PAP Handbook

2022—2024

Class of 2026 (P11)

This handbook is published for each entering first-year class. Up-to-date information will be sent via the PAP listserv. It is your responsibility for knowing the content of this handbook. Please read carefully. The contents of this handbook are subject to change.

Disclaimer: This handbook is intended for students enrolled in the President’s Award Program and Sukuma Scholars only.
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## PAP Contact Information
- President's Award Program Office, MC 158
- Student Services Building (SSB), Suite 2375
- 1200 West Harrison Street
- 312.996.6421
**WELCOME!**
Welcome to the University of Illinois at Chicago Class of 2026! Your anticipated graduation date is in May 2026! Tell your parents, family and friends to mark it on their calendars to share in this celebration.

We are glad you’re here! You are about to embark on a new experience... college. You are the PAP and Sukuma Scholars for Cohort 11 and will be referred to as “P11,” which reflects that you are the ninth group of students selected for the scholarship program. This book’s purpose is to assist in your college transition, to provide support and encouragement, and to highlight some of the many resources available to you. We want you to succeed and thrive while pursuing your undergraduate degree here at UIC. We have high expectations and know that you can do well at UIC. However, you must take responsibility for your learning and take advantage of the many opportunities available. If at any time, you need to discuss a concern, problem or issue, no matter how small or big, please seek the advice of a staff member. The staff at PAP are here to listen in a nonjudgmental way and make the appropriate referrals to assist you. You set the standard for other PAP Scholars to follow in your success!

Again, we graciously welcome you to UIC.

**The University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC)**
The University of Illinois at Chicago is the largest institution of higher education in the Chicago area, one of the top research universities in the United States and dedicated to the land grant university tradition of research, teaching, and public service. Through its 15 academic colleges and professional schools, the University offers 71 undergraduate, 87 master’s, and 51 doctoral programs in the humanities, mathematics, sciences, and social sciences, as well as architecture, art, business administration, education, engineering, applied health sciences, social work, and urban planning.

**UIC: A Research University**
The University of Illinois at Chicago is a public research university with both a research and a teaching mission. As such, our faculty, among the best in their respective fields, conduct research and share their knowledge and discoveries through publications and teachings. Challenged in the classroom, students are taught by these same professors who conduct such research.

Britt Andreatta of the University of California, Santa Barbara, wrote about the challenges and benefits of attending a research university in an article: *An Important Tool for Advising at Research Universities*...

Attending a research university poses several challenges, which include the following:

- *It is more difficult for students to achieve top grades.* What was “excellent” for freshmen and transfer students at their previous schools is now recalibrated to be “average,” as the admissions process is competitive. Students must work harder to earn good grades.
- *At times, students may find their course work difficult or boring with little connection to current society.* New knowledge is often theoretical and/or statistical and the academic language of scholarly journals is objective and analytical.
• Students experience a wide range of faculty expectations. Research faculty are given academic freedom, via tenure, and there is no standardization of how many pages of reading or writing they can assign, or even what content to teach in their courses. As a result, students need to adjust their study skills to each individual instructor.

• Academic integrity is a critical value and students will experience serious consequences if they cheat or plagiarize. The search for new knowledge rests on the value of doing accurate work as well as giving appropriate credit to the work of others. Intellectual theft is not tolerated on any level.

• Students are not necessarily trained for certain careers. Majors will prepare students to be good researchers. Students will need to build their vocational skills outside of the classroom through internships and jobs.

However, there are many benefits to attending a research university:

• Students receive a “cutting edge” education that puts them years ahead of their peers at other institutions. The research mission charges faculty with the important task of creating new knowledge. It takes about five years before a new discovery appears in a textbook, but faculty often share this new knowledge with their students immediately.

• Students take classes from the world’s foremost minds in their respective disciplines, thus “learning at the feet of the masters.” This gives students an advantage when applying to graduate schools.

• Students are trained to be critical thinkers. Faculty constantly evaluate problems and solutions, question what we think of as “the truth,” and explore new ideas through valid and reliable research. Students will be trained in these same skills, making them discerning adults and citizens.

• Many employers seek graduates from research universities because they realize those graduates possess two key qualities – the most recent information about a field, and more importantly, the skills to stay current on research for a lifetime.

• Students can network with other intelligent peers. Most research universities are considered prestigious, and as a result, the competitive admissions process ensures a vibrant community of scholars.

Your Scholarship at UIC

This Scholarship Manual will address only two scholarships given at UIC (the President’s Award Program and Sukuma Scholars Program). Please reach out to our office if you have any specific questions about your scholarship. The office is in the UIC Student Services Building, Suite 1300.

Sukuma Scholars Program (Zulu, rise up)

After several years of recruitment efforts by the University, the number of African-American students submitting applications and being admitted to UIC has shown a steady increase. The challenge facing the University vis-à-vis this population is no longer access. Rather, the new challenge is yielding these students and retaining them at higher levels than in previous years.

This award is for admitted African-American students with no requirement for financial need. The award will be $5,000 per year ($2,500 per semester). The award will be given in order of ITE date and once the
100 awards are claimed, no further awards will be processed. The length of the award is up to 8 semesters. Students may be allowed an approved one-year leave of absence and retain the award.

Our goal is to award scholarships to the top 100 students who have not been awarded PAP, PAP Honors, Chancellor’s Fellows or Provost’s Fellows. (Students may receive multiple awards, e.g. Provost’s Fellows and Sukuma.) Students will be required to stay in Academic Good Standing in addition to maintaining a minimum 2.75 GPA. Students performing below this level will be placed on scholarship probation and will be at risk of losing their scholarship.

The President’s Award Program (PAP)
The President’s Award Program offers one of the most prestigious scholarships at the University of Illinois on all three campuses. The President’s Award Program was created in 1985 to recognize and award students graduating from Illinois high schools who have demonstrated outstanding academic performance and who represent the rich diversity of the State of Illinois. The goals of the PAP are to provide financial assistance and to promote academic excellence through programming that provides resources and the attention to assist motivated students to persist and graduate within four years.

The following information is crucial to understanding the program’s requirements, expectations, and responsibilities.

Policy Overview
In addition to the scholarship agreement and conditions form that you have signed, please familiarize yourself with the following policies:

1. President’s Award Program (PAP) and Sakuma Scholars are expected to enroll at the University for the fall semester after graduating from high school and maintain continuous enrollment during the academic year. However, the following exceptions apply:

   - When a PAP student transfers within the University of Illinois system, it is the responsibility of the campus to which the student is transferring to notify the other PAP Coordinator and University-wide Student Program (USP) once the said student has notified both campuses within a reasonable time. This policy is under review and subject to change. (The transfer of scholarship is not applicable to Sukuma Scholars.)
   - PAP & Sukuma students who withdraw from the University and are readmitted within one calendar year (12 months) remain eligible for the scholarship.
   - Decisions about individual cases concerning delayed admission, transfer admission, or readmission for students are determined by the campus in accordance with the PAP policies.

2. The award applies to undergraduate studies until the completion of the baccalaureate for up to four years. It will be awarded during the fall and spring semesters at the University of Illinois at Chicago. The scholarship cannot be used for summer session or professional school regardless of whether the recipient moves to a professional program before completing the undergraduate degree.
3. The award ends when the eight semesters of eligibility has been disbursed even if awardee has not completed an undergraduate degree.

4. The award ends when awardee has completed an undergraduate degree even if there are remaining semesters of eligibility.

5. The award will not be disbursed if awardee is registered for less than 12 hours a semester.

6. The award is institutional funds and awardee must be in compliance with the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) policy.

7. Failure to maintain the mandatory cumulative GPA of 2.75 may result in the award not being disbursed until it is raised to the minimum 2.75 cumulative GPA, though we encourage a 3.0 GPA.

Scholarship Conditions and Requirements 2022—2026
As a President’s Award Program scholarship awardee, you are expected to fully participate in the programming events and activities during each semester you are enrolled at UIC. You are required to sign a President’s Award Program Scholarship Agreement form by the designated deadline, or you will no longer be eligible.

SCOPE OF THE AWARD
• The award applies to undergraduate studies and is renewable for up to eight consecutive semesters at $2,500 per semester for a total of $20,000. This award is in addition to any other financial aid that you receive as long as the total amount of scholarships and grants do not exceed total cost of attendance less your Expected Family Contribution as calculated on your FAFSA application.
• The award is only disbursed for fall and spring semesters at the University of Illinois at Chicago. It will not be disbursed for UIC Summer Session.
• The award cannot be used for professional school if the recipient moves to a professional program before completing an undergraduate degree.
• The scholarship can be renewed for the fall and spring semesters through the fourth year or until the awardee fulfills the undergraduate degree requirements, transfers to a professional school, graduates (whichever comes first) provided that:
  a. The recipient continues to complete a full-time program during each of the two semesters (fall and spring) in each consecutive year.
  b. The recipient maintains, in each semester, a grade point average of 2.75.
  c. The recipient continues successful completion of an activity contract each semester.
  d. The recipient makes satisfactory progress toward the bachelor’s degree and has observed all other University and college regulations applicable to the recipient.

