

Twelve Reasons to Stay in Illinois

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**ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Illinois' first public university



4,627

Whoa! That's a **big** number.

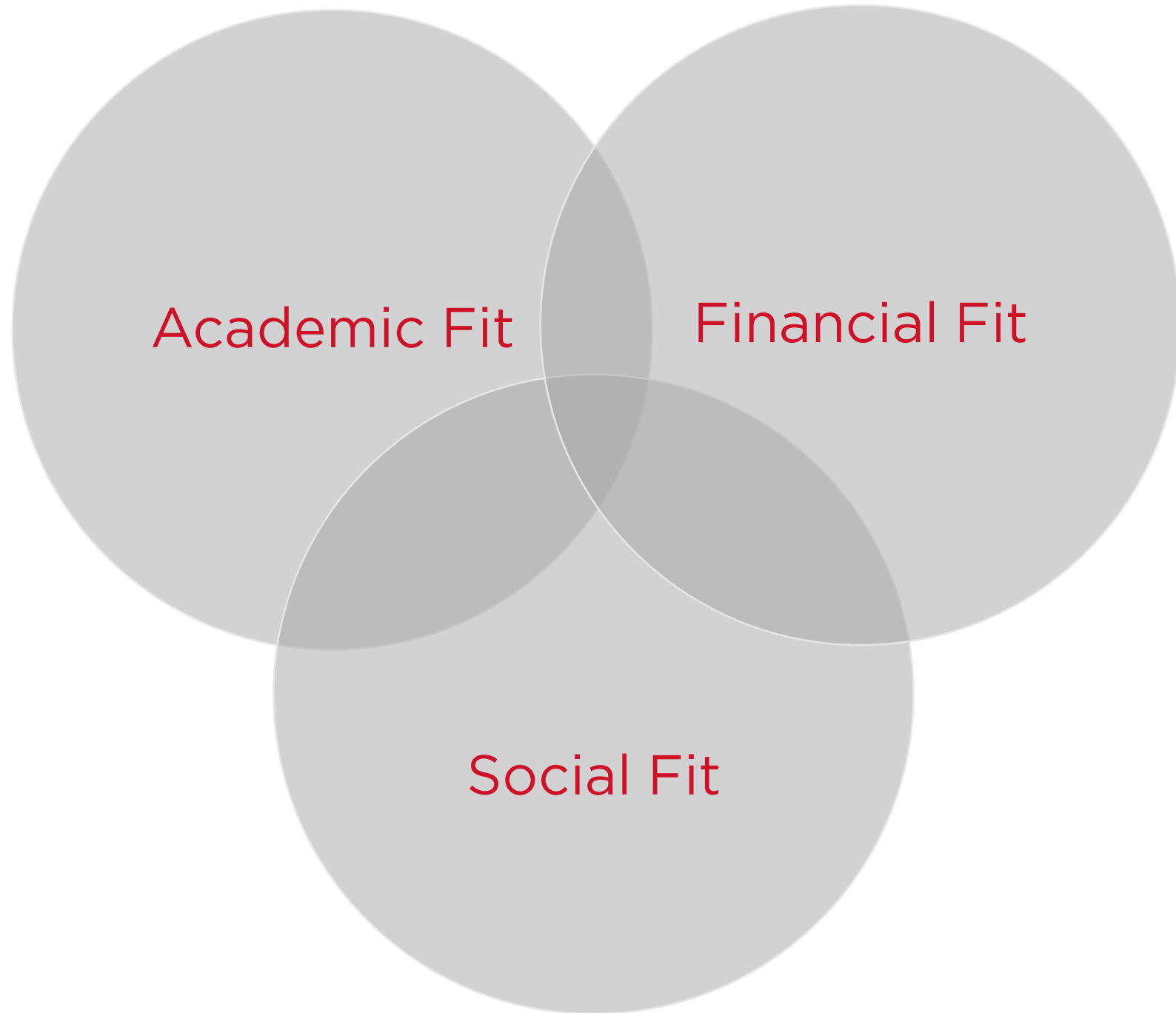


“It’s not about finding the BEST college...
It’s about finding the RIGHT college.”

