NOW COMES the Class of 2020, for whom the following basic information is particularly relevant to a happy and successful experience during the first year at Northern Illinois University College of Law. To all concerned: Welcome!

1. Orientation

Orientation for all first-year law students will begin on Thursday, August 17, at 8:30 am at the Northern Illinois University College of Law (COL). After check-in, the Orientation program will open with a welcome by the dean. This will be followed by sessions on professionalism, case briefing and other topics. Just before the SBA-sponsored lunch, the first-year class photo will be taken.

On Friday, August 18, at 9:30 am, the Orientation program will continue with a breakfast and introduction to critical reading. Other Friday sessions include an introduction to the faculty and presentations on money matters and becoming a professional. The two-day Orientation will conclude with a late-afternoon Welcome Reception for students, faculty, alumni and staff.
2. **Other Coming Attractions**

Regular first year classes will begin on *Monday, August 21*, starting with Criminal Law at 9:00 am. First-year students were assigned to and notified of their sections in July.

A student information fair organized and attended by representatives from a number of the College of Law’s student organizations will be held on *Tuesday, August 29*, beginning at 10:00 am in the Thurgood Marshall Gallery.

The Annual Dean's Picnic, which is open to the entire law school community, will be held on *Thursday, August 31*, at 4:00 pm at the Oderkirk Property, 131 N. Annie Glidden Road, next to the International House of Pancakes. Picnic fare and activities will be provided.

For those planning ahead, graduation will be held in May 2020!

3. **The College of Law: Basic Information**

Information about a variety of topics concerning the College of Law is available on the COL [website](#) and in the *Student Handbook*. In addition, the following information should be of assistance in preparing for and beginning law school.

**Registration**

The COL Office of Budget and Records provides advice and assistance to all students in registering for classes. During the first year of law school, all full-time students are registered automatically and may not add or change courses without permission from the Associate Dean for Student Affairs. The first-year curriculum for the Class of 2020 consists of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall Semester</th>
<th>Spring Semester</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contracts I</td>
<td>Contracts II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil Procedure I</td>
<td>Civil Procedure II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Torts
Criminal Law
Legal Methods
Basic Legal Research I

Property
Constitutional Law I
Legal Writing and Advocacy I
Basic Legal Research II

In addition, all first-year students must participate in Introduction to the Legal Profession: History, Culture & Values, which will meet several times during the fall and spring semesters.

Enrolling students with special circumstances, including transfer students and part-time students, should contact the Associate Dean for Student Affairs. For registration assistance, late arrivals are urged to report to the Office of Budget and Records. The Associate Dean, Kathleen Coles, is located in Room 276 and may be reached at kcoles@niu.edu or 815-753-0668; Julie Mahoney-Krzyzek, Officer Manager of the Office of Budget and Records, is in Room 285 and may be contacted at jmahoney@niu.edu or 815-753-1620.

Books and Class Materials

Information concerning books required or recommended for classes will typically be available from a variety of sources, including communications from professors and book lists posted on the law school website.

Casebooks, treatises and other reading materials are available on or near campus at two locations: (1) the University Bookstore, located on the lower level of Holmes Student Center; and (2) the Village Commons Bookstore, located at 901 Lucinda Avenue. Students may also identify books for particular courses by going to the University Bookstore website. After receipt of NIU OneCards during Orientation, students may charge the cost of books purchased at the University Bookstore to their student accounts. Many students also purchase books online.

Handouts for class are frequently made available to students at the Handout Cabinet, which is located outside the faculty office suite across from the east entrances to Rooms 186 and 188. Some class materials may also be available on reserve in the College of Law library.
Financial Aid

The University’s Student Financial Aid Office, which processes all loans and financial aid, is located in Room 245 in the north wing of Swen Parson Hall. The COL Office of Admissions & Financial Aid, located in Room 151, assists and advises students on the processing of loan forms. The office also publishes writing competition information and scholarship opportunities in a bulletin emailed to students each week during the semester.

