



**Northern Illinois
University**

Guaranteed Admission Agreement Between Northern Illinois University And Rend Lake College

The Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University on behalf of Northern Illinois University ("Northern Illinois University") and Rend Lake College ("Rend Lake College") agree to a cooperative relationship through this Guaranteed Admission Agreement ("Agreement") to better serve students and facilitate the transfer process.

The Guaranteed Admission Program ("Program") offers Rend Lake College students guaranteed admission to Northern Illinois University to complete their Bachelor's degrees. Students must meet all of the requirements outlined in this Agreement to guarantee their admission to Northern Illinois University.

Now, therefore, Northern Illinois University and Rend Lake College agree as follows:

1. Academic Requirements

- a. Students must have graduated from high school (as evidenced by a high school diploma or GED), completed a minimum of twenty-four (24) transferable semester credit hours and maintained a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale on all transferrable course work taken at Rend Lake College and all colleges/universities attended prior to admission to the Program.
- b. Students are expected to enroll and complete general education and coursework required for admission into Northern Illinois University's degree program. Courses numbered lower than 100-level and courses not deemed transferable are not included in this Agreement. Students are eligible for the reverse transfer credit process (see section 3.c of this Agreement).
- c. Students on a non-immigrant visa must have completed both ENGL 1101 and ENGL 1102 with grades of C or higher to meet the English proficiency requirements of Northern Illinois University. Students will not need to submit separate proof of English proficiency at the time of application.

2. Admission Requirements

- a. As a requirement for participation in the Program, students must provide Northern Illinois University and Rend Lake College with a signed, written authorization to disclose to the



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other institution the students' educational records, including, but not limited to, academics, admission, financial aid, and advising information, as appropriate. By signing the Guaranteed Admission Program Participation Form, students agree to allow the two institutions to share information and to allow the students to take advantage of the Guaranteed Admission Program of the reverse transfer credit process.

- b. Students must be in good standing at Rend Lake College at the time of transfer. Students must adhere to each institution's standard policies and procedures, including, but not limited to, those dealing with admission, enrollment in courses, transfer credits, financial aid, student conduct and discipline, academic probation, dismissal and re-entry.
- c. Students who achieve a transferrable GPA of 3.20 on a 4.0 scale will have guaranteed admission to the University Honors Program at Northern Illinois University. Additional application materials are required to be admitted to the University Honors Program.
- d. During enrollment in the Program, Northern Illinois University will provide advisement to students to discuss academic program requirements and transfer credit policies. It is recommended that students track their degree progress by working with their transfer advisors at Rend Lake College and Northern Illinois University.
- e. Students are eligible to transfer into more than fifty-six (56) undergraduate degree programs at Northern Illinois University. "Limited Admission" degree programs may have a higher GPA requirement and will have an additional application process to be considered. Admission to Northern Illinois University does not guarantee admission into "Limited Admission" programs. The full list of "Limited Admission" programs can be found at: <http://go.niu.edu/limited> or catalog.niu.edu/content.php?catoid=25&navoid=918. Students may be classified as "**pre-majors**" until they have satisfied additional requirements, which may include specific course work, minimum grade point averages, supplementary documents, and sophomore or junior standing.
- f. Students may qualify for Northern Illinois University scholarships.

3. Other Terms

- a. **Regular Admissions:** Failure to meet the requirements of the Program does not preclude any student from applying and being considered for admission to Northern Illinois University using the traditional admission process.
- b. **Communications:** Northern Illinois University and Rend Lake College will communicate the terms of this Agreement through appropriate literature and web sites. No party will issue any press release or other public announcement relating to this Agreement or use the other party's name, marks or any other trade designations without the prior written



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approval of such party, which approval may be withheld for any reason. Students may receive communications from Northern Illinois University informing them of presentations, workshops, activities, student events and visits.