- Admissions Proverb

12 Public Universities in Illinois





Academic Fit

Financial Fit

Social Fit

Academic Fit - Program

33%

of students enter college as Undeclared

Academic Fit - Program

	CSU	EIU	GSU	ISU	NEIU	NIU	SIUC	SIUE	UIC	UIS	UIUC	WIU
Graphic Communications Technology		●		●								●
Industrial Technology	◐	●		●		●	●					◐
Information Systems Technology				●			●					●
Renewable Energy		◐		●		◐						●
Tool & Manufacturing Technology		◐		●		●						◐
ENGLISH & LITERATURE												
Comparative Literature				●		◐					●	
Creative Writing/Editing	◐	◐		●	◐	◐	◐		●	●	●	◐
Linguistics				●	◐	◐	●		◐	●	●	
Professional & Technical Writing	◐	◐		◐		◐	◐		●	●	●	◐
Publishing Studies				●								
Rhetoric & Composition		●		●					●	●	●	
LANGUAGES												
Arabic	●			●	●	●			◐	●	◐	●
Chinese	◐			◐		◐	◐		◐	●	●	
Classics									●		●	

State Universities in Illinois – At a Glance 2018-2019

<https://www.iacac.org/state-universities-illinois/>

Academic Fit - Program

Many top academic programs in the US and World are located at a public university in Illinois. For example...

Illinois State University - Education

Northern Illinois University - Business

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign - Engineering

University of Illinois at Chicago - Psychology

Western Illinois University - Law Enforcement and Justice Administration

Academic Fit - Program

Illinois Public University Quality

Six-Year Outcomes for Students Age 20 or Younger at First Entry
Who Started at Four-Year Public Institutions, by Origin State

