwestern's **longstanding commitment to college access**, growing one of the country's most generous need-based, loan-free financial aid programs and increasing resources for students on campus. **Chancellor Blank has likewise focused on access and diversity** at Wisconsin, and we are excited for her to lead Northwestern forward.

In line with these commitments, Northwestern recently established an **office of FGLI initiatives** within the Office of the Provost to focus on policy and strategy in support of our First-Gen-Low-Income students. Our **Student Enrichment Services office** within Student Affairs serves as a **student-facing support** resource for FGLI students, along with **FGLI-focused career advising** through Northwestern Career Advancement, pre-college programs like **Arch Scholars**, and the **Compass Mentors** program. We have also recently created a **senior role on our Admissions team with focus on FGLI support initiatives**—we'd love to connect about ideas for programming or partnership opportunities.

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A return to in-person activities this year means we've **welcomed back favorite campus traditions, and launched new ones.**

In its 48th year, our **March Dance Marathon** convened hundreds of students who danced for 30 hours straight to [raise over half-a-million dollars](#) for Chicago Youth Programs.

Our Native American and Indigenous Student Alliance, with support from Multicultural Student Affairs and other campus partners, organized **Northwestern's first annual spring pow wow** in early May, which brought together over 200 people in a community celebration.

In mid-May, "**Dillo Day**," the nation's largest student-run music festival, marked its 50th anniversary with a return to in-person performances by Remi Wolf and several other artists.

Three weeks ago, our **annual Undergraduate Research and Arts Expo** culminated in a Winners Circle showcase where students presented their work to President Schapiro, Provost Kathleen Hagerty, and other deans, faculty, staff, and fellow students.

And this week, Northwestern held its **164th commencement**, welcoming Pulitzer-Prize-winning author Isabel Wilkerson as she addresses our graduates.

And if you're confused about why all these big events are happening so late in the academic year, now is a good opportunity to [learn about our quarter system](#), which splits the year into three academic terms and a summer term, allowing students flexibility to take more classes, combine academic programs, and explore broadly across our [six undergraduate schools](#).

One great example of this crossover between undergraduate schools deserves a shout out for some exciting news hot off the press: last week, the University announced a [\\$5 million gift to support Northwestern's Center for Human-Computer Interaction and Design](#), a collaboration between the University's McCormick School of Engineering and our School of Communication. It's a nice example of the way our undergraduate schools overlap in interdisciplinary innovation and applied research.

Finally, a quick look ahead at **ways your students can engage with us in the months to come:**

We'll offer [campus tours](#) throughout the summer, and [registration](#) is now available through August. We also plan to reintroduce information sessions in the coming months—watch our website for news on that front. Students who cannot join a tour are welcome to visit for **self-guided tours**; a QR code for the self-guided tour, along with other materials, is available in the front vestibule of our [Segal Visitors Center](#), which is accessible even when the building's lobby is closed to visitors.

Whether or not a campus visit is feasible, I'd encourage your students to **explore the range of digital experiences** accessible on our website and [YouTube channel](#)—tours, student panels, video dialogues with admission directors, and more. Come fall, our "[Purple Preview Conversations](#)"—one-on-one Zoom conversations with current students—are another great option for rising seniors interested in Northwestern.

As always, you can **find your regional team's contact information** on our website, as well as [resources for counselors](#). Don't hesitate to reach out; we're looking forward to being back on the road this fall while continuing to innovate in the digital space to connect with as many students as possible.

Be safe, and have a restful summer.



Liz Kinsley
Associate Dean & Director, Undergraduate Admission