CONDITIONS OF THE PROGRAM
1. The awardee must submit an Intent to Enroll (ITE), accept this scholarship offer by May 1, 2020, and enroll at UIC for the Fall 2020 term. Failure to do so ends the scholarship offer. No exceptions will be made.

2. The awardee must maintain a full-time program (15–16 credit hours recommended) for each of the two semesters of each academic year and must remain in good academic standing within his/her designated college.

3. Awardee must fulfill the requirements of the President’s Award Program as detailed in the PAP Scholar’s Handbook, including completing an activity contract each semester. Please review the PAP Handbook 2020—2022 online.

4. The awardee will also participate in his/her designated college by completing mandatory activities for the fall and spring semesters and in activities and events stipulated by the President’s Award Program (see Required Attendance at Events).

5. In any one semester, academic probation from the degree-granting college, withdrawal from the University, or failure to complete with passing grades in all courses may automatically cause the termination of the scholarship.

**REQUIRED ATTENDANCE**

- Awardee is required to attend one session of the PAP Academy.
- Awardee is required to attend Summer College Lecture Day and one workshop during Seminar Days held during the 3rd and 5th weeks at Summer College on the UIC campus.
- Awardee is required to attend the PAP Freshman Overview.

Failure to comply with the above terms will result in automatic termination of the scholarship. Advance notice of exceptions to these conditions and requirements will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the PAP Policy Committee. A formal letter of petition providing a detailed description of the reason for the requested exception is required. Submitting a petition does not guarantee approval.

**Grade Point Average Policy**

*(Scholarship Probation Policy)*

Scholars are expected to earn a 2.75 or higher grade point average each semester. Any student not earning a minimum 2.75 grade point average by the end of the first year (second semester) will be placed on scholarship probation during the third semester. If the required grade point average is not reached by that time, the scholarship will be permanently removed from the student’s financial aid package. Students may submit an appeal with documentation for extenuating circumstances, such as U.S. military duty, illness, etc. **Submitting an appeal does not guarantee approval.**

However, students are strongly encouraged to demonstrate academic excellence with a grade point average of 3.00 or higher. This is a competitive grade point average for students who plan to apply for prestigious scholarships, to attend graduate and professional schools, or to work in a highly competitive global job market.
Please note that students must maintain a minimum grade point average of 2.0 or higher to be in good academic standing within their designated college. If their grade point average falls below 2.0, they are placed on academic probation by their individual colleges and may be at risk of being dropped. It is the student’s responsibility to know their college’s policies.

Satisfactory Academic Progress Policy
Please note that the PAP and Sukuma scholarship consists of institutional funds administered by the Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA). The scholarship is under the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) policy. Therefore, your scholarship will not be disbursed if you do not meet the Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) requirements.

- Financial Aid: To maintain your financial aid eligibility and/or scholarship, you must make Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) toward completion of your degree. SAP requirements for financial aid are separate from degree progress requirements monitored by academic departments. The SAP policy for Financial Aid is available on the Office of Student Financial Aid website: http://www.uic.edu/depts/financialaid/sap_policy.shtml.
  - Using a late drop after the add/drop period (provided that you do not fully withdraw) does not affect your current term aid or your enrollment hours; however, you will receive a grade of W for the course(s) withdrawn. Late dropping/withdrawing hours after the add/drop period (provided you don’t fully withdraw from the University) will not affect your current term aid, but could impact your future eligibility by lowering your SAP Completion Ratio.
  - GPA is also an important factor in determining SAP for financial aid. A minimum GPA of 2.00 is required by the end of the second academic year (for transfer students, the 2.00 requirement applies when the student has at least 60 combined UIC attempted hours and transfer hours or after two years at UIC, whichever comes first). You should consider the impact grades of D or F might have on your GPA. Receiving a grade of F and, therefore, no credit for a course would also impact your SAP Completion Ratio.
  - If you have questions about how a late drop or your academic performance may affect your financial aid eligibility, please contact: Office of Student Financial Aid (OSFA), 1800 Student Services Building (SSB), 312.996.3126, money@uic.edu, http://www.uic.edu/depts/financialaid/index.shtml.

Activity Contract
Scholars are required to complete an activity contract in the fall and spring until the completion of their junior year of college. The purpose of the activity contract is to provide structure and support during your freshman, sophomore and junior year of college. All students are required to complete all activities on their activity contract for fall and spring semesters while enrolled in the program. If you have difficulty completing your contract, please contact your designated college representative and the PAP office immediately. Your attendance and participation will be monitored closely. Your full cooperation
and participation are needed to make your learning experience successful and pleasant. **Students failing to complete an activity contract will risk losing scholarship eligibility.**

**Scholarship Disbursement**
Disbursement of financial aid/scholarship is typically 10 days before the start of each semester (fall/spring). All aid will disburse to your student account each semester (if student completes all requirements) and if aid is greater than student account (billing balance), University Student Financial Services and Cashier Operations (USFSCO) will issue the student a refund. Students must enroll in direct deposit to receive refunds. To enroll in direct deposition go to the USFSCO website at [http://financialaid.uic.edu/disbursement.shtml](http://financialaid.uic.edu/disbursement.shtml) or go directly to [https://paymybill.uillinois.edu/refunds/DirectDeposit](https://paymybill.uillinois.edu/refunds/DirectDeposit).

**The Pursuit of Academic Excellence**
To be successful in college, you must develop and maintain behaviors that promote learning. Here is a checklist of expectations:

We expect you to:
- Attend and participate in classes on a regular basis.
- Sit in the front of your classrooms.
- Ask your professors at least one question during class (taken from the Meyerhoff Program, UMBC).
- Complete all homework and assignments even if the professors do not collect or grade your work.
- Attempt to earn A and B grades in your classes (you can do it).
- Study in three-hour blocks of time (50 minutes + 10 minutes break = 1 hour).
- Practice good time management and keep a weekly schedule.
- Visit your professors during office hours and make appointments as needed.
- Get to know a faculty member in your selected major this semester.
- See an academic advisor once a semester and more, if needed.
- Participate in academic support services as needed.
- Seek assistance when experiencing difficulty of any kind.
- Fully participate in planned events and activities, including PAP, your college, and select communities of interest (Support Units, Diversity Centers, Student Organizations, etc.).
- Be a responsible member in the UIC academic community.
- Non-residential students, please stay on campus longer to be a part of the academic community.
- Adhere to UIC Code of Conduct (see Student Policy Handbook).
- Adhere to academic integrity policies.
- Know the rules, policies, expectations, and deadlines in your college.
- Read all emails and communications from PAP.
- Check your midterm and final grade postings at [my.uic.edu](http://my.uic.edu) each semester.
Scholarship STRUCTURE
Your scholarship is structured to assist you through your four years as a university student! To promote academic excellence, social and personal support, you will be required to participate in the Academy that is comprised of the following:

- Summer College: Your Responsibilities in an Academic Community
- The First Year Experience: It's all about Academics
- The Second Year Experience: Internships, Research, Study Abroad
- The Third Year and Fourth Year Experiences

Scholar Divisions—Cohort 11 (Class of 2026!)

- Applied Health Sciences
- Architecture, Design, and the Arts
- Business Administration
- Education
- Engineering
- Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Urban Planning and Public Affairs
- School of Public Health

Learning Communities
From day one, you are part of a learning community. By definition, a learning community is a group of people who share common academics, goals, and attitudes, whereby they meet semi-regularly to collaborate on classwork. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Learning_community](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Learning_community).

Some examples of a learning community: your college, major, living in a residence hall, being a member of a student organization, participating in one or more support units, volunteering and so on constitutes a learning community.

The Academy: Summer College
Students are required to register and attend one of the listed Academy sessions and the Freshmen Overview to maintain scholarship eligibility. **No exception will be made regarding these policies.**

The purpose of this mandatory academy is to introduce students to the concepts, resources, and skills necessary for successful learning in higher education and facilitate adjustment to and engagement into the new learning environment. Why is this important? Students most likely to succeed, both in college
and after graduation, tend to be those who have learned to listen effectively, think critically, express themselves clearly, appreciate diversity, and work in teams. Here at UIC our faculty encourage students to work on these skills throughout their college years by allowing students to continue to grow and adapt to an ever-changing world. Students will continue to develop these skills throughout the first year at UIC.

Academy: Summer College General Rules
In the interest of achieving a rewarding educational experience for all participants, students must adhere to high standards of academic and personal conduct. While we expect that all participants will cooperate, these policies and procedures apply to situations that may arise. Program staff will enforce the rules where appropriate.

Students should:

Attend and participate in all following activities:
- Instructional classes and seminars
- Conferences scheduled by program staff
All planned program activities
- Be on time and attentive for all scheduled classes and activities.
- Be responsible for all books and materials placed in their care.
- Conduct themselves in a courteous and respectful manner.