Illinois - 73%

National Average - 65%

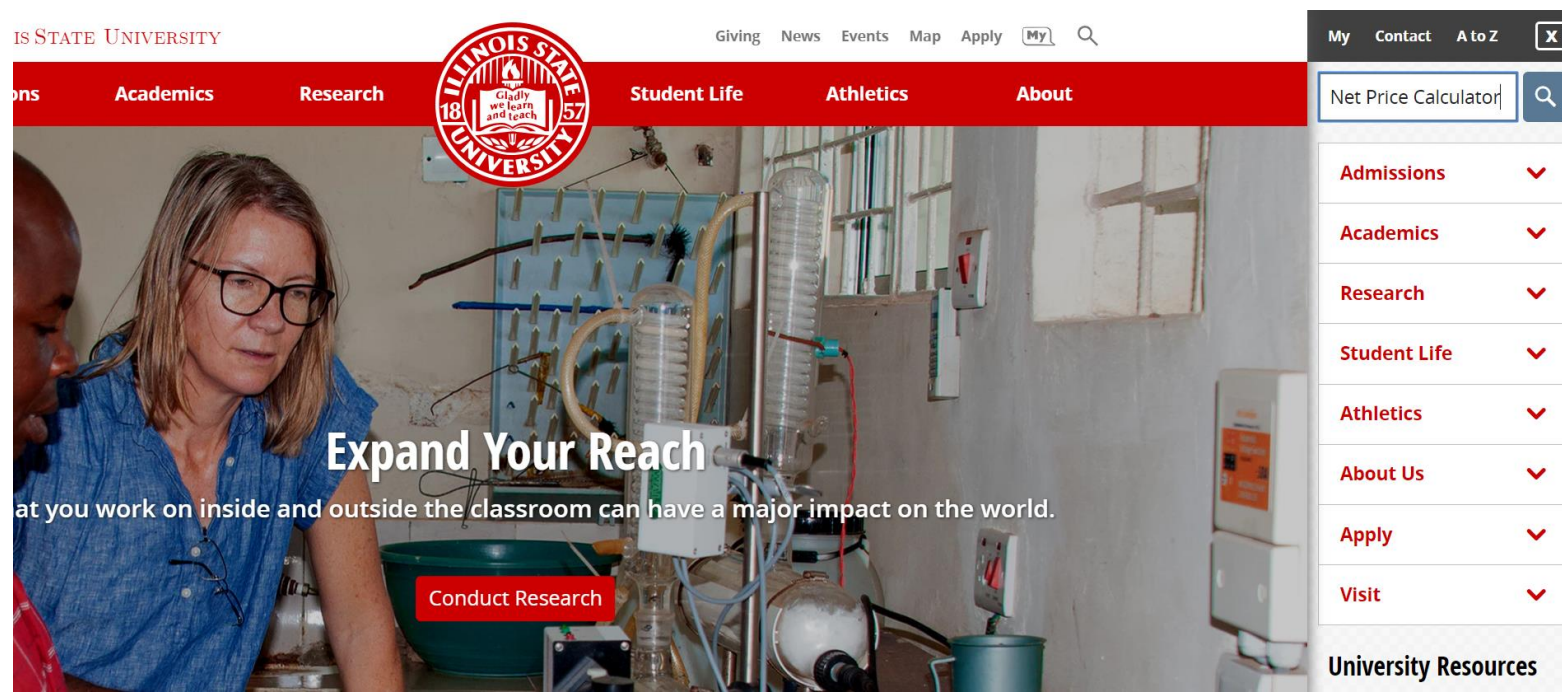
Academic Fit - Program

- 48 Illinois Community College – Chicagoland has some of the top in US
- Academic Advisor at CC and Transfer Admissions Counselors
- Associate's of Arts (A.A.) completes general education at ANY public university in Illinois
- Transfer Articulation Agreements
- Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI)
- Requirements listed on university websites
- Guaranteed Admission Programs at *some* 4-years in Illinois



Financial Fit – Price & Investment

- **Net Price** – A college’s sticker price for tuition and fees minus the grants, scholarships, and education tax benefits you receive
- Net Price will vary for each individual student and family
 - Family Income
 - School Profile
 - Student Academic Profile
 - Other Sources to Finance Education



The screenshot shows the Illinois State University website. The top navigation bar is red with white text for 'Academics', 'Research', 'Student Life', 'Athletics', and 'About'. The Illinois State University logo is centered in the navigation bar. To the right, there is a search bar with the text 'Net Price Calculator' and a magnifying glass icon. Below the search bar is a vertical menu with dropdown arrows for 'Admissions', 'Academics', 'Research', 'Student Life', 'Athletics', 'About Us', 'Apply', and 'Visit'. At the bottom of the page, there is a banner image of a woman in a lab setting with the text 'Expand Your Reach' and 'at you work on inside and outside the classroom can have a major impact on the world.' A red button labeled 'Conduct Research' is visible in the bottom left corner of the banner.

Financial Fit – Price & Investment

Gift Financial Assistance –

Does not need to be paid back/earned.

This includes:

- Federal, State, Institutional, or Non-Profit/Private Organization Grants
- All Scholarships (Private or Merit Based from the College/University)

Self-Funded Financial Assistance –

Paid back or earned at a later date

This includes:

- Federal Student Loans
- Federal Work Study or Campus Employment
- Private Student Loans

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
www.FAFSA.gov | Begin Applying October 1

Financial Fit – Price & Investment

- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
 - Process to access federal, state, and institutional financial aid to attend college
 - All families complete regardless of assumption of eligibility for aid
- Questions to Ask:
 - What is your tuition and fees rate?
 - Will I get a scholarship? Is it renewable? What can I use it for?
 - What is the average debt students have after graduation?
 - What is your loan default rate?

Illinois Student Assistance Commission

- State agency helping to make college accessible and affordable for Illinois students.
- Millions in gift-aid awarded to Illinois students to attend in-state
- Grants and Scholarships
 - MAP Grant
 - Targeted Scholarships
- Tuition Waiver Programs
- Prepaid Tuition Plan – College Illinois!
- Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) Completion



