Dear Incoming Student:

Thank you for your request for information on the 2010-2011 Presidential Scholarship at Northern Illinois University. Enclosed you will find all of the necessary application materials to apply for the Presidential Scholarship. These awards are not automatic upon admittance to Northern Illinois University. You must apply to be considered. Due to the competitive nature of this process, we are unable to extend offers to all applicants who meet and/or exceed our recommended criteria.

Presidential Scholarships have been designated for high-achieving low income students. It is highly recommended that incoming freshmen applicants must exhibit a composite ACT score of 22 or higher and rank in the upper third (1/3) of their graduating class. To qualify as low income, Freshmen applicants must exhibit extreme economic hardship and be eligible for NIU Application Fee Waiver (http://www.niu.edu/admissions/appfeewaiver.pdf). Student admission records will be checked to see if a student applied for and was granted a fee waiver. If a student paid for NIU’s application fee, but meets the eligibility criteria to receive a fee waiver, he/she may still apply, but will need certification from his/her high school counselor (see application).

Eligible transfer candidates must have a cumulative grade-point average of 3.0 or higher and must have completed at least 24 transferable semester hours of college credit by February 1, 2010. To qualify as low income, transfer students must exhibit extreme hardship as evidenced by their current financial aid status. Transfer applicants are required to submit a copy of their 2009-2010 Student Aid Report (SAR).

All applicants must also apply for financial aid for the 2010-2011 academic year (and exhibit need) as well as possess outstanding academic ability as demonstrated by recognition at the state, regional, or national level and must have involvement in curricular and extra-curricular activities in their school or community. Applicants should be of a high moral and personal character.

The following materials must be submitted:

1. Application with the “Certification” section filled out by your institution’s Guidance Office or Office of Registration and Records.

2. Submission of detailed answers (in essay format) to the questions found on the application.

3. Submission of 1-2 letter(s) of recommendation from a teacher (or more than one teacher), preferably from the area in which you intend to major, who knows your abilities. This letter should be on institutional letterhead and be submitted in a sealed envelope, signed by your teacher.

4. Admission to Northern Illinois University by February 1, 2010. However, you do not need to be admitted in order to start the application process. We encourage you to submit your application well in advance of the February 1st deadline even if you have not yet received an admittance letter. If you have received your admittance letter prior to applying for the scholarship, please enclose a copy of it with your application materials. If you do not have your acceptance letter, we will verify your admission status internally, through NIU’s Office of Admissions, as of February 1, 2010.

5. Proof of financial eligibility. Freshmen students must submit verification of eligibility for an NIU Application Fee Waiver if they have not been granted a Fee Waiver by February 1, 2010. Transfer students must submit a copy of their current Financial Aid Student Aid Report (SAR). Freshmen students need not submit proof of extreme financial hardship as the Scholarship Office will verify the Application Fee Waiver status with the Office of Admissions.

We strongly recommend that all materials be submitted at the same time.

Please do not staple materials.

Do not use double sided copies.

Applications must be postmarked or faxed by February 1, 2010. It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all materials are submitted with a postmark dated no later than February 1. Please do not fax materials unless you cannot meet the February 1st deadline at your local post office. This date will be strictly enforced. All applicants will be notified by mail of the status of their application by late February/early March.
The Presidential Scholarship

The purpose of the scholarship is to attract low income students who are leaders both in and outside the classroom. Extracurricular involvement, difficulty of course work, writing skills, and letters of recommendation will be taken into consideration.

Presidential Scholarship
1. Presidential Scholarship recipients will receive up to $4000 to be applied towards tuition
2. The recipient is responsible for all remaining costs, including fees, books, meals, housing, personal expenses, etc.
3. This scholarship may be used for any recognized field of concentration offered by the university.
4. Students who maintain the standards necessary for renewal may be eligible to receive the scholarship for their entire undergraduate degree programs.

*Standards Necessary for Renewal
1. Students must participate in at least three extracurricular activities during the academic year.
2. Students must earn a minimum of 12 new NIU credits each semester in attendance (both fall and spring). Summer credits do not count.
3. Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or above in all NIU course work.
4. Students must continue to exhibit financial hardship per Financial Aid guidelines. All continuing recipients must apply for Financial Aid.
5. Transfer recipients are eligible for renewal up to the minimum number of semester hours needed to graduate from the university.

Please note that all recipients of state-funded scholarships and grants must have complied with Federal Selective Service regulations, Senate Bill 263.

All applications must be postmarked/ faxed (with time/date stamp) by February 1, 2010.