Attendance is critical for the successful completion of the Summer College Experience. No absences are allowed. If you miss too much time in your session, you will be required to take another session. Failure to complete a session will result in the loss of your scholarship.

PAP STEM Initiative
The PAP STEM Initiative provides support and resources to scholars pursuing degrees in biochemistry, biological sciences, chemistry, computer sciences, earth and environmental sciences, engineering, mathematics, neuroscience, and physics. Students are expected to participate in a six-session research experience on Fridays during the summer before matriculation and maintain a 3.25 grade point average in all STEM courses to remain a part of this program. For more information, please contact Kristy Kambanis, Assistant Director for STEM Initiatives at kristyk@uic.edu.

Freshmen Overview
The Freshmen Overview will be held in August 2022. During this program run by the colleges, students will meet with their respective colleges to discuss college requirements and important topics for student success.
THE ACADEMY: First Year Experience 2022 –2023
The First Year Experience is all about academics. This is a year-long experience in which students will continue in the Academy. All students are expected to complete activity contracts for the fall and spring outlined by their designated colleges. Students are encouraged to participate in other activities as their schedules permit.

Second Year Experience 2023—2024
The Second Year Experience introduces and encourages students to explore undergraduate research, study abroad opportunities, and opportunities offered by a research university. Please be advised that the minimum grade point average of 2.75 will be strictly enforced. Scholarship Probation may be enforced, pending department policies.

Third and Fourth Year Experience 2024—2026
This time allows the program to provide some resources to a student’s area of interest. This will cover internships, career, and graduate/professional school preparation. This time is when students prepare for the GRE, GMAT, MCAT, PCAT, and LSAT. The final year involves life after undergraduate school. Where do you go from here? Making sound plans to prepare for life after college should be explored.

Based on your interest and career choice, you will select a track to receive specialized resources for your career goal and professional preparation.

- **Graduate School/PhD**
  Explore graduate schools and careers, internship/research, mentor in the field, prepare for GRE, GMAT, etc.

- **Professional School and Health Professions**
  Prepare for MCAT, PCAT, DAT, conduct research, volunteer in a medical-related field, and mentor in the field.

- **Professional Development/Career**
  Conduct job shadowing, internship, part-time work, volunteer/community service, job searches, and professional development (cover letter and resume writing, interviewing skills, mentor in the field, prepare for any license exams).

THE COLLEGES
We work collaboratively with the seven colleges (who admit freshmen) to promote student success. Please read your respective college’s information.

College of Applied Health Sciences
The College of Applied Health Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago is a multidisciplinary community of health science scholars, educators, and students who contribute to the health and well-being of people, particularly those living in an urban environment. Within the college, there are several areas of study including biomedical and health information sciences, disability and human development, kinesiology and nutrition, occupational therapy, physical therapy, and rehabilitation sciences.
In all our programs, award-winning expert teaching faculty emphasizes translating science into practice through hands-on learning, independent study, and internship experiences. The college and departments are committed to supporting the success of our students. Several support programs are available within the college and department including the Academic Support and Achievement Program, Urban Health Program, and Urban Allied Health Academy. These programs offer leadership development, academic skill building workshops (i.e. time management), tutoring, mentoring, coordinated study groups, volunteer opportunities, and more. The department also offers opportunities for students to become connected to their discipline such as through the Kinesiology Club, research experiences, and independent faculty mentoring. For more information on any of the programs and services offered, please contact the individuals below.

**Urban Health Program**
Ken Morgan, Director
& President’s Award Program Scholars Program Coordinator
Applied Health Sciences Building (AHSB), suite 516
312.355.3011 or kmorgan@uic.edu

**Office of Student Affairs**
Viviana Kabbabe-Thompson, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs
Physical Education Building (PEB), suite 356
312.413.5656 or vkt@uic.edu

**Office of Student Affairs**
Eileen Doran, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs
Applied Health Sciences Building (AHSB), suite 516
312.996.2078 or eileend2@uic.edu

**Disability and Human Development:**
Located in the Disability, Health and Social Policy Building (DHSP)
Maitha Abogado, Academic Coordinator, room 215
312.996.1508 or maitha@uic.edu

**Kinesiology Program:**
Located in the Physical Education Building (PEB)

**Nutrition Program:**
Located in the Applied Health Sciences Building (AHSB)

**Rehabilitation Sciences Program:**
Located in the Applied Health Sciences Building (AHSB)

**College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts**
The College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts consists of the School of Architecture, the School of Design, the School of Art and Art History, the School of Theatre and Music, and also houses the research and exhibition units of Gallery 400, the Innovation Center, and the Jane Addams Hull-House Museum.
Dedicated to educating the next generation of leaders in architecture, art, art history, design, theatre, and music, the College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts fosters high levels of intellectual and artistic activity, interdisciplinary research, hands-on critical practice, and engagement with Chicago’s professional and cultural communities. Regionally, the college occupies a unique position in Chicago as the only place where one can prepare for a career in the arts, design, and architecture within a major research university.

Fundamental to the success of our students is a distinguished faculty of educators and practitioners, whose work in visual and performing arts, architecture, design, and art history converge to enrich the college experience.

Central to the College’s mission is equipping students for meaningful engagement with diverse cultures and communities. Our learner-centered, inventive education is essential in preparation for living creatively and knowledgeably in a time of accelerating change.

School of Architecture
Revolving around an intensive design and studio culture, the School of Architecture’s pre-professional program provides a solid foundation in the field of architecture as preparation for continued education in a professional degree program or related majors. The design and critical-thinking skills that students develop enable them to pursue further graduate studies or begin a career in architecture or related fields such as landscape, graphic, interior or industrial design; urban design and planning; history and theory; public policy; real estate development; civil engineering; and construction management.

School of Design
The School of Design provides a professional education within the broader context of liberal arts courses provided by the University. With a deliberate balance of the practical and the visionary, UIC Design prioritizes the skill of design making and the strategy of design thinking. The UIC School of Design is organized with two programs areas: Graphic Design and Industrial Design. Program curriculum focuses on the critical contemporary challenges of design education, theory and practice and is designed to address the complex demands of a rapidly changing professional environment.

School of Art and Art History
The School of Art and Art History unites the theory, practice and history of the visual arts into an interwoven curriculum designed to produce practitioners who have a strong knowledge of the historical and theoretical underpinnings of their art, alongside historians and theorists who have an equally strong understanding of visual culture and the creative practice that produces significant work. The Department of Art develops artists whose practices are relevant to the world in which we live. The contemporary artist must have a firm understanding of art’s profound history, a meaningful perspective on current culture, and a commitment to personal discovery.

The Department of Art History takes advantage of its location at the heart of the country. Chicago, with its vibrant and often turbulent history, its outstanding contributions to art-making and architecture, and
its richly-endowed museums and libraries, offers an exceptional setting for the study of art and the urban environment.

**School of Theatre and Music**
The School of Theatre and Music provides innovative, rigorous, and comprehensive academic and performance programs. These programs develop practical knowledge, cultural sensitivity, intellectual resourcefulness, and imaginative daring in emerging artists and scholars. They connect students to Chicago’s abundant, vibrant performing arts culture and to the city’s dynamic jazz and classical music networks. Providing conservatory-style training, the School of Theatre and Music engages students in a range of professional practices including collaborations with artists, performance ensembles, and other cultural institutions in Chicago and beyond.

We welcome your inquiries and look forward to continued opportunities to serve our vibrant community. All questions regarding our programs can be directed to the individuals below.

**Office of Student Affairs:**
Located in Jefferson Hall (Room 208)

Milly Crespo, Associate Dean – Student Affairs
312.996.3351 or miracle@uic.edu

**College of Business Administration**
At UIC Business, we transform student potential into success. Our school connects students to Chicago’s living classroom. We give them a proven education, real-world skills and professional experiences that add up to exciting career opportunities.

**MISSION**
Our program is the perfect blend of a relevant real-world business curriculum and outstanding professional development, all within walking distance of Chicago’s dynamic business district. We are committed to helping students develop the essential skills and knowledge needed to succeed in business and life. We invite you to learn more about our undergraduate offerings and the many opportunities we provide to help students prepare for successful careers.

**GOALS**
- Encourage students to develop and achieve individual, academic, professional, and career goals
- Exceed student expectations by providing high-quality service, programming, and opportunities
- Assist students in developing leadership skills, an entrepreneurial spirit, pride in UIC, and an appreciation of diversity in preparation for a global business environment

**MAILING ADDRESS**
ADVISING: The UIC Business Undergraduate Programs Office provides advising regarding course selection and registration, transfer credit, academic probation, and progress made toward your degree. The college strongly recommends that students schedule and attend an advising appointment at least once per semester to discuss educational and career goals.