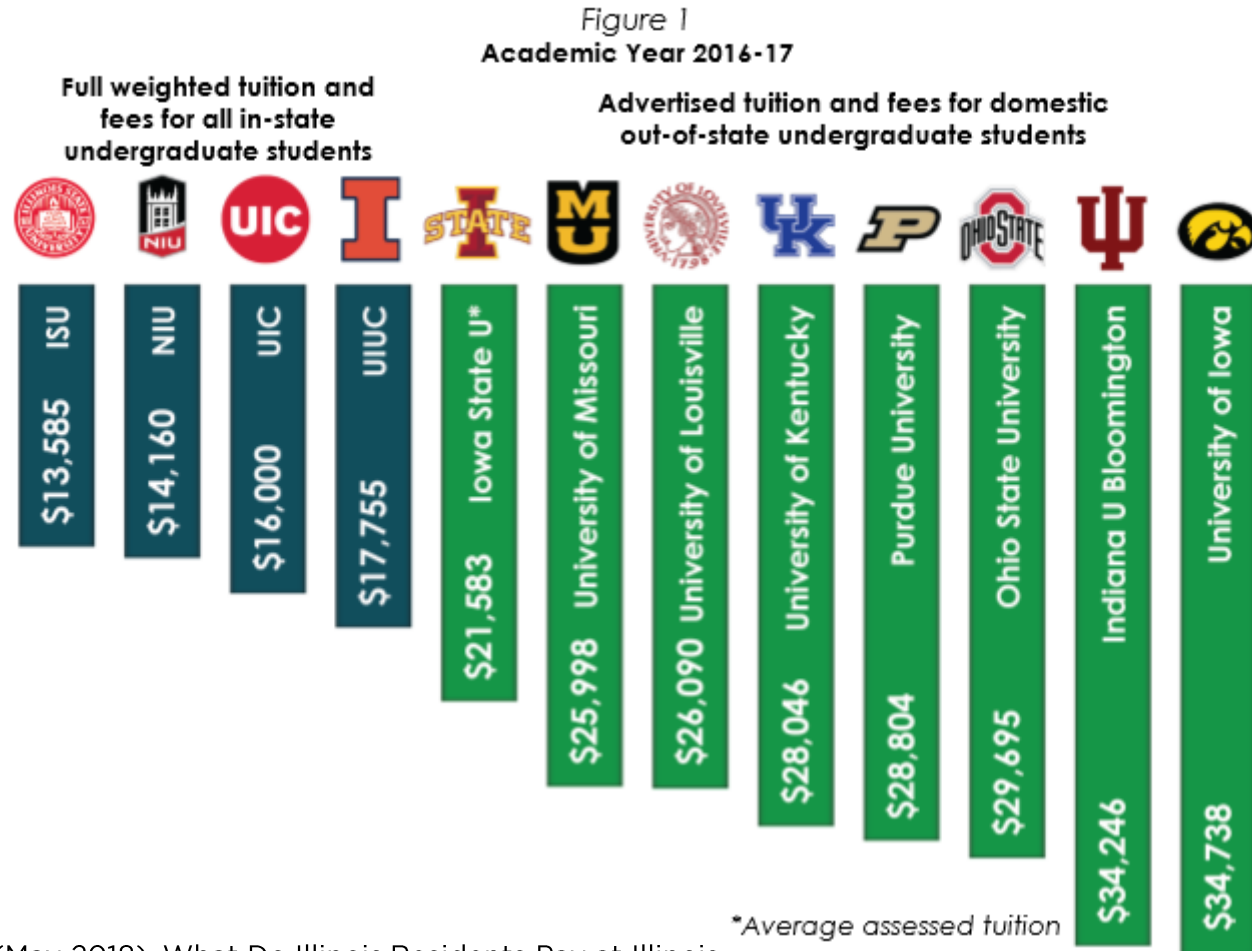
AIM High Grant Program

- Grant funded by the State of Illinois *Aspirational Institutional Match Helping Illinois Grow Higher Education* (AIM HIGH) Grant Pilot.
- Program designed to encourage students to attend an in-state university, improve college affordability, and reduce student debt.
- The AIM HIGH grant is renewable.
- AIM HIGH grant program is described in detail on the university's website - ACT/SAT and financial threshold for eligibility.
- Students applying for the AIM HIGH Grant Pilot Program and/or for the matching funding must file the FAFSA.