Classrooms

Most Orientation sessions will be held in the Riley Courtroom, Room 170, on the ground floor of Swen Parson Hall. Most other law school classrooms are also located on the ground floor, and many classes for first-year students are held in Rooms 186 or 188.

Faculty

2017 Meet the Faculty serves as an introduction to the NIU Law faculty, and additional information is available in the online directory to faculty and staff. The faculty offices are located in the southeast corner of the ground floor of Swen Parson, and appointments can be made by contacting LeAnn Baie, Faculty Office Administrator, in Room 190 (lbaie@niu.edu; 815-753-0618) or by phoning or emailing faculty members directly.
Mailboxes

Mail folders for each student are located on the second floor of the law school just inside the main entrance to the law school library. Please check and empty your folder regularly. Please also note that the mail folders are not designed for and should not be used for large, bulky items.

Lockers

Lockers located on the lower level of the law school are available to all law students, who must provide their own locks. Students desiring a locker should email Lisa Hoebing (lhoebing@niu.edu) in Room 276, to reserve a locker. Lockers will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis, and students will retain the same locker throughout their law school career.

Library

The David C. Shapiro Memorial Law Library is located on the upper level of the law school. The law library provides a wide array of services to support students’ learning and studying needs, including reference services, electronic research training, and advice regarding specialized resources. At the library circulation desk, you can obtain assistance in checking out materials, reserving study rooms, trouble-shooting printer problems and many other tasks. Additionally, please know that the law librarians are regularly available to assist with your research needs.

The law library’s regular hours during the fall and spring semesters are: Monday - Thursday - 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.; Friday - 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.; Saturday – 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.; and Sunday – 12:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Please check the law library website for exceptions to the hours. While the library is open to the university and general public during the day, evening access after 6:00 p.m. Sunday through
Thursday is permitted only for law students and other members of the law school community.

Your [NIU OneCard](#) will allow access to the law library in the evenings. The right door, as you face the law library entrance, is equipped with a card reader. Simply waive your card in front of the reader and the light should turn green, allowing the door to be opened. The NIU OneCard should work at any time the law library is open, but is only necessary for evening access.

Individual tours of the law library may be arranged at the circulation desk. In addition, all students taking the first-year Basic Legal Research course will tour the library and receive information on the available uses and services as part of that course.

**Printing with Your OneCard or Copy Card**

There are photocopy machines available in the law library for student use. These machines are activated by your [OneCard](#) or a copy card, which can be purchased in Founders Library (across the street from the law school on Normal Road). The NIU Division of Information Technology provides [guidelines](#) for sending copying instructions from laptops and mobile devices.

**Information Technology**

The NIU Law Information Technology Department provides onsite tech support for the students, staff and faculty of the College of Law. The Director of Information Technology Rahul Thatte and staff are located in Swen Parson 356. For [audio/video and tech support](#), students may call 815-1784 or email [colit@niu.edu](mailto:colit@niu.edu). Students, like all users of NIU computing, information and communications resources, are subject to the university’s [Acceptable Use Policy](#).

**Law School Communications**
NIU Z-email addresses are the official source of all law school communications to individual students. *Law students are responsible for all notices and other communications sent to that address regardless of whether or not they opened and read them.*

For announcements about COL policies, procedures and activities, you should also watch the bulletin boards around the law school, check mail folders and university email, keep an eye on the plasma television screens, view the NIU Law, SBA and class Facebook pages and read *The Docket* and *Career Corner* on a regular basis.

*The Docket* is published weekly during the school term under the direction of Dean Coles and contains a weekly calendar of upcoming events, as well as announcements concerning the College of Law. Law school events are also published in advance on the College of Law online *events calendar*, administered by Director of Communications Jacob Imm (who can be reached at 753-9486 or jimm@niu.edu). *Career Corner* is published by the Office of Career Opportunities and Professional Development, as described below.

