Student Life

Division of Student Affairs

Mission
We help students succeed.

We help students prepare for responsible citizenship, personal fulfillment, and success in life by supporting their efforts to learn through their experiences, achieve their academic goals, and strive for excellence in all.

We do this by:

• Developing environments that are safe, welcoming, inclusive and healthy;
• Providing services that are professional, supportive and personalized; and
• Fostering meaningful student engagement in campus and community life that develops leadership, educates about diversity, and contributes to learning.

Values
In seeking to accomplish this mission, we are committed to:

• Encouraging the development of the whole student and involving all students in the life of the University;
• Cultivating a caring and diverse campus community that values respect for all people, the open and free exchange of ideas, and responsible and ethical behavior;
• Maximizing our effectiveness through responsible stewardship of resources, support of innovation, and creativity in problem solving;
• Working collaboratively across campus and community, and fostering a work environment for our staff which encourages continuous improvement and professional development.

Orientation and New Student Programs
https://firstyear.uni.edu/

Orientation programs facilitate the successful transition of new students to the University of Northern Iowa, and include academic advising and registration for the first semester of enrollment. Freshmen who begin their study in the fall semester attend a two-day summer orientation program during the preceding June or July. Transfer students who begin their study in the summer or fall semester attend a one-day orientation program in the preceding spring or summer. All new students who begin their study during spring semester attend orientation in December or January. Orientation programming is also provided for parents, with a focus on learning about services and relationships that will help their students succeed.

Housing
https://dor.uni.edu/

Application for Rooms in Residence Halls
Official admission to the University of Northern Iowa is a prerequisite to application for housing in the residence halls. Once new students are admitted, the Department of Residence sends an invitation for the student to apply for housing online. This invitation is included with the student’s letter of acceptance from the Office of Admissions. The Department of Residence website includes information about each residence hall, meal plans and the housing and dining contract. The housing and dining contract serves as the official application for housing in the residence halls. The housing and dining contract is considered complete once you have accepted your offer of admission, paid the acceptance fee and agreed to the terms and conditions.

Priority for room self-selection and room assignments is based on the contract completion date; the earlier your contract is completed, the greater the chances of getting in to the hall and room you prefer. If an applicant finds it necessary to cancel the contract before occupying the room, any refund or forfeiture is based on the date of written notification and fulfills the terms of the contract terms and conditions.

Occupancy
Residence hall occupancy for the fall semester begins during the week prior to the first day of classes; the actual move-in date depends on the student’s classification and years on campus. Spring semester move-in is generally the Friday before the first day of classes. If a reserved room is not occupied on the first day of classes and arrangements have not been made with the Department of Residence for later occupancy, the reservation will be cancelled and forfeiture of prepaid fees and penalties will be applied as stated in the contract terms and conditions.

The housing and dining contract covers an entire academic year (fall and spring semesters) or the balance thereof; separate contracting is necessary for the summer term. If the contract is terminated before the expiration date, appropriate provisions of the contract will apply. The student is responsible for any financial liabilities incurred prior to the date of termination and a percentage of the remaining portion of the contract.

Continuous housing during academic and holiday break periods is available in all halls. Students can also remain living in the residence halls during the summer, regardless of whether or not they are enrolled in classes for the summer term.

Residence Halls
The Department of Residence is designed to provide housing to over 4,700 students in ten residence halls and five apartment buildings. Students living on-campus have the advantage of easy access to all classrooms, campus activities and campus resources. Residence hall rooms have Internet access (wired and wireless) and cable television. Furnishings, laundry and utilities are also included. Each residence hall is designed with lounges, study rooms, recreational areas, laundry rooms and other facilities for the comfort and convenience of the students. Computer labs are also located in residence facilities throughout campus. Both professional and student staff members organize social events that build a strong sense of community and inclusion, as well as support activities that promote academic success.

