

Mission:

Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU) is a global university located in Illinois' most international city, Chicago. With over 80 undergraduate and graduate majors, NEIU is both comprehensive and international. NEIU is the most diverse university in the Midwest, according to *U.S. News and World Report* rankings. The university is also highly ranked nationally for its graduation rate of minority students. NEIU is likewise committed to being a "student centered" university that helps its students succeed in school and in life. It is committed to offering a high quality, affordable education through low tuition and financial aid for both full- and part-time students.

Teacher Preparation Programs:

NEIU offers 14 baccalaureate programs leading to state teacher certification and seven graduate-level certification programs. Teacher candidates who already hold a Bachelor's degree can pursue certification through a Teaching Certification for Post-Baccalaureates program. The university also offers a combined Bachelor of Arts program for students seeking the elementary education certificate, the bilingual endorsement, and the ESL endorsement.

Student Characteristics:

For Spring 2003, figures indicate 11,409 students are enrolled. 54.6% of undergraduates and 12.2% of graduate students are in full-time status. The undergraduate student profile indicates the average age is 26.2 years. Ethnicity is 13.4% African American, 12.3% Asian, 43.0% Caucasian, and 28.6% Hispanic. Ninety-seven percent are residents of Illinois.

Admission Requirements:

Admission to the College of Education: Candidates for admission to the College of Education must have completed at least 30 semester hours at the time of consideration, with a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) required. Students are also required to show evidence of having passed the University Competency Exams in reading and writing. Since Fall 2000, students are required to show evidence of having passed the Illinois Test of Basic Skills. Students in certification programs must also earn a grade of "C" or higher in all professional education courses. One positive recommendation from a COE faculty member is required.

Admission to Student Teaching: For admission to student teaching, students must have an overall GPA of 2.5 and a GPA of 2.75 in professional sequence courses; ninety hours of credit must be completed; and all course program requirements must be satisfied, including a minimum of 100 clock hours of clinical experiences. In addition, candidates must have obtained a passing score on the appropriate Illinois Certification Testing System Subject Area Test.

Accreditation:

NEIU is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools and the College of Education is accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Illinois State Board of Education. Individual programs are accredited by national organizations of Counselor Education, Educational Leadership, Special Education, and Elementary Education. Early Childhood Education, and Secondary Mathematics Education and Biology Education.

Teacher Education Vision:

Graduates of NEIU's College of Education are prepared to become "reflective professionals building learning communities", grounded in knowledge, skills, and dispositions reflected in national and state teacher education institutions. All candidates are assessed through performance based assessment, and all programs are aligned with the Illinois Professional Teaching Standards and the Illinois Content-Area Standards for Educators.

Best Practices:

- Emphasis on urban education provides all students with at least one clinical experience in an urban school to develop skills for an urban setting.
- Technology is integrated across all programs.
- Middle level education courses are available for undergraduates and returning teachers who are seeking the middle school endorsement.
- Undergraduate and graduate programs in bilingual education are offered and serve the metropolitan Chicago area.
- Distance education is used to offer courses in Lake County.

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

Since 1997, U.S. News and World Report have ranked NEIU as the "most diverse university in the Midwest." NEIU's student body includes nearly forty different ethnic groups, speaking about fifty foreign languages. 47% report that English is not their first language.

**Program Information for Northeastern Illinois University
2003-2004**

S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2003-2004	2189
S.2 Number of students in supervised student teaching in academic year 2003-2004	330
S. 3 Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	
➤ S.3A Full-time faculty in professional education	10
➤ S.3B Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	05
➤ S.3C Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	46
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	61
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	5:1
S.6A The average number of student teaching hours per week	40
S.6B The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	16
S.7 Average total number of hours required	640