**Student Bar Association**

All law students are members of the [Student Bar Association](#) (SBA) and are welcome to attend SBA meetings and functions. SBA activities are carried out by the SBA Board of Governors, which acts as the primary student governing body for the law school. The members of the SBA Board of Governors for the 2017-2018 academic year are:

- **President:** Keith Stiggers
- **Vice President:** Victor Zamora
- **Treasurer:** Jason Blumenthal
- **Secretary:** Megan Swenson
- **ABA Representative:** Joel Heilmann
The elected representatives of the third-year class are Raquel Chavez, Andrew Mertzenich and Neil Michling. The second-year class is represented by Brian Fernandez, Ryan Fragassi, and Nicholas Rochford.

Four representatives to the SBA will be elected from the first-year class in September. For more information concerning the SBA, stop by the SBA office in the student office space at the north end of Swen Parson (upper level), consult the SBA website or contact one of the SBA board members.

American Bar Association/Law Student Division

The Law Student Division of the American Bar Association provides a variety of services to law student members, including the ability to participate in various student competitions and access to two publications (the ABA Journal and the Student Lawyer). The ABA offers free membership to all students.

Illinois State Bar Association

The Illinois State Bar Association (ISBA) also provides a variety of services to law student members. These services include access to the Illinois Bar Journal and Young Lawyers Division Newsletter, as well as enrollment in up to five substantive law sections with periodic newsletters covering topics such as real estate law and criminal justice. Membership in the ISBA is free for all law students.

Other Student Organizations and Activities

COL students may participate in a variety of student-run organizations while enrolled at the law school, including Law Review, the Moot Court Society, and the Trial Advocacy Society. Among other student organizations active in the law school are the Public Interest Law Society, the American Constitution Society, the International Law Students Association, the Environmental Law Society, the Family Law Society, the Federalist Society, Lawyers Opposing Violence Everywhere, the Second Amendment Society, the Student Animal Legal Defense Fund, the Sports & Entertainment Law Society, the Criminal Law Society, the Professionalism and Ethics Society, and the Juvenile Interest Law Society.
Interested students may also join the Black Law Students Association, the Christian Legal Society, the Gay-Straight Alliance, the Latino/a Law Student Association, the Women’s Law Caucus, or a law fraternity such as Phi Alpha Delta (PAD) or Delta Theta Phi (Delta).

A wide variety of co-curricular experiences are available to law students through these student organizations and via participation on student teams in both internal and external competitions. Student organizations also sponsor a number of professional, social, and charitable events for students during the academic year, including the annual PILS auction, BLSA Thanksgiving dinner, Casino Night, Palsgraf Halloween party, Law Review symposium, and spring-semester Barristers Ball.

**Career Services**

The Office of Career Opportunities and Professional Development is available to students and alumni for counseling and advice on all phases of career and placement activity. The office also publishes a weekly newsletter called “Career Corner” on Mondays, with information on networking opportunities, jobs and career resources. In addition, the Career Opportunities Library has a large array of resources available. Greg Anderson, Director of Career Opportunities and Professional Development (ganderson@niu.edu; 815-753-9604), assists students individually on all aspects of career services, including advice on preparing resumes and interviewing techniques. The Office of Career Opportunities and Professional Development is located in Room 280.

**Law School Counseling**

Associate Dean for Student Affairs, Kathleen Coles, will be available generally or by appointment for student counseling concerning academic or personal matters. Dean Coles is located in Room 276 and may be reached at (815) 753-0668 or kcoles@niu.edu. A representative of the Lawyers’ Assistance Program will also be
available at the College of Law one day a month during the semester for confidential consultations with students.

**Other Policies**

**Safety:** The University and the College of Law are committed to maintaining the health and safety of students. [Safety tips](#) and [safety services](#) are available on the NIU website, which also answers [Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)](#) about safety on campus.

**Smoking Policy:** In compliance with the Illinois Smoke-Free Campus Act, the entire NIU campus, including Swen Parson Hall, is a [no-smoking zone](#). The no-smoking policy includes electronic cigarettes and cigars.

### 4. The University

Upon enrollment at the College of Law, students enjoy the benefits of numerous resources provided by [Northern Illinois University](#), a nationally recognized university with over 20,000 students and five campuses. These resources include the following.