ROLE OF YOUR ADVISOR

▪ Assist you in exploring areas of study to help you choose a major, minor, and develop an educational plan
▪ Explain institutional and college policies and procedures, curriculum, academic programs, and student services
▪ Refer you to other campus resources, support programs, and staff and faculty members as needed to enhance your UIC experience

UIC BUSINESS UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS STAFF

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Assistant Dean of Student Services

College of Education
Mission Statement

We are a community of scholars committed to educational equity as it contributes to the development of social, political, and economic parity. We develop new knowledge about education that improves teaching, learning, and assessment; informs policy and practice; and is valued by the communities we serve. We direct our teaching, research, and public service to all learners, but particularly to those who are least well-served by the nation’s educational institutions, particularly those in urban environments.

Vision
We aspire to be the recognized leader among the urban research colleges of education, known for fostering educational equity and excellence through our programs and our scholarship.

**BA in Urban Education—Elementary Education**

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction offers a licensure program that provides the opportunity for students to become teachers in elementary school settings. The BA in Urban Education program will effectively develop educators who are informed about how culture, language, and poverty shape and influence the lives of children and youth, and who have a deep understanding of how to use cultural and linguistic diversity as assets in the classroom. The program is committed to preparing educators who can work effectively in Chicago neighborhood schools where they are needed most.

The Elementary Education teacher candidates are expected to develop (1) a deep understanding of school and community contexts; (2) a personal investment to underserved schools; (3) a commitment to critical self-reflection and inquiry into learning and teaching. These expectations are largely developed by having candidates conduct their student teaching in schools identified by the college, that are urban sites, serve high concentrations of minority students, and have a significant number of highly respected leaders and teachers.

**BA in Human Development and Learning**

The Department of Educational Psychology offers a BA degree that provides students with strong grounding in research and theory concerning learning and development across the lifespan, and how to apply this knowledge to working with individuals from diverse backgrounds in a variety of formal and informal learning contexts and education environments. Because the degree provides strong foundation in liberal arts as well as specific study in education and developmental theory and research and the application of this knowledge in a variety of contexts, an undergraduate degree in this area will prepare graduates for a variety of entry-level careers in a number of labor sectors such as education, business, workforce development, public service and administration, health and wellness, and social services.

**Administration**

Alfred Tatum, Dean, College of Education  
Vicki Trinder, Coordinator of the BA in Urban Education  
Kathy Sheridan, Coordinator of the BA in Human Development and Learning

**Advising**

Jennifer DeLago, Coordinator of Advising and Registration  
(312) 996-0707  
(jenny@uic.edu)

**Recruitment**

Natalie Leoni, Director of Recruitment  
(312) 355-0575  
(nleoni@uic.edu)

**Office of Student Services**

Room 3145 ETMSW  
Phone: 312-996-4532  
Website: www.education.uic.edu
BA in Urban Education—Elementary Education

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Alfred Tatum  Dean and Professor
Marc Van Overbeke  Associate Dean, Academic Affairs
Kimberly Lawless  Associate Dean, Research
Victoria Trinder  Program Coordinator, Elementary Education
Kathleen Sheridan  Program Coordinator, Human Development and Learning

Recruitment
Natalie Leoni  Director of Recruitment
312-355-0319 nleoni@uic.edu

Office of Student Services
College of Education
1040 W Harrison, ETMSW
Website: www.education.uic.edu

College of Engineering
The College of Engineering at the University of Illinois at Chicago has a long history of providing outstanding engineering education and conducting ground-breaking research. Our multidisciplinary
community produces global leaders in science and technology whose innovations contribute to local, state, and national economic health. We offer exceptional undergraduate and graduate programs in six departments: bioengineering, chemical engineering, civil & materials engineering, computer science, electrical & computer engineering, and mechanical & industrial engineering.

Over the last nine years, the College’s enrollment numbers have risen steadily—up 62.8 percent in 2017—continuing to demonstrate a strong demand for engineering education. From the alternative energy sector to the automotive engineering industry, a UIC engineering degree provides a strong foundation for pursuing myriad career paths, including jobs in wireless communications, bioinformatics, nanotechnologies, pharmaceuticals, transportation systems, data mining, and manufacturing optimization, to name a few. And the training turns into jobs: our graduates have been hired into more than 300 individual companies and organizations.

In addition to its education programs, the College’s research programs across the six departments and eight interdisciplinary centers have continued to grow. Currently, our researcher faculty are pursuing more than 162+ projects totaling $74 million. This funding supports our 125 top-notch full time faculty who conduct field-specific research, along with interdisciplinary research, in biotechnology, nanotechnology, information technology, cybersecurity, infrastructure, and energy/environmental technology. Our faculty also have an excellent teaching record: they consistently receive campus teaching awards—more than eighty to date. Twenty-nine are National Science Foundation CAREER award winners; forty-five are fellows of professional societies such as IEEE, ACM, ASME, AAAS and ASCE; and two are members of the National Academy of Engineering.

For more information on any of the programs and services offered, please contact the individuals below.

**Equity and Inclusion Engineering Program (EIEP)*
Located in Science Engineering Labs (SEL); 2nd Fl., Rooms 2061—2065
312.996.2201
* Contact Jackie Elizondo jelizo2@uic.edu

**Academic Resource Center (ARC) Undergraduate Programs:**
Located in Science Engineering Office Building (SEO) – 1st Floor
Miri Kotche
312.413.7623 or jmuench@uic.edu

Elena Diaz, Assistant Director and Staff Advisor Undergraduate Programs
312.355.5899 or ddiaz2@uic.edu
Letreurna Owens, Assistant Director and Staff Advisor Undergraduate Programs
312.996.9529 or lowen2@uic.edu
Elsa Soto, Associate Director and Staff Advisor Undergraduate Programs & Women’s Program
312.996.2403 or esoto3@uic.edu

**Department of Bioengineering**
Located in the Science Engineering Office Building (SEO) – 2nd Floor
John R. Hetling, Director of Undergraduate Studies
312.413.8721 or jhetli1@uic.edu

Department of Chemical Engineering
Located in the 810 S. Clinton Avenue Building (CEB) – 2nd Floor
Alan Zdunek, Director of Undergraduate Studies
312.996.4607 or zdanek@uic.edu

Department of Civil and Materials Engineering
Located in the Engineering Research Facility Building (ERF) – 2nd Floor
Eduard Karpov, Director of Undergraduate Studies
312.413.8391 or ekarpov@uic.edu

Department of Computer Science
Located in the Science Engineering Office Building (SEO) – 11th Floor
Joseph E. Hummel, Director of Undergraduate Studies
312.355.1317 or jhummel2@uic.edu

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering
Located in the Science Engineering Office Building (SEO) – 10th Floor
Natasha Devroye, Director of Undergraduate Studies ECE
312.996.1013 or devroye@uic.edu

Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering
Located in the Engineering Research Facility Building (ERF) – 2nd Floor
Houshang Darabi, Director of Undergraduate Studies
312.966.6593 or hdarabi@uic.edu

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

ABOUT LAS
Welcome! The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) offers programs in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences that enhance the educational quality and depth of all undergraduate colleges on campus. The largest of the colleges at UIC, LAS houses 22 departments and programs, and offers almost 1,000 courses. By taking courses across a broad range of disciplines – including literature, biology, history, economics, foreign languages and more – students will acquire the critical skills to succeed in any field. At the UIC College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, students will become a creative problem-solvers, effective communicators, and strong leaders.

LAS ADVISING
LAS operates under a two-tiered academic advising model. This means that students have two main advising contacts to guide them in navigating their undergraduate academic career. LAS general advisors advise students from Orientation to Graduation and will aid in students' overall academic
development and completion of degree requirements. *Departmental advisors* are available to assist students in navigating the requirements of their chosen, or potential, major or minor. In addition, LAS offers *pre-professional advisors* to facilitate students’ completion of course requirements for those with pre-health and pre-law educational goals.

**Mandatory First-Year Advising (MFA) & Sophomore Success**

All first-year students must make an appointment with their assigned LAS academic advisor in both the fall and spring terms of their first year in order to be able to register for classes the next term. First-year students will be contacted via their UIC email with additional information about this requirement; however, students should feel free to make an LAS advising appointment at any point during their first two terms at UIC.

In an effort to help our students connect more quickly with their academic departments, or to provide support if they are undecided, all LAS sophomores are required to participate in Sophomore Success prior to their spring registration. Students will be contacted via UIC email with the options for completing Sophomore Success. Although students are not required to see an academic advisor after their sophomore year, LAS recommends that students meet with their academic advisor(s) at least once per semester to ensure that they are on-track for degree completion.

