

## Questions and Answers

### Board of Governors Bachelor of Arts Degree Program

#### Northeastern Illinois University

Thank you for interest in the Board of Governors Bachelor of Arts Degree Program. It was our pleasure to present you with factual information about the program and to answer your questions at the Prospective Student Meeting. We hope the attached “**Questions and Answers**” about the Board of Governors Degree Program will help refresh your memory and answer additional questions you may have as you consider how the program can help you achieve your educational goals.

#### **ADMISSION, REGISTRATION AND ADVISEMENT QUESTIONS**

- Q.** Do I have to have prior college credit to be admitted to the Board of Governors Program?
- A.** No.
- Q.** What records must be submitted to the program office?
- A.** **Official transcripts** from **all accredited** institutions you previously attended (hand delivered and/ or student issued copies cannot be accepted), a copy of your **DD-214** (if you were in the military), official high school or GED transcript (if you have completed less than 30 semester hours of college credit), **a copy of both sides of your alien registration card** if you are not a U.S. citizen and a check or money order in the amount of \$25.00 (application fee – if you have not already done so) payable to **Northeastern Illinois University**.
- Q.** Do I have to submit new transcripts and other records if I am currently attending or have attended Northeastern in the past?
- A.** **If** all records are on file in the Enrollment Services Office you **do not** have to submit new ones. If admitted, you will be classified as an “Internal Transfer” student.
- Q.** When will I be notified of the status of my application?
- A.** You should receive correspondence from us in 4-6 weeks.
- Q.** What is the first thing I need to do once I receive this correspondence?
- A.** **CAREFULLY READ ALL OF THE MATERIALS AND FOLLOW**

## **INSTRUCTIONS.**

- Q.** If I am admitted to the program but do not currently attend Northeastern how do I Find out about registration?
- A.** Once all required documents have been received and your admission approved you will receive registration information and a **PIN** (personal identification number) **from Enrollment Services**. Class schedules are available in the Enrollment Services Office and may be viewed at [neu.edu](http://neu.edu). The University catalog may be obtained from the book store. Obtain these items as soon as possible.
- Q.** If I am admitted to the program, when can I meet with an advisor?
- A.** As soon as you receive an **Evaluation of Credits from Enrollment Services** call our office to schedule an appointment for an advisement at 773-442-6030. If you do not have prior college credit calls to schedule an appointment as soon as you receive registration material.
- Q.** What is an Evaluation of Credits?
- A.** This document reflects how previously completed college credits are applied toward degree requirements.
- Q.** Will I receive my evaluation prior to registration?
- A.** We hope so, but if you do not, we encourage you to register for courses at the start of the semester as long as you have received registration material. Board of Governors students **do not** report to academic advising before registering for classes. If you want to advance register for courses in disciplines which require departmental approval (e.g. Business and Management and Computer Science) obtain the required authorization before registering for these classes. If you have questions about course selection we are available in B-147 to assist you.
- Q.** If I am accepted into the Board of Governors Program and currently a student at Northeastern will receive a new Evaluation of Credits?
- A.** Yes, you will be re-evaluated based on the requirements of the program.
- Q.** What happens if I can't take classes during the first term after I am admitted to the program?
- A.** You should continue receiving registration material from the Registration office. However, you need to contact our office at 773-442-6030 for any additional info.
- Q.** How long will it take me to complete my degree?
- A.** This is a self-paced program. Individual circumstances must be taken into

consideration.

- Q.** Are there courses specifically for the Board of Governors students?
- A.** No, you will take courses offered by Northeastern.
- Q.** Do Board of Governors students incur any additional fees besides tuition and other fees paid by all students?
- A.** Only the current portfolio assessment fee if you submit a prior learning portfolio.
- Q.** As a Board of Governors student am I eligible to seek teacher certification?
- A.** Yes, if you meet all the requirements of the College of Education. A program advisor will discuss this with you if certification is your goal.
- Q.** Can I declare an academic major and/or minor?
- A.** Yes, as a Board of Governors student you are eligible to declare a second academic major and/or minor. However, you must fulfill all of the requirements for that major and/or minor.
- Q.** If I do not declare an academic major, what will my degree be in?
- A.** You will have a Bachelor of Arts degree.
- Q.** IS this degree recognized by employers and graduate/professional schools?
- A.** Yes
- Q.** Can I be accepted into graduate school if I do not have an academic major?
- A.** Many program graduates go on to graduate or professional schools without having completed an academic major. Whether you major or not, you should obtain information about the admission requirements of the graduate programs of interest to you.
- Q.** Are there any required university competencies I must satisfy?
- A.** Yes, these competencies are: English Competency, Constitution, Math, and House Bill 0094 (Improving Human relations). **A program advisor will discuss these requirements during your initial advisement session.**
- Q.** Do I have to take the Constitution examination or any equivalent course if I met this

requirement in high school?

A. Yes, **unless** you met this requirement at the college level at an accredited institution in Illinois.

Q. What must my grade point average (GPA) be in order to graduate?

A. You must have an **overall** cumulative GPA of C (2.0) for all work applied toward meeting graduation requirements.

Q. May I take courses at other schools while I am a student in the program?

A. Yes, contact an advisor with regard to the procedures you need to follow.

Q. Does Northeastern offer any support services for returning adult students?

A. Yes, the adult and Women Students' Program's provides support services in many areas. They can be reached at (773) 442-4870.

## **PORTFOLIO RELATED QUESTIONS?**

Q. Can I really earn fro my life experiences?

A. Credit is **never** awarded because a student has had an experience. Credit for prior learning is awarded when a student demonstrates and documents college equivalent knowledge and skills acquired outside the college classroom.

Q. How do I apply for prior learning credit?

A. By preparing a "prior learning portfolio."

Q. Am I required to submit a prior learning portfolio?

A. No, the portfolio is an option available to you.

Q. What is involved in preparing a portfolio and when do I prepare it?

A. Your advisor will discuss all aspects of the portfolio development process with you at your initial advisement session.

Q. What is the fee for portfolio evaluation?

- A. The Portfolio Assessment fee is pro-rated to two credit hours of tuition at NEIU.
- Q. What types of prior learning might I include in my portfolio?
- A. Many types of learning from experiences such as work, community service, musical ability, athletic skills, etc. may be included in a portfolio. The knowledge/skills acquired must be college equivalent.
- Q. Who will evaluate my prior learning?
- A. Northeastern faculty or qualified off-campus experts evaluate all student portfolios.
- Q. How much credit might be awarded for my prior learning?
- A. We cannot answer this question because it is faculty experts who evaluate and recommendations of credit for prior learning. Our best suggestion make: submit your portfolio as soon as possible after admission to the program.
- Q. What type of assistance is available to me as I prepare my portfolio?
- A. A Information packet for Developing a Portfolio, Workshops and sample portfolios for review will be your tools in the preparation process. Our staff is also prepared to assist and advise you.
- Q. How are credits earned through the portfolio applied toward degree requirements?
- A. These credits can be applied to any Board of Governors program requirement except the 24 semester hours of minimum residency.