Although the current circumstances make everything seem to be completely different, you will be surprised by how many things are very much the same. Even though we may not be sitting in the financial aid office where you can conveniently stop by and visit, we continue to serve your financial aid needs and respond to your inquiries by telephone and email five days a week. Remote or in person, we are readily available and working as always to assist students.

Now more than ever, students need to navigate their NEIU portal for information regarding their financial aid. In the portal, you can see if you are making Academic Progress, check for outstanding requirements, access necessary documents, and review your aid package and billing information. If you have financial aid requirements (red flags) they must be satisfied before your aid will be awarded. Clicking on the items flagged under the “My Financial Aid” tab will give you instructions, or provide the necessary documentation.

If you hate extra paperwork as much as we do, there’s an easy solution: Use the IRS data retrieval tool in the FAFSA application. If you, or your parent(s)/spouse did not use the retrieval tool upon first completion, just go to FAFSA.gov, log into the Student FAFSA record, select “Make FAFSA Corrections”, and navigate to the income section of the application.

Here is where you will be prompted to select the IRS Data Retrieval tool. NOTE: to use the data retrieval, your tax filing status must show as “already completed”. After entering some basic information, you should be able to transfer the tax info to your FAFSA. Keep in mind, if the parent’s information has been accessed, the parent will need to sign the FAFSA application to submit the changes.

Doing the IRS data retrieval will eliminate requirements to submit tax return transcripts and W-2’s. If students or parents are unable to use this service, go to www.IRS.gov, click “Get Your Tax Record” then scroll down to “Get Transcripts Online”. Be sure to request the “Tax Return Transcript”. (The same process can be used to obtain your Wage & Income transcript if your W2s are unavailable, as well as Verification of Non-Filing)

After all submitted documents have been accepted and imaged, an advisor verifies that the provided documents are consistent with your FAFSA. Upon review, should we find additional information is required, new red flags will appear on your portal. Quick responses to additional requirements is critical for you to receive your aid in a timely fashion. If you run into snags in the process, feel free to contact us at financial-aid@neiu.edu. As we are taking Covid precautions, email is currently the best way to reach us. Our goal, as always, is to help you receive the absolute most financial aid you are entitled to, so your focus can remain on your studies.
YOU HAVE RESOURCES

College admission is in itself, a great achievement. But achieving academic excellence, while graduating with the least amount of debt, should be every student’s goal. Many grants, scholarships, and internships are contingent upon your ability to maintain academic requirements. The entire faculty and staff are on your side with your success as our goal. We encourage you to take advantage of existing resources that can help you succeed.

The Academic Advising Center promotes student success by providing students with the information, guidance, and support needed to develop and achieve their academic goals. They can help you focus on the direction of your path to graduation by assist you with declaring a major or pre-major. You can reach them M-F at advising@neiu.edu. We also suggest take the initiative with your instructors, particularly if you are having difficulty or falling behind. Learn your instructor’s preferred method of communication to receive some one-on-one attention and guidance in the areas you need it most. The NEIU Library continues to be a font of information. Their knowledgeable librarians can assist you by phone, in chat, or through email. Starting June 24th the library will have a new catalog system, providing a more modern look and user-friendly experience, including streamlined search, print and log in functions. Learning Success Center is still open, offering remote tutoring through Nmail Hangouts / Google Meet for general education courses. Additionally, Tutors and Academic Coaches are available upon request. Our Tutors/ Coaches are students and professionals with proven expertise in their advising field, and here to support you with challenges impacting your college success.

We know that today’s climate can be stressful and rapidly evolving. NEIU’s Office of Student Affairs student-affairs@neiu.edu is listening, and wants to know how we can best assist you on your path to graduation. Be Well and Stay Golden!

The Retention of Illinois Student and Equity (RISE) Act has been in effect since January 1, 2020. The act provides aid for “a student who is an Illinois resident and who is not eligible for federal financial aid, including, but not limited to, a transgender student who is disqualified for failure to register for selective service or a noncitizen student who has not obtained lawful permanent residence, shall be eligible for state financial aid benefits…” We encourage these students to visit the Illinois Student Assistance Commission’s (ISAC) website at www.isac.org and apply.

Minimum Standards of Academic Progress (SAP)
is ran at the end of every term!
After grades are processed for Spring, the Financial Aid Office is required to evaluate the following criteria, which includes all developmental coursework:

- ZERO GRADE points earned
- Never Attended coursework
- Cumulative Grade Point Average— UNDG for 2.0
- GRAD for 3.0
- Cumulative Completion Rate (pace) — 67%

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE HOURS
Monday-Friday
8:30am-4:30pm
FINAID EMAIL
Financial-Aid@neiu.edu
Virtual Advising Appointment:
TELEPHONE CENTER/FAX
(773) 442-5016 / (773) 442-5040
SCHOLARSHIPS
Telephone: (773) 442-4606
Email: Scholarships@neiu.edu
Online application:
https://neiu.academicworks.com/
STUDENT EMPLOYMENT OFFICE TELEPHONE/EMAIL
(773) 442-4696
student-employment@neiu.edu
WEBSITE ACCESS:
http://www.neiu.edu/financial-aid/

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