

Government Relations

FY27 Legislative Engagement & Advocacy



Legislative Engagement & Advocacy Efforts

The President's Office, Government Relations, Cabinet members, faculty, students, and NEIU's lobbyist actively engaged key legislative stakeholders, including:

- Members of U.S. Congress
- IL Latino, Black and Asian Caucuses
- IL Governor's Office
- IL Higher Education Leaders
- Federal Government Relations Organizations

These collective efforts have advanced NEIU's institutional priorities by reinforcing long standing legislative relationships and fostering new partnerships that support the university's mission. In addition, NEIU deepened its collaboration with fellow public universities, contributing to a more unified and influential voice throughout the legislative process.





Top Left: Congressman Garcia with NEIU student Isaiah Rodriguez during HACU Capitol Forum visits in Washington, D.C.

Middle Top: NEIU leaders, students, and legislators at El Centro for a roundtable on the Adequate and Equitable Funding Formula Act and its impact on Hispanic-Serving Institutions.

Top Right: NEIU team with Lieutenant Governor Juliana Stratton at the ILLCF Latina Day Brunch.
Bottom Middle: NEIU team and students with Attorney General Kwame Raoul during Latino Unity Day advocacy activities.

Bottom Left: The NEIU team receives MSN-Entry Program Community Project Funding from Congresswoman Ramirez alongside El Centro legislative partners.

Middle: The NEIU team with Kam Buckner during a legislative advocacy visit.

Bottom Right: NEIU team with Mayor Brandon Johnson at the NEIU Lakeside Chat.

Middle Bottom: The NEIU team with Tammy Duckworth at a Hispanic Federation Town Hall hosted at El Centro.



Legislative Outlook

Building Legislative Support Through Narrative and Advocacy

- FY27 Outcomes:** For FY27, Northeastern Illinois University's appropriation will increase from \$41.17 million to \$42.40 million, an increase of approximately \$1.24 million, or 3 percent ; ~\$1M in ARTP funding/reappropriations, and ~ 109.9M in Capital reappropriations for NEIU.
- Policy Landscape:** Both the Adequate & Equitable Public University Funding Act and the Community College Baccalaureate initiative gained momentum this spring after advancing out of the House Higher Education Appropriations Committee; however, neither measure reached final passage before the end of the legislative session
- Fiscal Outlook:** State passed a balanced budget but continue to faces major fiscal pressures (*continuance of federal funding cuts*), creating a constrained environment for higher education funding.



Advocacy Through Engagement

Opportunities for Continued Advancement of NEIU's Legislative & Community Priorities

- **Legislative Caucus Engagement:** Participation in IL Latino Caucus Foundation (Raíces Conference, Leadership Summit, Gala), IL Black Caucus Foundation (Scholarship Reception and Policy Summit) and National Conference of State Legislatures to strengthen relationships with legislative leaders.
- **Policy & Community Forums:** Engagement in convenings that highlight NEIU's leadership in equity and student support.

*Resource Reminder: 2026 - 2027 Update - NEIU Government Relations
Office Strategic Planning Initiatives & Achievements*

Thank You!