**Housing**

NIU’s Office of [Housing and Residential Services](#) provides information concerning university residence halls and meal plans. The office is located at 101 Neptune East (815-753-1525). [Northern View Community Apartments](#) is NIU’s newest residence hall for non-traditional students who may be married, have a domestic partner or have dependents. This residential complex has both traditional and family-style units available for rental.

Information about [off-campus housing](#) is available through the NIU Military and PostTraditional Student Services office, which provides website links to housing search engines, moving companies and other resources. For additional help in searching for housing, students can contact the office at 815-753-9999 or [cntss@niu.edu](mailto:cntss@niu.edu).

**Huskie Bus System**
The Huskie Bus Line is the transportation service around campus and on key routes in the City of DeKalb for use by students. The NIU Student Association provides route maps and time schedules for the Huskie Bus System at the information desk located on the main floor of the Holmes Student Center, across the street from the law school. During the academic year, the Huskie Bus System also runs a shuttle to the Elburn train station on Fridays and Sundays. Students may track the bus routes in real time online.

**Parking**

Students parking cars on the University campus on a regular basis are required to purchase a parking sticker or park in a lot where a fee is assessed. Parking stickers may be purchased online or (for an extra fee) at NIU’s Campus Parking Service, located at the corner of Normal Road and Lincoln Terrace, across from the Parking Deck. The parking service may be contacted at 815-753-1045 or parking@niu.edu.

Parking permits are color-coded to correspond to the lots in which they may be used. Maps outlining the color-coded lots are available at the parking office. In general, students living on campus are issued orange stickers and commuting students receive a yellow parking sticker. Green permits are available for free for remote parking east of the Convocation Center. Students with health-related or other special circumstances may be eligible for other parking privileges.

Student reserve permits are available for purchase online on a first-come, first-served basis.

The currently posted fees for NIU parking permits are:

Student Permits
## Northern Illinois University

### College of Law

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Fee Online</th>
<th>Fee in Office</th>
<th>Expiration</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>Annual: $92.00</td>
<td>Annual: $102.00</td>
<td>Annual: 08/15/2018 Fall: 12/31/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fall Only: $70.00</td>
<td>Fall Only: $80.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>Annual: $47.00</td>
<td>Annual: $57.00</td>
<td>Annual: 08/15/2018 Fall: 12/31/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fall Only: $42.00</td>
<td>Fall Only: $52.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>Annual: $92.00</td>
<td>Annual: $102.00</td>
<td>Annual: 08/15/2018 Fall: 12/31/2017</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fall Only: $70.00</td>
<td>Fall Only: $80.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Free</td>
<td>Annual: 08/15/2018</td>
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</table>

### Reserved Spaces

#### Student Reserves

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Annual</th>
<th>Fall or Spring</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>$500.00 no surcharge</td>
<td>$274.00 no surcharge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>$500.00 no surcharge</td>
<td>$274.00 no surcharge</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
For short-term parking, students and visitors may use a visitor parking lot located at 200 Carroll Avenue, approximately one block west of the law school on the west side of Founders Library. There is also a limited amount of metered parking on College Avenue, which is the east-west road on the east side of Swen Parson Hall, and in front of Altgeld Hall on the west side of the law school. Short-term parking rates are $5 a day, $10 a week and $25 a month.

Health Insurance and Student Health Services

Student Health Insurance is currently available to all Northern Illinois University students who are registered for one or more class hours. Unless they submit a waiver form, students enrolled for nine or more class hours will be automatically billed $1039.00 each semester for insurance coverage. Students taking fewer than nine credit hours must submit an enrollment form by September 8, 2017. If you are covered under other health insurance, you may apply to waive the NIU Student Health Insurance plan. Please note carefully the deadlines for submitting a waiver request or accepting student health insurance: this year's deadline is Monday, September 11, 2017. For more information on student health insurance, call 815-753-0122 or send an email to studentInsurance@niu.edu.