Communities within each of the residence halls are divided up into houses of approximately 50 students. One resident assistant (a student staff member) lives in each house to serve as a resource for the members of that house. Each house is a designated Living Learning Community that sponsors its own social, cultural and educational
programs. Living Learning Communities are based on students’ academic classification (first-year, second-year, upper-class) or their major (e.g., biology, business, education, exploring, music).

The residence halls offer a mix of traditional double and single rooms, suites and double and single apartment-style spaces. All halls are mixed gender.

**Upper-class Housing**

Housing for upper-class students is available within all of our residence halls in our STEP Living Learning Communities. In addition, Shull Hall, Lawther Hall, ROTH and Panther Village have been designed to better accommodate upper-class students.

Shull Hall is a traditional residence hall, offering all rooms as super-single (double if requested). Lawther Hall is a mix of traditional double rooms, single rooms and suites with private and semi-private bathrooms. Students living in Shull and Lawther Halls are required to have a meal plan. ROTH is an apartment-style residence hall, offering mostly double rooms within a common unit containing a private restroom, kitchen and living space. Panther Village is also an apartment-style residence hall, offering single rooms within a common unit containing a private restroom, kitchen and living space. Students wishing to live in any of these accommodations generally have at least one year of on-campus college experience at time of move-in (second-year+).

**Jennings Court Apartments**

Jennings offers two-bedroom unfurnished apartments to our students with children. Assignments are made on a date-of-application priority basis. Students apply online through the Department of Residence website.

**Dining**

Students living in the traditional residence halls have an all-access meal plan. This meal plan provides unlimited access to the two dining centers on campus, Piazza in Redeker Center and Rialto in Towers Center. The all-access meal plans come with Dining Dollars to be used at any of the campus retail outlets. Unlimited access is designed to better support students’ individual dining habits while increasing the opportunity for community building. Students utilize the dining centers as an extension of their living space within the residence halls.

Additional meal plan options are available to students living in our apartment-style halls, as well as those commuting to campus. Learn more online at [https://dor.uni.edu/housing-dining-rates#mealplans](https://dor.uni.edu/housing-dining-rates#mealplans).

**Housing and Dining Contracts**

Contractual responsibilities are reviewed annually and are subject to change. Refer to terms and conditions of the current contract. The current terms and conditions are available at [https://dor.uni.edu/contracting/contract-terms-and-conditions](https://dor.uni.edu/contracting/contract-terms-and-conditions).

**Career Services**

[https://careerservices.uni.edu/](https://careerservices.uni.edu/)

The Office of Career Services assists students in developing career skills employers and graduate schools value. Experienced staff and peer assistants provide expertise in guiding students to be *career ready* through career decision making tools, resume development, interviewing skills, job search strategies and overall career preparation.

Career Services maintains active contacts with thousands of employers, and provides students with up-to-date information about our career fairs, on-campus interviews and both employer related or graduate school related information sessions, programs and outreach opportunities. Students can always stay connected through the *UNI Job Board*, a free internship and job posting service that also serves as our notification tool. From your first registration at UNI to one year after graduation, every student has access to this career service. Additionally, Career Services also helps students find internship and cooperative education opportunities where students can earn academic credit, gain important *career ready* experiences and, in many cases, earn money while doing it.

Career Services believes in its mission, "We help students succeed." Please visit our website [https://careerservices.uni.edu/](https://careerservices.uni.edu/) or call 319-273-6857 and make an appointment to see us in 102 Gilchrist.

**Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services**

102 Gilchrist Hall
319-273-6349
Chris.Crews@uni.edu

[https://uni.edu/resources/disability](https://uni.edu/resources/disability)

Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services is a state agency, provided space on campus by UNI, to serve persons with physical, mental or learning disabilities. The mission of IVRS is to help persons with disabilities become employed. Vocational Rehabilitation may assist with the following services while students are participating in our program.

- Assessment of the disability
- Restoration/assistive technology
- Training/tuition assistance
- Class accommodations
- Counseling and guidance
- Job placement assistance

Services continue, as needed, until a person has successfully completed the degree and been employed for 90 days. Students desiring services can contact the office by phone to schedule an appointment between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Students should be able to discuss and/or provide documentation of their disability.