**LAS Academic Advising Center Information & Appointment Scheduling**

Location: 3rd floor, University Hall  
Phone: (312) 996-3366  
Online appointment scheduling: student.las.uic.edu

**CAREER DEVELOPMENT**

Information about major exploration, workshops, and the LAS internship program can found on the college’s website: [www.las.uic.edu/careerdevelopment](http://www.las.uic.edu/careerdevelopment)

**College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs**

The College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs (CUPPA) promotes just, resilient and livable communities - cities that work. CUPPA is committed to the ideals of social justice, efficiency, and democratic governance through a rigorous educational curriculum and research portfolio designed to address social and economic disparities, ineffective public finances, and inequitable governing systems. Our degree programs engage students in pre-professional practices from the outset and present an environment for collaboration with any of the nine urban, community based research centers within the college. All students are required to bring their classroom knowledge into the real-world of non-profit orgs, government and planning agencies, and the corporate sector via required internships, capstone projects and studios. We present the opportunity for our students, faculty, and staff to address the challenges of the world we live in and to make it a better place for all.

**The college has:**

- Bachelor of Arts degrees in Public Policy and Urban Studies  
- Minors in Public Policy, Urban Studies, Geographic Information Systems, and Sustainable Cities
• Joint Degree programs in both departments, including:
  o BA in Public Policy/Masters in Public Administration
  o BA in Urban Studies/Masters in Urban Planning and Policy
• Master's Degrees in Public Administration (MPA), an accelerated (one year) MPA, and Urban Planning and Policy (MUPP). The MPA and the MUPP are accredited degrees.
• Doctor of Philosophy Degrees in Public Administration, Urban Planning and Policy
• Certificate programs in Survey Research Methods (Public Administration), Geospatial Analysis and Visualization (Urban Planning and Policy) and Public Transit Planning and Management (Urban Planning and Policy)
• 450 current students
• Links with more than 100 public service organizations, government agencies and private companies in the Chicago area who host CUPPA students in internships each year
• 35+ tenure and research faculty
• More than 3000 alumni
• 9 research centers and institutes including the Center for Public Safety and Justice, Center for Urban Economic Development, Great Cities Institute, Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy, Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement, Nathalie P. Voorhees Center, Urban Data Visualization Laboratory, and Survey Research Laboratory

School of Public Health
About the School of Public Health
The School of Public Health is one of 15 colleges/schools that comprise the University of Illinois at Chicago. Established in 1970, the fully accredited School of Public Health, offers six degrees: Bachelor of Arts in Public Health (BA), Master of Public Health (MPH), Master of Science (MS), Master of Healthcare Administration (MHA), Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) and the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), along with certificate programs and non-degree continuing education opportunities to both full and part-time students and professionals practicing in the field.

School of Public Health Mission Statement
The UIC School of Public Health is dedicated to excellence in protecting and improving the health and well-being of the people of the metropolitan Chicago area, the State of Illinois, and the nation, and of others throughout the world. The School achieves this mission by: educating scientists, professionals and the public; conducting research to develop solutions to public health problems; providing public health service; and formulating public health policy.

Bachelor of Arts in Public Health Overview
The Bachelor of Arts in Public Health is a junior entry program in which students acquire an array of skills that can be applied to many forms of inquiry, analysis, scientific and moral reasoning, and practice. Students complete 60 hours of prerequisite course work within the Public Health–Undecided (Pre-Public Health) program at UIC or another college/university and then an additional 60 hours of course work once admitted to the major. With a Bachelor of Arts in Public Health, graduates can pursue entry level positions in the public health workforce, or graduate school within the health sciences or related fields by building the necessary prerequisite course work into their studies.
Bachelor of Arts in Public Health Mission Statement
The mission of the baccalaureate program in public health is to engage and enlighten students about matters related to the health of societies locally, nationally, and globally. By systematically examining biological, environmental, cultural, behavioral, historical, economic, and political factors that mitigate health, students in the program will become informed citizens who can consider the public’s health in whatever life roles they assume. For those who go on to careers in medicine, nursing, dentistry and other health related professions, the baccalaureate program in public health builds upon a broad foundation in the biological and behavioral sciences imbued with social ecology and population–based perspectives. Graduates of the program will acquire an array of skills that can be applied to many forms of inquiry, analysis, scientific and moral reasoning, and practice. At the baccalaureate level, graduates may seek employment in public health as communicable disease investigators, public health educators, program coordinators, environmental specialists, information specialists, and other roles commensurate with their skills. Those wishing to pursue professional careers in the public health arena will be well positioned to continue their studies through matriculation into master’s degree programs in public health (MPH) or the Master of Science degrees in specific public health disciplines. Emerging from the program with an informed understanding of public health, graduates will embrace the vision of health equity and social justice.

Academic Advising
The Bachelor of Arts in Public Health program encourages the intellectual growth and development of the student as an individual. Newly admitted students are required to participate in either a small group or individual advising session prior to their initial registration. Continuing students must consult their Academic Advisor at least once each semester. Advisors assist students in individual program planning and course selection, discuss with students the feasibility of various career paths based on interests and academic performance, and support students in the development of their educational, career, and personal goals. Additionally, Advisors explain school and program rules and requirements, help resolve special registration problems, and refer students to additional resources on campus.

Students are required to meet with their assigned SPH Advisor at least once per semester. To arrange an advising appointment, students may contact Kevin Price, Undergraduate Academic Advisor, at (312) 355-3566 or keyprice@uic.edu or Melissa Tag, Associate Director of Undergraduate Operations, at (312) 355-2536 or mtag@uic.edu.

Program Contacts
Karin J. Opacich, PhD, MHPE, OTR/L, FAOTA
Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Public Health
Clinical Associate Professor, Health Policy and Administration
E-mail: kopacich@uic.edu
Phone: (312) 996-6081
Office: 1183 SPHPI
The Honors College

The Honors College is a community of students seeking extra intellectual challenges as well as campus and community engagement and leadership experiences. Academically excellent students who have earned a minimum 3.4 grade point average and have at least three semesters left before graduation are strongly encouraged to apply. Because students can enter the Honors College at any point up to the second semester of the junior year, even those students who have not yet achieved the minimum grade point average now are encouraged to strive to meet the qualifications for admission and to join this community in the future.

Honors College opportunities include scholarships, tuition waivers, and awards for undergraduate research, study abroad, and civic engagement; hands-on learning in faculty-sponsored research across the disciplines; faculty mentors who are leaders in students' fields of study, and supportive professional advisers who help with all aspects of student success.

For more information about the Honors College, please visit the website:
http://www.uic.edu/honors/applying/ContinuingStudents.shtml

Contact Information:
The UIC Honors College
116 Burnham Hall
Tel: 312.413.2260
Fax: 312.413.1266
Email: hcollege@uic.edu

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES (MANY OTHERS ARE AVAILABLE)
Listed below are some of the many resources available to assist you during your collegiate career. Please visit as often as needed.

**Campus Resources**

**Academic Center for Excellence (ACE)**

Student Services Building (SSB), Suite 2900  
312.413.0031  
https://www.uic.edu/depts/ace/

The Academic Center for Excellence (ACE) provides learning support services to help UIC students accomplish their academic goals. ACE offers a wide array of programs that can enhance student learning, development and success.

ACE offers Academic Skills Program (ASP) courses and individual academic coaching. ACE staff also provide customized strategic learning workshops for various campus departments. Additionally, for students on academic probation, ACE offers the Academic Achievement Program (AAP). This is a course that is designed to help students incorporate study skills and learning strategies into their academic and personal lives in a scholarly and supportive environment.

ACE is dedicated to providing programs that meet the needs of UIC’s diverse student community. We encourage students to visit our office and speak with an academic skills specialist who can directly aid them in a course of action towards academic success. A library of study tips and other academic support information is on the ACE website.

**CHANCE Program**

2080 Student Services Building, M/C 113  
312.355.5025  
chance@uic.edu

The CHANCE Program (TCP) is designed to recruit and retain academically qualified underrepresented candidates in need of enrichment and learning skills, from Chicago and Suburban communities, for admission to UIC. In addition, TCP facilitates access to the necessary academic activities and professional services that will enable them to persist and graduate, as well-prepared professionals for the 21st century.

**Commuter Student Resource Center**

Student Center East (SCE), Room 246  
312.413.8026  
http://www.commuter.uic.edu

**Counseling Services**

Student Services Building (SSB), Suite 2010
UIC Study Abroad Office *(Connecting You with the World)*
Through more than three hundred program opportunities on six continents, offering course work across all academic disciplines, the Study Abroad Office seeks to engage as many UIC students as possible in becoming intentional learners with enhanced global awareness.
Study Abroad students take pre-approved courses for UIC credit that allow them to stay on track with their degree requirements and graduate on time. Study Abroad is not an 'add-on'. It is part of the curriculum. Students can go abroad for a summer, semester, or year, and are able to go more than once. Many programs do not require a background in a foreign language where course work can be taken in English. Additionally, some programs are uniquely designed for specific courses and led by UIC faculty during the summer.