NIU Health Services is located in the Health Services Building on Lucinda Street west of Wirtz Hall next to the Campus Police Station. Health Services offers quality, outpatient healthcare as well as a full-service pharmacy. There are no additional charges for most services, including physician visits, x-rays, and general lab tests. However, there are charges for medications, immunizations (must be done by the tenth day of the semester), missed appointments, and some lab tests and procedures. Students should call the University Health Services’ main switchboard (815-753-1311) for information.

Food Services
There are several **food service** options located in the Holmes Student Center including the Blackhawk Food Court, Subway, the Center Market, Coffee Corner, and **the College Grind**, a cyber café located on the main floor of Holmes. Three-course luncheons are available Tuesdays and Thursdays during the academic year at **Ellington’s Restaurant** on the main floor of the Holmes Student Center. **Resident** and **nonresident** students may also sign up for various meal plans at residence halls. For snacking, vending machines are located in the north wing of Swen Parson Hall and in the Holmes Student Center. Beverages and light snacks are also available in **Founders Memorial Library**, **Barsema Hall** and **various residence halls**.

**Recreation and Athletic Facilities**

**Campus Recreation**, which forms part of the NIU **Division of Student Affairs**, provides a wide variety of activities for students and has equipment available for rental by students for camping, canoeing, basketball, racquetball, skiing, volleyball, softball, tennis, soccer, football, bocce ball, badminton and other sports. The recreation facilities are available to all students enrolled at NIU. Gymnasiums, tracks, swimming pools, tennis and racquetball courts and other facilities are available when not in use by the physical education or sports departments.

The **Student Recreation Center** includes a multi-purpose area, indoor track, cardio and strength training room, saunas, racquetball courts, and a boxing and plyometric room. Further information is available at 815-753-0231.

In addition to the Campus Recreation facilities, the Holmes Student Center **Huskies Den** has bowling alleys, pool tables, bags and video and arcade games available.

**Sports, Entertainment and Cultural Events**
As a major university, NIU provides many activities that are open for student participation and enjoyment, including sporting events, music and theatre, and visiting speakers. For information about activities and events on campus generally, check the NIU Calendar of Events. Sporting and other events are hosted regularly at the 10,000-seat NIU Convocation Center, on Highway 38 west of DeKalb.

NIU is an NCAA Division 1 school and a member of the Middle America Conference, with teams that compete in all major sports. Students and alumni groups often attend football, golf and other sporting events, giving students the ability to network while enjoying the games. For a description of NIU athletics and services provided to students, see the NIU Athletics website.

Through the College of Visual and Performing Arts, a wide variety of cultural events are open to the public through the year, including performances by the Avalon String Quartet and the internationally recognized NIU Jazz Orchestra. The School of Theatre and Dance presents a series of productions throughout the academic year, and art exhibitions and special events are also scheduled periodically through the NIU Art Museum and the School of Art and Design. Students can also visit other museums, galleries and collections around campus, including the Jack Olson Gallery, the cornerstone of exhibition programming at the NIU School of Art.

Students’ Legal Assistance Office

Through the Students’ Legal Assistance Office, legal services are available to all current fee-paying NIU students. The Students’ Legal Assistance Office is located in the Campus Life Building, Room 120, at the corner of Normal Road and Lucinda Avenue (815-753-1701).

Counseling and Related Services

The University provides counseling services through the Counseling and Consultation Services offices in the Campus Life Building (Room 200) at the corner of Normal Road and Lucinda Avenue (815-753-1206). Walk-in appointments are generally available from 11:00 am to 3:30 pm, Monday through Friday. Students may also discuss their
concerns and obtain information about University policies and procedures on a confidential basis at the Office of the Ombudsperson on the sixth floor of the Holmes Student Center (815-753-1414).

NIU and the College of Law are committed to providing an accessible educational environment in collaboration with the Disability Resource Center (DRC). Students who need classroom or exam accommodations based on the impact of a disability are encouraged to contact the DRC and Associate Dean Coles. The DRC is located on the fourth floor of the Health Services Building and can be reached at 815-753-1303 or drc@niu.edu.