Northern Illinois University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, marital status, national origin, handicap, status as a disabled veteran or Vietnam-era veteran, or any other factor unrelated to professional qualifications, in employment or in admission or access to, treatment in, or operation of its educational programs and activities. Such discrimination is prohibited by Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act, Title IX of the Education Amendments, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Acts of 1974 and 1975, the Vietnam-Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, and other federal and state statutes and regulations. Inquiries concerning application of Title IX, Section 504, and other statutes and regulations may be referred to the affirmative action director, Lowden Hall 302, telephone (815) 753-1118, or to the director of the Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20024. The Constitution and Bylaws of Northern Illinois University afford equal treatment regardless of political views or affiliation, sexual orientation, or other factors unrelated to scholarly or professional performance (Constitution Article 9, Section 9.2; Bylaws Article 5, Section 5.211; Bylaws Article 7, Section 7.25 and Section 7.252; Bylaws Article 10: and Bylaws Article 18).

Interested Applicants can obtain forms from our website: www.scholarships.niu.edu or call 815-753-4829

Scholarship Office
Swen Parson 245
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois 60115
APPLICATION FOR 
**PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

Check one:  
- Incoming Freshman Applicant  
- Incoming Transfer Applicant

NAME  
(First)  (Middle)  (z-ID)  
NIU assigned z-ID #

NAME OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN  
(First)  (Middle)

HOME ADDRESS  
(Street)  (City)  (State)  (Zip)  (Telephone No.)

HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE  
ADDRESS  
(Street)  (City)  (State)  (Zip)

REFERENCE(S): List below the name(s) of the teacher(s) whom you will request to furnish a letter of reference, preferably individuals who know you well and within the subject of greatest interest.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(Instructor’s Name)</th>
<th>(Position)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EDUCATIONAL PLANS:  
Proposed occupation or profession

Expected departmental major at NIU

**Only incoming Freshmen students complete this section:**

**Certification by High School Counselor:** I certify that the information provided is correct at this time. Our records indicate the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank of Class Size</th>
<th>Minimum required ACT score of 22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ACT Composite Score/SAT V+M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If the student has not applied for an NIU application fee waiver, please verify the student’s financial eligibility by certifying that the student demonstrates extreme economic hardship by meeting one or more of the following categories: Applicant’s family received public assistance; Applicant’s total family income is at or below the maximum amounts set by the Bureau of Labor Statistics Low Standard Budget; Applicant resides in a foster home; Applicant participates in the free or reduced lunch program at the high school.; Applicant is a ward of the state.; Applicant qualifies for an ACT/SAT fee waiver.

Please initial (here) _______ if the applicant meets at least one of the aforementioned criteria pertaining to financial status. **IF YOUR STUDENT HAS APPLIED FOR AND HAS BEEN GRANTED AN NIU APPLICATION FEE WAIVER, YOU NEED NOT INITIAL**

Signature and Title of Certifying Officer  
Name of High School/College  
Date


Only incoming Transfer students complete this section:

**Certification by Your College’s Office of Registration and Records:** I certify that the information provided is correct at this time. 
Our records indicate the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester Hours completed</th>
<th>Cumulative G.P.A.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>as of 02/01/2010</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Minimum required is 24 TRANSFERABLE semester hours** Please indicate whether the hours listed are semester hours or quarter hours. * Hours that the student is currently enrolled in do not count towards this amount.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Signature and Title of Certifying Officer</th>
<th>Name of College</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Essay Section**

On a separate sheet of paper, please answer the following questions in essay format. Be certain to clearly label any attachments with your name and SSN in the upper right hand corner. *DO NOT STAPLE YOUR MATERIALS TOGETHER.*

1. What attracted you to Northern Illinois University?

2. What extracurricular activities are you currently involved in? How do you hope to contribute to Northern’s campus community outside the classroom?

3. Briefly describe your role in any extracurricular activities.

Please indicate if you are ALSO pursuing an “Athletic Scholarship” from NIU for the 2010 – 2011 school year

______ Yes _______ No

*Per NCAA regulations if you are pursuing an athletic scholarship in addition to an academic scholarship, your involvement in athletics will NOT be considered for the academic scholarship.*

4. How do you plan to make meaningful contributions to your community and society once you graduate from college?

5. How will this scholarship benefit you?

All applications must be postmarked/ faxed (with time/date stamp) by February 1, 2010.

Students will be contacted regarding their status via letter in late February/early March.

I hereby certify that the information provided in this application is to the best of my knowledge, true, and correct. I have not knowingly withheld any facts that could otherwise jeopardize consideration of application. I further understand that my academic, judicial, financial, and any other pertinent records will be verified by the appropriate school and university offices.

DATE:__________________________  SIGNATURE:____________________________________________________

RETURN FORM TO OUR MAILING ADDRESS:

Scholarship Office  
Swen Parson 245K  
Northern Illinois University  
DeKalb, IL 60115

ALL application materials must meet the February 1, 2010 postmark deadline.  
PH (815) 753-4829  
FAX (815) 753-4145