Whether for a short-term six-week summer program or for a semester or year, the cost of studying abroad does not need to be any higher than it would be staying on campus. Often, it costs far less. Since 2007, over one million dollars in scholarship and other funding has supported UIC students studying abroad.

Make the world your classroom. Stop by our office in 502 University Hall, talk to a Study Abroad advisor, and spend some time in our resource room full of program catalogs. You can also visit our website at [http://studyabroad.uic.edu](http://studyabroad.uic.edu) for all the information you'll need to get started. And be sure to 'like' us on Facebook [UIC Study Abroad].

**Office of Career Services**
Student Services Building (SSB), Suite 3050
312.996.2300
[http://careers.ocs.uic.edu](http://careers.ocs.uic.edu)

**Office of Student Financial Aid Services**
Student Services Building (SSB), Suite 1900
312.996.2515; [money@uic.edu](mailto:money@uic.edu)

**The Wellness Center**
The mission of the Wellness Center is to support student learning, academic success, and retention by providing wellness services that promote healthy attitudes and behaviors, empower students to make informed choices, and enhance holistic wellbeing.
Student Center East (SCE)
312.413.2120
[wellness@uic.edu](mailto:wellness@uic.edu)
Office of Undergraduate Research
The Office of Undergraduate Research provides inspiration and support for students of all majors interested in undergraduate research, scholarship and creative endeavors. We maintain the Undergraduate Research Experience website (ure.uic.edu), which includes a searchable database where students can find faculty working on subject of interest to them. We also administer the Chancellor’s Undergraduate Research Award (ure.uic.edu/research_awards.php), a research assistantship program that allows faculty to hire Federal Work Study students at no cost to their office or lab. We co-sponsor UIC’s Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Research Journal (journals.uic.edu/ojs/index.php/IURJ/index), the annual UIC Student Research Forum (http://research.uic.edu/srf), and Illinois Undergraduate Research Day (a.k.a. Posters Under the Dome) in the state capital of Springfield. We welcome visits to our weekly drop-in hours in our office in 2622 University Hall, where we help students and faculty identify additional funding sources, presentation venues and publication opportunities locally, nationally, and internationally. Please also invite us to give a presentation to your student group.

You can reach us at our@uic.edu, follow us on Twitter at @uicoureresearch or like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/UICUndergraduateResearch/

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Initiative (LASURI)
The UIC College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Undergraduate Research Initiative (LASURI) is a college-wide program that supports faculty-student research in the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities. Its mission is to make undergraduate research integral to teaching, learning, and scholarship in LAS by providing support to undergraduates and faculty involved in research collaborations. The competition is held once a year in the spring. It is limited to students and faculty in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) defines undergraduate research as mentored, self-directed work through which students explore a topic of interest and share the results of their work in accordance with disciplinary standards; therefore research projects may include a wide range of activities, including systematic inquiry and creative activity.

Depending on the project, a student’s work as an Undergraduate Research Assistant could involve helping with lab work, literature reviews, experiments, fieldwork, archival searches, document review, mapping, statistics, and more. While conducting research, students can expect to meet consistently with their Faculty Mentor throughout the semester and to spend 6-10 hours per week working on their research projects.

What's In It For You?
Doing research makes you better prepared for what happens in and out of the classroom. It gives you the opportunity to learn more - about yourself and the world - than you would in your normal course work. In addition, studies show that when students conduct research, they:
• feel more confident about their ability to do research and think like a scholar.
• develop strong working relationships with peers and professors.
• develop their communication skills, including reading, writing, and presenting their findings.
• gain clarity about post-college career plans.

In addition, conducting research outside of the classroom strengthens your resume and record of achievements. These are valuable benefits, whether you are working now, plan to apply to graduate or professional school, or intend to work immediately after graduation. For more information, please go to: http://www.unc.edu/depts/our/.

**Urban Health Program**
www.uic.edu/depts/uhealth

**Writing Center**
Grant Hall (GH), Room 100
312.413.2205, 312.413.2206

**Diversity Resources**

**African American Academic Network (AAAN)**
Suite 2800 Student Services Building (SSB)
312.996.5040
http://www.aaan.uic.edu

The African American Academic Network (AAAN) is a unique support program that assists UIC’s African American student population from admissions through graduation. Its mission is to supplement recruitment and increase retention and graduation rates of African American students. In keeping with that focus, AAAN is also committed to establishing an inclusive and supportive campus environment. AAAN sponsors academic, social, and cultural activities to encourage student engagement. AAAN provides comprehensive services in the following areas:

• Recruitment and admission counseling
• Academic advising
• Tutoring
• Personal growth and development
• Peer review groups

**Arab American Cultural Center**
111 Stevenson Hall
312-413-3253
https://arabamcc.uic.edu/
African American Cultural Center
Addams Hall (AH), Room 209
312.996.9549
http://www.uic.edu/depts/

Asian American Resource & Cultural Center (AARCC)
Taft Hall (TH), Room 101
312.413.9589 (telephone)
312.413.9732 (fax)
http://aarcc.uic.edu

Disability Resource Center
Student Services Building (SSB), Room 1190
312.413.2183 Voice
312.957.4822 Video Phone
312.413.7781 FAX
drc@uic.edu
Video Relay Service hearing persons can call 312.957.4822

Gender and Sexuality Center
Behavioral Sciences Building (BSB) Room 1180 (first floor)
312.413.8619
http://www.gsc.uic.edu

Latin American Recruitment and Educational Services (LARES)
Student Services Building (SSB), Suite 2400
312.996.3356
http://www.uic.edu/depts/lares

Latino Cultural Center
Lecture Center B2
312.996.3095
http://uic.edu/depts/lcc

The Native American Support Program (NASP)
2700 Student Service Building (SSB)
312.996.4515
TRIO
2750 Student Services Building (SSB)
312.996.5046
TRIO/Academic Support Program extends service to students from low-income families, students with disabilities, and/or students who are the first generation in their families to attend college. Applicants also must have been admitted to UIC and demonstrated a need for academic support. Admission is limited to 160 participants. The TRIO/ASP is partially funded by the United States Department of Education.

Women’s Leadership and Resource Center
312.413.1025
http://www.uic.edu/depts/owa

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I maintain my President’s Award Program scholarship eligibility?
To maintain your PAP scholarship, you are required to complete an activity contract for fall and spring semesters, as well as participate in mandatory events and other designated activities while enrolled at UIC. In addition, you are expected to earn a minimum 2.75 grade point each semester. It is highly recommended that students strive for 3.00 (or higher) grade point average to be competitive in a global world.

What happens if I do not maintain the required grade point average for the scholarship?
A 2.75 cumulative grade point average is required and will be enforced. If you do not have a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 by end of end of the first year, you will be placed on scholarship probation, pending department policy. If the grade point is not earned by the deadline, your scholarship will be permanently removed from your financial award package. You may appeal this action in writing along with documentation of extenuating circumstances (ex., U.S. military service, illness, etc.). We encourage you to use the many academic resources available and to ask for help.

What happens if I do not complete all activities on my contract?
You risk losing your scholarship if you do not complete an activity contract for each semester. Please notify your designated college and the PAP Office immediately if you are having difficulty completing your contract. Please do not wait until the end of the semester to let us know. We are willing to work with you.

How is my PAP scholarship disbursed?
Disbursement of financial aid/scholarship is typically 10 days before the start of each semester (fall/spring). All aid will disburse to student account at each semester (if student completes all requirements) and if aid is greater than student account (billing balance) University Student Financial Services and Cashier Operations (USFSCO) will issue the student a refund. For refunds, students are required to enroll in the Direct Deposit program with USFSCO. For more information on disbursement, students can also visit http://www.uic.edu/depts/financialaid/disbursement.shtml.

**Does my scholarship amount increase if I am admitted to the Honors College in the future?**

As a designated PAP Scholar, your scholarship amount of $5,000 will remain the same.

**What is required if I am participating in the PAP STEM Initiative?**

As a PAP STEM initiative participant, you are must complete all President’s Award Program requirements as outlined in addition to PAP STEM expectations.

**What is academic probation?**

Academic probation is a warning that the student’s performance falls below the institution’s requirement for “good academic standing.” Academic standing is most often measured by GPA (grade point average), but may also be determined by academic progress, or the number of credits completed. It is possible, at some schools, that a student may have a decent GPA, but may have dropped or withdrawn from too many courses during the semester. At UIC, students are expected to maintain a 2.00 (C) average or higher. Each college’s policy may be slightly different, and is explained in the college’s online catalog.

Probation is a serious step on the part of the college. It is official acknowledgement that the student is in jeopardy of being dismissed if the difficulty persists. It is not necessarily meant to be punitive, but rather to serve as a wake-up call that the student needs to make some changes. Students on academic probation are expected to take steps to improve their situation. They may be required to attend workshops in study skills or to meet regularly with an advisor. Students on probation are often ineligible to play on sports teams, and scholarships may be in jeopardy. Students usually have a certain timeframe, often one semester, to raise their academic performance.