**Student Disability Services (SDS)**

Student Disability Services is located on the upper level of the Student Health Center. SDS works with students to ensure that all persons with disabilities have access to university activities, programs, and services. To obtain information regarding services, call SDS at 319-273-2677 or e-mail at [disabilityservices@uni.edu](mailto:disabilityservices@uni.edu). More information is available at [https://sds.uni.edu/](https://sds.uni.edu/).
Student Wellness Services

Student wellness is a journey toward optimal health of mind, body and spirit. Student Wellness Services strives to support student learning and enhance the wellness lifestyles of our students through health education and promotional events and activities. We do this by collaborating with many campus partners. We are located in 104 Wellness & Recreation Center. Following is information regarding our services:

Wellness Services

Services include one-on-one or small group consultation, advice, and support to change a habit, make a lifestyle change, or address an issue of concern (eating, stress, tobacco use, balancing work and personal life, etc.). Our health promotion and education efforts are grounded in the assessed needs and interests of UNI’s diverse student body. We facilitate a wide array of programming via presentations, social media platforms and campaigns. Priority focus is placed on issues that significantly impact student wellness and success (sexual health, eating well, sleep, mental health, healthy relationships, etc.).

319-273-6119
https://studentwellness.uni.edu/

Violence Intervention Services

Comprehensive services are available for students harmed by violence. We lead university efforts toward creating an environment that is intolerant of violence and supportive of victims. Free and confidential services include: counseling and medical referrals; abuse-related assistance with safe housing, academic and financial concerns; and information concerning victim’s rights and University, civil and criminal complaints, including how to file a complaint.

319-273-2137
https://violenceservices.uni.edu/

Substance Abuse Services

Confidential services concerning alcohol and other drug use are available for all students. We can provide consultation if you are concerned about your substance use (or that of someone important to you), or if you have had a recent incident/arrest; assessment, referrals and assistance in accessing helping resources; educational services if you have violated University policy; and support in helping all students have a safe and successful college experience.

319-273-3423
https://subabuse.uni.edu/

Student Health Clinic and Pharmacy

The University of Northern Iowa specializes in college health services. We have board-certified family practice physicians, board-certified physician assistants, and psychiatric providers who are dedicated to caring for college students. Additional staff includes a pharmacist, pharmacy technician, registered nurses, a laboratory technologist, and support staff. We want to serve as your on-campus health resource and assist you in meeting your healthcare needs.

The University of Northern Iowa Pharmacy is located on the first floor of the Student Health Center. It is staffed by a registered pharmacist who is available to fill prescriptions, provide drug information, and answer health-related questions. We offer many prescription medications, such as birth control pills, antibiotics, as well as over-the-counter products such as ibuprofen, Tylenol, and cough medicines.

All registered University of Northern Iowa students are eligible to use our services. We encourage you to schedule an appointment by calling (319) 273-2009. We are located on West 23rd Street next to the Schindler Education Center.

The University offers health and dental insurance coverage to students through the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP), group policies administered by Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa and Delta Dental of Iowa through the University of Iowa Benefits Office. To be eligible for SHIP, you must be a registered student attending on-campus classes at the time coverage begins. The University of Northern Iowa requires that international students entering the University purchase the Student Health Insurance Plan provided by the Student Health Clinic.

Counseling Center

The Counseling Center is located on the upper level of the Student Health Center. The Counseling Center is staffed with professional counselors and psychologists who provide confidential counseling services to students who have paid the Mandatory Health Fee.

Appointments for counseling may be made by calling 319-273-2676 or in-person at the Counseling Center. More information is available at https://counseling.uni.edu/.

Recreation Services

Recreation Services, located within the Wellness/Recreation Center, offers campus-wide programs in informal recreation, fitness, aquatics, intramural sports, outdoor recreation, youth programs and sport clubs.