Additional Information

For additional information about the University and its resources, visit the NIU website. Information about current events at the University may be followed on NIU Today or by reading the student newspaper, The Northern Star.

5. The DeKalb Area

As is the case in most university towns, the City of DeKalb and its sister city, Sycamore, Illinois, make available a wide variety of goods and services to students and the surrounding community. DeKalb also offers a number of entertainment events and venues that are open to students in their spare time. A sampling of these resources is described below.

Local Events

The City of DeKalb holds periodic concerts and other events. Of particular interest early in the school year is DeKalb's annual Corn Fest, which will be celebrating its 40th anniversary this year in downtown DeKalb on August 25 – 27. Corn Fest features a low-admission sound stage music festival and free community stage acts. Among the other scheduled activities are a carnival, craft fest, beer garden, vintage auto show, and bags tournament. Sidewalk vendors and stores, food stands and a carnival are open all weekend and CORN! (over 70 tons) is everywhere, including free corn from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm (or until it runs out) on Saturday, August 26.
For information about other DeKalb area events throughout the year, you can visit the DeKalb Chamber of Commerce events calendar or Plan It! DeKalb County.

**Restaurants**

In addition to the eating spots at the Holmes Student Center (see section 4), there are several places serving food along Lincoln Highway that are within easy walking distance of the law school, including the Junction Eating Place, Fushi Yami Hibachi & Sushi, Mikimoto Japanese Steakhouse, Pizza Hut, McDonalds, and Burger King. Farther down Lincoln Highway just east of Annie Glidden Road, a small shopping center contains a number of popular outlets: Chipotle Mexican Grill, Potbelly’s, Starbucks, and Topper’s Pizza. West of Annie Glidden Road, other Lincoln Highway eating spots include Jersey Mike’s Subs, Popeye’s Louisiana Chicken, Happy Wok, Culvers and Taco Bell. Additional restaurants located on the west side of town include IHOP, Pho N’Grill, Jimmy Johns, Tom & Jerry’s, and an Italian restaurant, Fanatico, at 1215 Blackhawk Drive.

Downtown DeKalb also hosts a number of restaurants, including Eduardo’s Mexican Restaurant, Hillside Restaurant, the House Café, Thai Pavilion, Rosita’s, O’Leary’s, Barb City Bagels, Mediterraneo Grill, Lincoln Inn and Tapa La Luna. Similarly, the Sycamore Road corridor (Highway 23) between Hillcrest Avenue and Peace Road contains a number of places to eat, including Bea’s Wok and Roll, Ellwood Steak and Fish House, Applebee’s, Panera Bread, Steak ’n Shake, Buffalo Wild Wings, Jamrah, Noodles & Company, Texas Roadhouse, Portillo’s Hot Dogs, and local institution, Ollie’s Frozen Custard, on 2290 Oakland Drive.

The above list is just a sampling of the eateries in and around DeKalb. There are a number of other ethnic restaurants, coffee shops, fast food outlets, sandwich shops and pizza joints from which to choose. Last, but not least, are several popular student spots for eating and mingling, including Fatty’s Pub and Grill, and assorted clubs along Lincoln Highway. Law students also like to hang out
from time to time at Molly’s Eatery & Drinkery, and Lord Stanley's, a large sports bar with great pizza.

**Laundromats and Cleaners**

The Third Street Laundry is located at 141 South 3rd Street near the railroad tracks downtown, Laundry Lounge is located at 818 West Lincoln Highway, and the Double Bubble Coin Laundry is located at 850 Pappas Drive. Greenacre Cleaners has several locations, including 1334 East Lincoln Highway, and 929 South Annie Glidden Road (next to Schnuck’s). VIP Cleaners is located at 3212 Sycamore Road.

**Shopping**

DeKalb has four major grocery store chains. Three are located along Sycamore Road (Highway 23): Jewel/Osco, HyVee, and Aldi. The fourth, Schnucks, is on South Annie Glidden Road. Other small grocery outlets such as Inboden’s Meat Market, near the corner of First Street and Hillcrest Avenue, are also available.