Students may find themselves on academic probation for a number of reasons. Some students are unprepared for the difficulty of college work. Some students have poor study habits and time management skills. Some students may be negatively influenced by peers or by campus culture. They may be spending too much of their time socializing or drinking. Students may be unmotivated or in a course of study that is too difficult or doesn’t interest them. Some students simply do not want to be in college or have not become engaged in their college experiences. For some students, poor academic performance may be a symptom of greater problems. In this case, students and their parents may need to consider counseling or other help (Source sited College Parents of America online).
Where can I go for assistance with my courses?
There are many resources to assist students. First, talk with your professors to clarify what you should be learning in your classes. Seek assistance from your college and programs listed in this handbook. Ask for help early!

How should I study?
Please plan a three-hour block of time to study effectively and use the 50 +10 model. This means to study 50 minutes and break 10 minutes until the three hours are up. If you cannot study 50 minutes continuously, do 30 minutes and break 10 minutes and build up to the 50-minutes technique. Study the most difficult or boring subjects first because they usually require more time and energy. Do not study when you are overly tired or hungry. Take a 30-minute nap or have a light snack to replenish your energy level. Remember, time + energy = EFFORT!

Where is the best place to study?
If you are living in a residence hall or at home, do not attempt to study where you sleep. Find a place with minimum distractions and noise (no TV, loud music, texting). A good place is the library and designated areas on campus that are conducive to effective study. At home, study at the kitchen table but not during meal time.

Should I work?
Do you need to work? Are you working to pay for college? It is recommended that students do not work their first semester in college to allow time to adjust the rigorous academic environment and to develop effective time management and study skills.

However, if you must work, please find a job on campus because your employer will probably be more supportive of your academic goals. If you work off campus, please do not exceed 20 hours a week. It has been documented that first year students working 20 hours or more a week have a difficult time studying and earning good grades. Be advised that you are a student first.

Why is time management so important to my success?
Time management is the cornerstone of your success. It is how you manage yourself to maximize the 24 hours that you have each day. First, you actually need 7 to 8 hours of sleep to maintain good health, which includes a balanced diet, regular exercise and rest. You will have 15 to 16 hours of time to go to class, study, work, play, rest and relax. Get a UIC Daily Planner or make a weekly schedule to keep track of your time and things you need to do. Stick to your schedule and always plan some fun activities. Time management helps to reduce stress and stops procrastination.

What is procrastination?
Everyone at time experiences procrastination. Procrastination is putting off doing things until the last minute, especially difficult tasks that college brings. Good study habits help to overcome procrastination. Don’t let procrastination hijack your success!

How to tackle procrastination:
- Make a list of everything you have to (school, work, study, etc.).
- Prioritize the list with the most important tasks first (like attending class and studying).
- Estimate the amount time it will take to complete each task (only 24 hours in a day).
- Break down difficult tasks into smaller (manageable) tasks.
- Set realistic goals.
- Treat yourself to a reward when a task is complete.

**How is college different from high school?**
You probably have heard this statement before, “college is different from high school.” This statement is true. College is not high school and it is not the 13th grade. In college, you have more autonomy and greater responsibility. You are expected to take responsibility for your actions, as well as for the consequences of your decisions. College is a learning environment in which you take responsibility for thinking through and applying what you have been taught. It is up to you to read and understand assigned material, lectures, and assignments. Make good choices!

**How to make the transition to College?**
- Take control of your own education: you are a scholar!
- Get to know your professors; they are your single greatest resource.
- Be assertive. Create your own support systems.
- Ask for help!
- Take advantage of the academic support at UIC (AAAN, ACE, Honors College, LARES, Math Learning Center, MERRP, etc.).
- Take control of your time. Keep a weekly schedule. Plan ahead to satisfy academic obligations and make room for everything else.
- Make thoughtful decisions: don’t take a course just to satisfy a requirement, and don’t drop any course too quickly.
- Think beyond the moment: set goals for the semester, the year and your college career.

“Surround yourself with people who will take you higher.” ~ Oprah Winfrey

**Best wishes and study!**
Dear Fellow PAP Students,

Letters from President’s Award Program Alums
My name is Darlin Oliva. I am a UIC Alum (Class of 2018); I graduated with a degree in Economics and double minored in Finance and Mathematics. As I look back at all I have accomplished these past years, I am thrilled to be able to advise you. I was the captain of the UIC Dance Team as well as the treasurer of my sorority: Phi Sigma Sigma. I was also a student in the Honors College and a PAP First Semester Mentor.

If there is one piece of advice you can take from me, it is to get involved within the university from the start. Becoming involved within the university will give you the best experience possible, as well as provide you with leadership opportunities from which you can grow. Involvement helped me become more organized, and it helped me practice good management skills. Because I knew I was busy, I used any available time wisely and learned to plan ahead. For me, being involved prevented procrastination, as there was no time for that in my schedule.

While I was a student I was asked several times how I managed to be involved in many activities on campus, while still excelling academically. My answer was always the same: “I owe it all to my planner.” In order to organize my weeks in advance, I took full advantage of my planner. Using a planner is something I highly recommend so that you may write everything down. You will soon learn that professors rarely remind students when assignments are due, or when quizzes or exams will happen; these dates will be noted on your syllabi. The best investment students can make while in college is a planner. I guarantee this will reduce stress.

Besides helping you practice time management skills, becoming involved has other advantages. Involvement looks great on resumes and these opportunities also serve as a balance for the academic rigor that your coursework will present. UIC is known as a commuter school; this can make it extremely difficult to make friends, because most students sprint out of campus when class ends. By becoming involved, you can find a group of individuals with common interests and goals—individuals who can assist you, working hand in hand towards success. These individuals are the ones who will help you find yourself throughout the years. I encourage you to take advantage of the involvement fairs and all the resources UIC has to offer. Don’t be afraid to ask for help, everyone here wants to see you succeed. I encourage you to make the most out of these next four years of your life, time will fly. I encourage you to grow.

Sincerely,

Darlin Oliva
BA Economics; Double Minor in Finance and Mathematics
Class of 2018
Dear PAP Scholar,

Being successful in your first year of college, and beyond, does not necessarily mean doing the same thing for everyone. We’ve all probably heard the usual advice, “don’t procrastinate,” “prioritize,” “study, study, study.” And while all this advice is useful, I’d like to offer a few more tips for when the above doesn’t necessarily work.

It is key that you understand that you will not always have it all together. There will be times when you’re so overwhelmed with assignments, work, sports, etc., that you will want to give up. But just remember to take it one day at a time. Give it your best. Don’t worry about competing against someone else. Your circumstances are different, and so are your goals. Make the best out of the time that you have and complete every task with great effort.

Even when trying your hardest, there will be instances where you won’t achieve everything the way you planned. When that happens, keep in mind that the outcome of our actions can sometimes be unexpected, but that doesn’t mean you’ve failed. It simply means you’re experiencing the real world. Enjoy not having full control, but still moving forward to make things work.

When you make a mistake, take full responsibility and follow the necessary steps to fix it. If you cannot fix it, then take a different route so you don’t make the same mistake again. It’s easier said than done, I know, but it’s not impossible. Learn to apologize and learn to forgive, but most of all, learn to move on.

Be willing to make sacrifices, whether it’s personal time, unnecessary purchases, or spending time with friends. Understand that no matter what path you take, you will have to give something up. If you learn to sacrifice certain things now, your transition from college to life as an adult will not come as that much of a shock to you.

Know that asking for help is a sign of good character, not weakness. Get tutoring if you need to. Speak to your mentors and advisors. Reach out to your professors and peers. And if you don’t need help, be the one to give it. Become a resource for your classmates. You will gain a lot from it.

Above all, as you start your first year in college, know that you have it in you to succeed. Allow yourself to be challenged. Allow yourself to be molded into an even better version of yourself. The outcome will be a good one.

My best wishes as you begin this new journey!

Sincerely,

Elizabet A. Bonilla, Class of 2016
Dear PAP Scholars,

Congratulations on graduating high school! I hope that in four years, many will be congratulating you for graduating college. Welcome to UIC. I believe you made a good choice in selecting a university, but there are a few things that I would like for you to know before you start attending.

To be successful, you need to ATTEND CLASS. Many professors do not take attendance; this especially applies to the big classes. Even though this is the case it is always best to actually go to class and take notes on the material that the professor talks about. Do not skip class to hang out in the quad with buddies because after a while, those days that you missed can become questions that you get wrong on your exams.

To be successful, you also need to TAKE TIME TO STUDY. Family and friends can become a distraction and both may want to have some time with you. Really, I can’t blame them; you are an amazing person (look how far you’ve come). There will be times that you must say no to others and take some time to study and do homework.

