Your direction can follow multiple paths.

Northwestern students are intellectual thrill seekers. They know that self-discovery and innovation take place at the intersections between interests, ideas, and areas of study. So go ahead—explore. And keep in mind that the unexpected turns along the way just might lead to your most remarkable opportunities.

Applying to Northwestern

Our admissions officers believe in considering every aspect of your educational interests when reviewing applications, including academic program, interests, extracurricular activities, community service, and letters of recommendation. The essay is your greatest vehicle to individualize your application, and it is important to us that it is a true reflection of your individuality.

Financial aid

To qualify for financial aid at Northwestern, you must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE. The FAFSA must be submitted by February 1 for all students, and the CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE must be submitted by March 1 for students who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents. The CSS/Financial Aid PROFILE must be submitted by April 1 for international students. All applications are available online at fafsa.ed.gov and student.collegeboard.org/css-financial-aid-profile. Northwestern meets 100% of demonstrated need. We apply a need-blind approach and offer need-based scholarships and federal Pell Grants. Financial aid packages for students who demonstrate the greatest need.

Learn more about us

Visit us at admissions.northwestern.edu/register/request

Receive our viewbook and additional information:

admissions.northwestern.edu/visit

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Submit your application and financial aid forms before the published deadlines listed below:

Application due

November 1

Financial Aid due

February 1

Response due

February 1

Decision by

December 15

CSS/PROFILE due

February 15

Financial aid packages for students with demonstrated financial need

To view Northwestern's complete nondiscrimination statement, see northwestern.edu/about/our-commitments/nondiscrimination.

Northwestern University is committed to providing a safe environment free from discrimination, harassment, sexual misconduct, and retaliation.

Northwestern University reserves the right to change without notice the requirements, deadlines, and application procedures for admission.

CSS/PROFILE due

February 15

Financial aid packages for students who demonstrate the greatest need.

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A Northwestern Direction
is the ever-growing sum of your experiences, on
campus and beyond.

Our people, our setting,
and our resources will deeply
enrich your experiences here,
empowering you to take any
direction you choose.

Our people
A diverse community of
students and faculty.
- Meet new people, including 4,437 undergraduates from
all 50 states and 100+ countries.
- Study with 5,000-plus full-time faculty, including recipients
of Fulbright, Guggenheim, MacArthur “genius” grants,
National Science Foundation CAREER awards, and more.
- Get to know your peers. 73% student-to-faculty ratio.
- Build relationships. 77% of courses enroll more
than 20 students.
- Be your multidimensional self. 87% of students pursue
two or more areas of study.

Our setting
Residential life with a view.
- Live in Evanston, Illinois, a vibrant college town with
a view of downtown Chicago.
- Enjoy your fellow Lake Michigan, our 230-acre
Residential campusosis. Check out a fall convocation.
- Take a quick ride in Chicago via free campus shuttles
or public transportation.
- Choose from 25 residence halls and residential
communities, including its residential colleges.
- Eat in its residential dining halls, student center
several on-campus cafés, a dozen off-campus restaurants.

Opportunities
Countless ways
to learn—in classrooms, study halls,
thrillers, skyscrapers, other countries,
and the world goes on (and on).
- Choose courses across each year.
- Cheer for big Big Ten athletics.
- Get involved: we have 4,437 student groups.
- Get professionally all the way:
employment in the jobs on our Career Advancement website last year.
- See the world more than 10,000 Northwestern
sponsored and affiliated study abroad programs.

Our resources
Facilities, mentors,
and funding that will
help you go far.
- Learn invaluable skills and state-of
the-art buildings.
- Personal research in one of hundreds
of labs no matter what your major.
- Lean on ten dedicated advisors,
including in-college advisors, and an
active alumni network.
- Ask big questions, talk
about for undergraduate research across disciplines.
- Get personalized coaching and
career advice from the Northwestern Career Advancement
program.