The Wellness /Recreation Center provides:

• (10) multi-purpose gymnasia/courts for basketball, volleyball, soccer, and tennis
• (6) racquetball/wally ball courts
• (8) lighted outdoor tennis courses
• a leisure pool with whirlpool and water slide
• an eight lane, 25-yard lap pool
• (5) aerobics/dance studios
• a 38.5-foot climbing wall
• the UNI Outdoor Recreation Center
• West Campus Complex with outdoor recreation fields for a wide variety of sports and activities
• a free weight room
• a spacious fitness area with cardiovascular and strength training equipment
• a running track
• men's and women's locker and shower facilities
For more information visit the Recreation Services website at https://recreation.uni.edu/.

Military Members and Veterans
The University of Northern Iowa is proud to serve all veterans, military members, and their families. Our role is to support military members, veterans, and their families at UNI as they transition between military duty, college, and new careers. We are committed to faculty and staff education, on and off campus resource networking, advocacy, and listening to each student to ensure that each military affiliated students' voice is heard and they are empowered to achieve success in class and beyond. For more information contact:

Coordinator, Military and Veteran Student Services
111-G Maucker Union (Plaza Level)
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, IA, 50614-0166
Phone: (319) 273-3040

The University of Northern Iowa has been selected as a Military-Friendly University in Military Advanced Education's (MAE) 2017 Guide to Military Friendly Colleges and Universities, Best for Vets 2017, and Best for Vets Business 2017. This guide provides potential students with information about institutions that go out of their way to implement military friendly policies in support of our men and women in uniform. Criteria for inclusion in the Military Friendly Schools list includes a strong commitment to recruiting, retaining, and providing financial, academic, and social services to student veterans.

The university cooperates with the Veterans Administration to provide for the education of veterans under the provision of federal laws, including those eligible under the Chapter 33 Post 9/11 G.I. Bill, along with other VA educational benefit programs. The Office of the Registrar will assist students eligible under any of these programs. For additional information, contact:

Office of the Registrar
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, IA, 50614-0006
Phone: (319) 273-2273

Student Activities and Honors
Co-curricular activities are encouraged at the University of Northern Iowa because of the important contribution these activities make to the total education of the student. The university maintains an extensive program of co-curricular activities: intercollegiate athletics, theatre, forensics, publications, music, social life, student organizations and interest groups, intramural sports and recreational activities, and sports clubs.

Speech and Debate
The forensics program (speech and debate team), under the auspices of the Department of Communication Studies, encourages participation of all interested students, both in debate and individual events regardless of major. The forensics squad participates in some 20-25 intercollegiate forensic meets per year on a regional and national basis. Participants may choose to enter debate or individual events. Further information is available at https://commstudies.uni.edu/forensics/.

Fraternities/Sororities
The Greek community at UNI consists of nationally affiliated (National Interfraternity Council and National Panhellenic Council) social sororities and fraternities, and nationally affiliated (National Panhellenic Council) historically African-American sororities and fraternities. The Greek community has a long, rich tradition of supporting student involvement and development, and providing service, social and leadership opportunities. Formal and informal membership recruitment and intake processes take place each semester. More information is available at https://studentlife.uni.edu/.

Honor Organizations
Superior achievement in various academic disciplines and in extracurricular activities is recognized in honor organizations. Information on these organizations may be obtained from the Office of Student Life, located on the plaza level of Maucker Union, or at https://studentlife.uni.edu/.

Intercollegiate Athletics
Various intercollegiate sports are available to both men and women at UNI. The university engages in intercollegiate athletic competition in a total of 17 sports. Men may participate in basketball, cross country, football, golf, indoor and outdoor track, and wrestling. Women also compete in basketball, cross country, golf, and indoor and outdoor track, as well as in soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, and volleyball.

UNI Athletic teams participate within Division I of the NCAA. UNI Football is part of the Division I Football Championship Subdivision (FCS, formerly 1-AA). The University Athletics Program is a member of the Missouri Valley Conference, the Missouri Valley Football Conference, and the Big XII Conference. All intercollegiate athletic programs are governed and operated in accordance with NCAA, Conference, and university rules and regulations. In some instances, university rules and regulations may be more restrictive than those of the NCAA and/or Conference.