To be successful, you must ASK FOR HELP. There are many resources that are available to you. Just so you know – tutoring is for smart students! The Honors College, MERRP (SEO 12th floor), SES Science Learning Center, LARES, AAAN, and many other offices offer tutoring that can greatly help you. Besides those resources, the professors and TAs you have will have office hours, which you should use. Professors can many times come off as very serious and unreachable, but many are actually very helpful and appreciate students coming to talk to them. If you are hesitant to go see a professor, bring a friend for support.

To be successful, you should SCHEDULE ADVISING. For those of you who have chosen your major, it is a good idea to talk to your college and your major advisor to see what classes you should be taking in order to graduate in four years. When looking to schedule classes, keep your main goal in mind – graduation. Just a recommendation, do not take ONLY general education classes your first semesters; it is a good idea to distribute them throughout your semesters in order to have a balance with your more difficult classes.

Lastly, remember to MAKE FRIENDS. Good friends will help you get through college by supporting you if you need somebody to talk to but also, friends can make good study partners. If you have a reliable friend in class, you can help each other through the difficult concepts.

I really hope that you are more than successful in college and in the rest of your life.

Keila Valle, B.S., Biological Sciences, 2014
Dear PAP Scholars:

I would like to first congratulate you in becoming a new member of the UIC community and having successfully completed your high school years. As a recent Latina undergraduate, I wish to impart to you some of the wisdom given to me. I only ask that you read this letter with an open heart and that you remain completely honest with yourself.

To graduate from college is not impossible but to graduate as a successful student and as a future force to be reckoned with requires some of the following actions that you alone must continuously monitor and complete:

- Attend class every day. (even on those days where you want to sleep in or feel that attending is not important)
- Force yourself to ask the professor questions. (during class or during his/her office hours)
- Do not wait until the last minute to study and complete your assignments. (college assignments are NOT like high school assignments and thus require more work to maintain an A grade)
- Attend at LEAST one office hour for each professor that you have. (even if it is just to introduce yourself)
- When having trouble OF ANY KIND, seek help! (seeking help does not make you weak but wise enough to utilize the resources freely provided to you)
- In times of struggle remember that you were accepted into UIC and UIC saw something special in you.
- Have a visual of what your ultimate goal is to keep you motivated.
- Do NOT forget to schedule in some fun. (a balanced life is a happy life)
- Keep an updated schedule and USE that assignment notebook
- Remember where your priorities are. (good undergraduate years lead to a career whereas part-time positions are opportunities to enhance one’s skills and experiences)
- Do not make any hasty decisions. (regardless of its nature: academic, fun, or otherwise)

The beauty and trap with college is that you are held SOLELY responsible for your future and your actions, regardless of having family support or not. These are the years to really test who you are and to narrow down your passions to identify a life-long career. Now it is up to you to balance all aspects of your life to ensure a successful and fun college experience. Remember that you are SOLEY responsible but that you are never alone here at UIC. You have the right to ask for help of any kind.

YOU have what it takes to become a force to be reckoned with if you choose to do so, on a daily basis. Welcome to UIC and welcome to the start of your life as an adult. I wish you all the best in your endeavors here at UIC and out in the real world.

Sincerely,

Vanessa Afre
Master of Teaching, May 2014
Double Major in Anthropology and Psychology, 2013
PAP Scholars,

You are about to embark on another chapter in your life. It may seem new and exciting for some more than others. You will be challenged academically and socially. With that said, I hope the following words of wisdom find you well.

Whether you’re a commuter or you’re living on campus, networking connections are vital to a successful future. Being a part of the President’s Award Program, you are already part of a family, a resource of experience and people to help you transition through your first year. Whether they are faculty, study buddies, or soul mates, they are the ones to reach out because you’ll never know what that connection could turn into. On the very first day of each class, sit next to someone and casually feel out the situation. If you feel like they’re someone you want to study with, just ask if they want to form a study group. Trust me when I say, studying in groups is much more fun, efficient, and less stressful. Work can be split up and great friendships can form. And once you make these connections, stay in touch; maintain regular meetings, at least once a semester just to touch base with each other. You never know when you will need a recommendation letter or advice. An old saying, “It’s not what you know, it’s who you know that will get you far in life.”

New experiences and opportunities will bombard you left and right. Depending on how many you decide to take on, always remember what you’re here for: school. To make an informed decision, ask yourself if the following activity has any future benefit and if it brings you happiness. There are lifelong opportunities such as Greek life and there are clubs that pertain to your major and area of study. After you complete the core classes of your major, opportunities such as research may become available.

As for classes, be cautious of which classes you pair together. If you’re dedicated in trying research earlier in your college career, you are going to have to get through those core classes early. From personal experience, I could not handle the heavy course load, and if I could take it back, I would split the course load and take a mix of gen-ed courses with major core classes. Although these gen-eds are usually 100 level classes, do not treat them lightly. Professors are aware of how students disregard the difficulty of their classes and decide to make the class a little bit more challenging for the underestimating folks. For those that have a career in mind, please carefully research that field by talking to those in the profession. Make sure it’s really what you want to do because it would be a tragedy if you succeed in your academic career and reach dream job only to learn that it was not what you expected it to be.

We all have our ups and downs. There may be times where you will encounter a mid-college crisis and wonder if your major or career choice is right for you. You may start to realize that your classes are not what you expected them to be. This all leads to me saying it’s okay being indecisive. I recently learned that your career is not defined by your undergraduate degree. Explore your interests, talk to professionals in their respective fields, talk to Mary! Talking to different people has reassured me that my goals are still attainable with regards to my subpar grades. Just remember, “Everything happens for a reason.”

Victor Chan (Class of 2012)
Dear President’s Award Program Scholars,

Congratulations! Pat yourselves on the back for being accepted to a university recognized by its world-class education, progressive research and diverse student body—the University of Illinois at Chicago. I am Danté Brown, a past PAP scholar. I graduated in 2012 from UIC with a bachelor’s in Kinesiology and will be a Spring 2016 graduate of UIC College of Dentistry. From experience I know that a challenging, yet very robust and fulfilling undergraduate experience awaits each of you!

The road of an undergraduate student is academically, socially and financially demanding, but I want each of you to remember that you WILL meet those demands. For example, I struggled academically my first three semesters as an undergraduate student. There were countless occasions where I would study for hours and still not understand the concepts I was trying to learn; I simply wanted to give up on school. During my freshman year, being the only African-American male in my laboratory sections would affect me psychologically. In addition to this, my mother was laid off before the start of my sophomore year and I had to work in order to pay for my room and board expenses. However, with time came confidence. I stopped doubting my intellectual abilities and began to realize that my peers and I were academically on the same playing field. As time progressed, I learned how to juggle school, my job as a resident assistant, and a social life. While at UIC you may fail some exams, struggle financially or even go through tough personal relationships, but keep in mind that with confidence and self-motivation you will overcome any obstacle that stands in the way of your education.

As each of you begin your undergraduate career I would like to offer three pieces of advice. First, embrace the diversity UIC offers. When I opened my mind to the various ethnic, religious, economic, and sexuality differences amongst the students at this institution I not only enriched my academic experience, but I unknowingly prepared myself for real world interactions. Second, become an involved student in the UIC community. Campus involvement is the best solution to take away the monotony of classes and studying. Being involved gave me a sense of “purpose” that I hope each of you will experience. Most importantly, surround yourself with like-minded students who are also striving for success. You can find this trait in your fellow PAP scholars. All of you are exemplary students and are capable of motivating one another to the finish line.

Like myself, I want each of you to look back at your undergraduate years at UIC and be able to say things like, “All of my hard work paid off” and “I’m a well-rounded person because of this experience”. Remember, this can only be done by conquering any fears of failing and having a commitment to stay indulged with your UIC community. You will only have one undergraduate experience so make it meaningful and worthwhile!

Danté Brown, Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD), 2016, UIC College of Dentistry
B.S. Kinesiology, 2012
Dear Class of 2022,

My name is Kimberly Clark, and I was in the first President’s Award Program class in 1985. The Program was a little different then, and it was a definitely a contributing factor in my collegiate success. Knowing that the President of the University had a vested interest in my success was amazing. You now have that same support, a different President, but a support system none-the-less.

In order to take full advantage of this opportunity, I would recommend the following to you.

Accept support: Everyone can benefit from help. Be open-minded about and to opportunities to improve.

Give support: Sometimes your opportunities for growth come from helping someone else. Be generous with your talents.

Network: Extend yourself and meet other people. There are times when “who knows you” is more beneficial than “whom you know”.

Find a mentor: While you are networking identify someone who does something (or behaves in some way) that you want to learn. Ask them to teach you that skill.

Make a plan: College can be successfully navigated in 4 years. Find out what you need to do to make that your reality. A plan to graduation should be made your first semester, not your last.

Be diligent: You are responsible for your success. Be a part of the community, work your plan and help others work theirs. Be responsible to yourself and your education, and hold others accountable to their responsibilities as well.

Wishing you much success!

Kimberly Clark, PhD
UIUC, BS 1989; MEd 1998; PhD 2002