A number of shopping centers are located on Sycamore Road (Route 23). Two of the largest malls are anchored by a Super Wal-Mart and a Target store. Other retail stores in DeKalb include TJ Maxx, Michael’s, Bath & Body Works, Pier One Imports, Ross Stores, Carson Pirie Scott, Pet Smart, Petco, Office Max, Maurices, Bed Bath and Beyond, Kohls, Best Buy, Lowes, DSW Shoe Warehouse, Sally’s, Ulta, MC Sports, and several dollar stores. These are all located on Sycamore Road. Downtown DeKalb and Lincoln Highway host two pharmacies: Walgreens and CVS. In addition, downtown DeKalb and downtown Sycamore each have a variety of retail outlets, antique shops and other resources.

**Entertainment**
DeKalb has one multiplex movie theater: **AMC Market Square 10** located at 2160 Sycamore Road, behind Walmart, (815-748-7887). There is also the **State Street Theater**, a movie theater in downtown Sycamore, at 420 West State Street (815-8953549). A community theater, **Stagecoach Players**, is located at 126 South 5th street in downtown DeKalb, 815-758-1940. In addition, there are many events, including movies, held at the historic **Egyptian Theater**, 135 North Second Street, 815758-1215.

The **DeKalb Park District** provides several means of recreation, including the **Buena Vista Golf Course**, a nine-hole golf course at 131 Buena Vista Drive (815-758-4812) and **River Heights**, an eighteen-hole golf course at 1020 Sharon Drive (815-758-1550). There is a large public **Sports and Recreation Center**, including an indoor track and fitness center, at 1765 South Fourth Street (815-758-7756). **Hopkins Park**, at 1403 Sycamore Road, 815-758-8853, has a large public swimming pool with water slides. Off-campus bowling alleys include **Mardi Gras Lanes**, 1730 Sycamore Road, 815-7569411 and **Four Seasons Sports**, 1745 DeKalb Avenue, 815-895-5125. Finally, you can find mini golf, as well as a driving range, soccer cages, batting cages, and go karts, at **Sycamore Family Sports Center**, 815-895-7407.

**Shabbona Lake State Recreation Area**, located about 15 miles south of DeKalb, offers hiking, fishing, boat rentals and camping. As well, it is a great place just to go picnic and throw a frisbee around. Grills are provided on-site, but you must bring your own charcoal.

6. **The Wider World**

Yes, we are near Chicago by train or by car! Downtown **Chicago** is approximately 65 miles east of campus. Highway 38 and Interstate 88 provide direct routes from DeKalb to Chicago and its western suburbs. Depending on traffic, travel by car from DeKalb to downtown Chicago takes approximately 1½ to 2 hours.
The Chicago Metra train is another popular option to go to downtown Chicago. Currently, the nearest train stations are at Elburn and Aurora, Illinois. Elburn is 18 miles or approximately 27 minutes east from DeKalb, and Aurora is 32 miles or approximately 40 minutes southeast from DeKalb. As noted above, the Huskie Bus Line runs transportation to the Elburn station on Fridays and Sundays during the academic year.

There are many options for shopping and entertainment outside DeKalb. A number of national and local retail stores, movie theaters and restaurants are located along Randall Road in Geneva, approximately 25 miles or a thirty-five minute drive east of campus on Highway 38. The Aurora Premium Outlets is a large mall located alongside Interstate 88 in nearby Aurora (Farnsworth Avenue North exit). Finally, ample shopping and entertainment opportunities are also available in Rockford (45 miles northwest), Naperville (40 minutes east), Schaumburg (60 minutes northeast), and other Chicago suburbs.

7. **Questions**

If you have any questions in the weeks before school starts, please feel free to contact the COL Office of Admissions and Financial Aid at 815-753-8595 or law-admit@niu.edu or Dean Coles at 815-753-0668 or kcoles@niu.edu.

August 2017