Interest Organizations
Numerous organizations sponsored by departments and specialized interest groups provide students the opportunity to become better acquainted with other students and faculty as well as to explore leadership skills and perpetuate interests outside the classroom. Many of the organizations have no membership requirements other than an active interest in the work for which the club exists and regular attendance at the meetings. Information on specific interest organizations can be obtained in the Office of Student Life, located on the plaza level of Maucker Union, or at https://studentlife.uni.edu/.

Maucker Union Advisory Board
The Maucker Union Advisory Board, comprised primarily of students, provides feedback and guidance on all issues related to Maucker Union administration, facilities, and programming. More information is available at https://studentlife.uni.edu/.

Music
Music organizations and ensembles are open to all students. Participation by non-music majors is encouraged. Credit is available to all who participate. Among the groups offered are: Concert Chorale, UNI Opera Ensemble, UNI Singers, Varsity Men's Glee Club, Women's Chorus, Cantorei, Pep Band, Wind Ensemble, Panther
Marching Band, Symphonic Band, Concert Band, Jazz Bands, Symphony Orchestra, plus several instrumental ensembles. Ensemble requirements for enrollment include auditions, placement hearings or no audition depending on each specific course offered. For further information visit https://music.uni.edu/.

Northern Iowa Student Government
The legislative branch of Student Government at UNI is the Student Senate. The executive members include the president, vice-president, director of public relations, director of diversity and student life, director of administration and finance, and director of governmental relations. A Supreme Court, which comprises the judicial branch, also exists. The Northern Iowa Student Government promotes cooperation between students and faculty, seeks solutions to student concerns, and represents the entire student body in matters affecting student interests. More information is available at https://nisg.uni.edu/.

Professional Performing Arts on Campus
For more information, refer to The Fine and Performing Arts at UNI section of this University Catalog.

Religion
Surrounding the campus are various student religious centers. Information on specific religious organizations may be obtained in the Office of Student Life, located on the plaza level of Maucker Union.

Social Life
The social life at the University of Northern Iowa is flexible, designed to meet the ever-changing interests and needs of the students and university community. Social opportunities include popular and cultural film programs, art exhibits, fine arts productions, live musical entertainment, dances, campus-wide events, speaker programs, forums, and community service projects. Much of the program planning relies heavily on student involvement. Information pertaining to involvement is available through the Office of Student Life, located on the plaza level of Maucker Union, or at https://happenings.uni.edu/.

Station KULT-LP
Station KULT is the student-managed and operated radio station of the University of Northern Iowa. The station operates at 94.5FM and on Channel 5 of the Campus Cable Television System. KULT programming consists of music, UNI sporting events, and news. The studios and offices of KULT are located in the lower level of Maucker Union. For further information go to https://kult.uni.edu/.

Student Government
The student government associations include the Northern Iowa Student Government, the Residence Halls Association, the Interfraternity Council, Panhellenic Council, and the individual residence hall senates.

Student Publications
The Northern Iowan is written, illustrated, and edited by students for campus-wide distribution. This student newspaper is distributed twice a week during the fall and spring and once a week during the summer session https://www.northerniowan.com/.

Theatre
Any enrolled student is welcome to audition or volunteer for production responsibilities in the major productions or many student productions produced by Theatre UNI. Seasons typically include classical, modern and contemporary drama, musical comedy, and theatre for youth. All members of the university community are invited to attend productions in the Strayer-Wood and Bertha Martin Theatres. For additional information, including audition postings, visit the website https://theatre.uni.edu/.

Veterans
Any student is welcome to join the UNI Student Veterans Association. The purpose of this group is to educate the campus community about military veterans, support members of the military that are currently deployed, support veterans that are dealing with issues coming back from deployment, contribute to the improvement of UNI as a military friendly school, and have fun socializing with other veterans that attend the University of Northern Iowa.