- c. **Reverse Transfer:** By means of a separate memorandum of agreement, at Rend Lake College's request, Northern Illinois University will facilitate the transfer of credit back to Rend Lake College if students transfer to Northern Illinois University before completing an associate's degree. The reverse transfer process Rend Lake College to award degrees following student transfer.
- d. **Personally Identifiable Information:** Authorized employees of Northern Illinois University and Rend Lake College will have access to personally identifiable information about students participating in the Program. Northern Illinois University and Rend Lake College agree that their respective authorized employees will have a legitimate educational interest in the records of participating students. The parties shall take reasonable steps to ensure that their respective counselors, employees, administrators, and sub-contractors assigned to the Program maintain the confidentiality of all student information as required by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") and protect such information from unauthorized access, destruction, use, modification and disclosure. Neither party will disclose personally-identifiable information to any other party without the prior consent of the applicable student. Each party shall immediately notify the other party in the event of any actual, potential or threatened breach of its obligations under this Agreement, and will take all necessary and appropriate actions to restrain any and all use or disclosure of such confidential and personal information. Each party shall be liable for not taking appropriate action to restrain any and all use or disclosure of such confidential and personal information. Each party shall also be liable for failing to provide a notice of any actual, potential or threatened security breach to the other party. This provision shall survive termination or expiration of this Agreement.
- e. **Term & Termination:** The initial Term of this Agreement shall begin on the date this Agreement is last signed and will be effective for one (1) year thereafter. This Agreement shall automatically renew for one (1) year terms unless six (6) months' written notice of termination is given by either party to this Agreement. Either party may terminate this Agreement immediately if the other party commits a material breach of this Agreement. Either party may terminate this Agreement at any time without cause by providing at least six (6) months' written notice to the other party. This Agreement may be cancelled at any time by mutual agreement of the parties. Should this Agreement be terminated for any reason, it is understood that any student participating in the Program at the time of termination will be guaranteed transfer into Northern Illinois University provided such student satisfies all Program requirements.
- f. **Non-Discrimination:** Each party represents that it shall not discriminate against any



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student on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age or physical ability.

- g. **Northern Illinois University Catalog and Policies:** Northern Illinois University agrees to provide guaranteed admission based on representations made by students in any required documentation completed by students and on the terms contained in this Agreement, Northern Illinois University's Undergraduate Catalog, and other University policies and regulations, all as may be amended from time to time, which are incorporated by this reference. In case of discrepancies between this Agreement, any University departmental information or Northern Illinois University's Undergraduate Catalog, the Undergraduate Catalog is considered definitive.
- h. **Indemnification:** Subject to the limitations of applicable Illinois law, including the Court of Claims Act and the State Employee Indemnification Act, Northern Illinois University agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold the Rend Lake College, its affiliates, trustees, directors, officers, faculty, employees, and agents, past or present, harmless from and against all claims, causes of action, fees, liabilities, damages, expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees) and costs relating to or arising from or based upon the negligent or willful acts or omissions of Northern Illinois University, its employees, or its agents. The Rend Lake College agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold Northern Illinois University, its affiliates, trustees, directors, officers, faculty, employees, and agents, past or present, harmless from and against all claims, causes of action, fees, liabilities, damages, expenses (including reasonable attorney's fees) and costs relating to or arising from or based upon the negligent or willful omissions of the Rend Lake College, its employees, or its agents.
- i. **Independent Contractors:** In the performance of this Agreement, both parties are at all times acting as independent contractors and none of them nor their respective employees shall claim to be employees, partners, joint ventures, or agents of any other.
- j. **Costs & Expenses:** Each institution will be responsible for its own costs and expenses incurred in connection with the fulfillment of its obligations under this Agreement.
- k. **Headings:** The section headings contained in this Agreement are for reference purposes only and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement.
- l. **Survival:** Anything herein to the contrary notwithstanding, the provisions of this Agreement relating to indemnification and any other provisions which by their nature should survive termination or expiration of this Agreement, shall so survive.
- m. **Assignment:** No party may assign this Agreement or any right or duty under this Agreement, or subcontract to any other person, entity or agency the performance of any of its obligations under this Agreement, without the prior written consent of the other party, which can be withheld at its discretion.



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- n. **Severability:** If any of the provisions of this Agreement are determined to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, such provisions shall be severed from the agreement, and the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and effect; provided, however, that with respect to any material provision so severed, the parties shall negotiate in good faith to achieve the original intent of such provision.
- o. **Compliance with Law:** The parties will comply with all applicable laws and regulations in performing their obligations hereunder.
- p. **Governing Law:** This Agreement shall be interpreted and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Illinois.
- q. **Entire Agreement:** This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes the parties' prior agreements, understandings and discussions relating to the subject matter of this Agreement. It may not be modified, amended, supplemented, or otherwise changed, except by a written agreement signed by the parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Northern Illinois University and Rend Lake College have caused this Agreement to be signed by their authorized representatives below:

Board of Trustees of
Northern Illinois University

Lisa C. Freeman, D.V.M., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President and Provost

Date 1-9-17

Rend Lake College

Terry Wilkerson
President

Date 11-8-16