Truth in Tuition

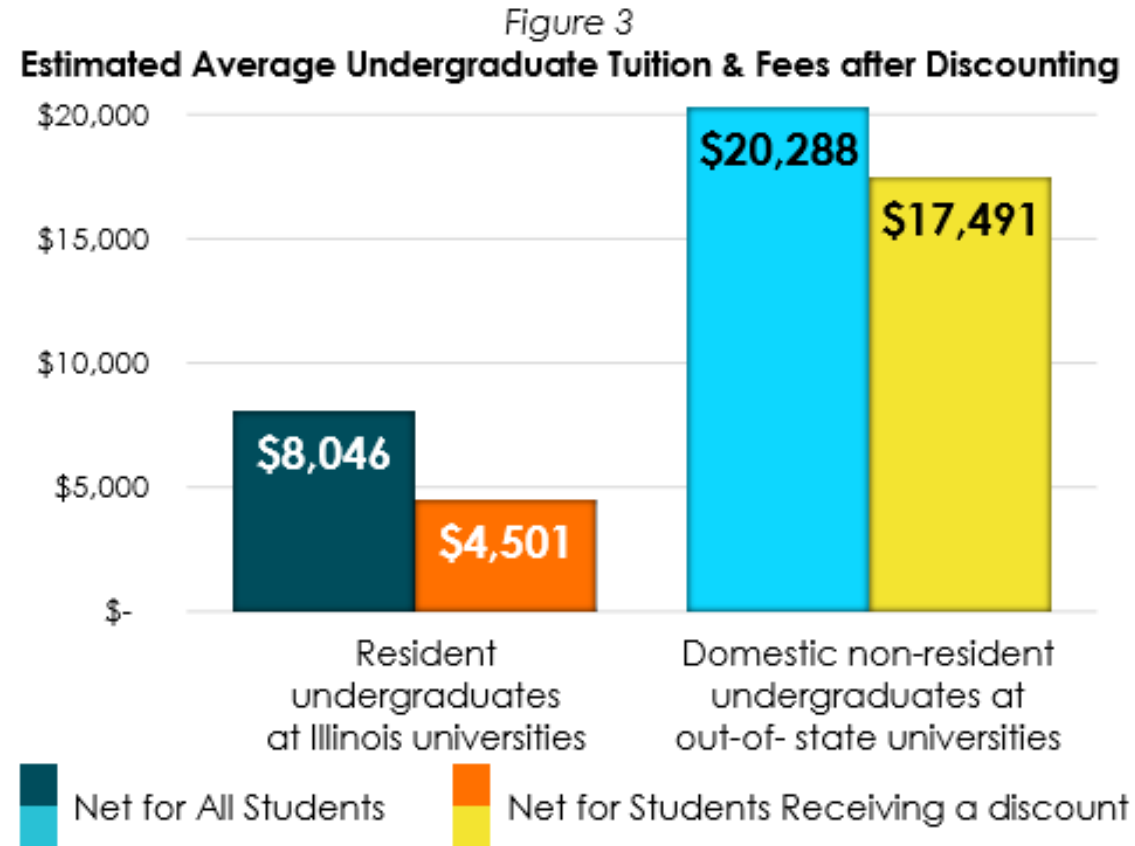
- Illinois Truth in Tuition Act 110 ILCS 675/20-125
- Undergraduate students receive a locked tuition rate
- Locked tuition rate begins the semester they are first enrolled based on a continuous calendar clock
- Tuition increases **only impact new incoming students**

Illinois Residents In-State v. Out-of-State



Source: Illinois Board of Higher Education. (May 2018). What Do Illinois Residents Pay at Illinois Public Universities Relative to Out-of-State Schools? (IBHE DataPoints 2018-7). Springfield, IL.

Illinois Residents In-State v. Out-of-State



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Social Fit - Place

College Town

- Illinois State University
- University of Illinois at Springfield
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Rural

- Eastern Illinois University
- Northern Illinois University
- Southern Illinois University – Carbondale
- Western Illinois Universities

Urban

- Chicago State University
- Northeastern Illinois University
- University of Illinois at Chicago

Suburban

- Governors State University
- Southern Illinois University – Edwardsville

Social Fit – Place and More

- Questions to Ask –
 - What is the community like around the school?
 - What is there to do on-campus and in the community?
 - Do you have the organization or a similar club I've been involved in?
 - How far will I need to travel to get to campus? Is there a bus or train?
- Tips for Your Campus Visit –
 - Plan an activity around your visit – basketball game, theater production, or a speaker on-campus. Check the university's calendar.
 - Pick up a student newspaper while on-campus
 - Visit the student center and ask a student about their experience and why they chose to attend the school you're visiting.

Takeaways

Academic Fit

Financial Fit

Social Fit

Questions



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Key Resources in Your Search:

College Scorecard

www.collegescorecard.gov

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Illinois Student Assistance Commission

www.ISAC.org