**Featured Adult Learner Criteria**

The Featured Adult Learner nomination provides recognition to constituents who are amongst the broader student population at NIU. Recognizing the unique characteristics of this student population, in addition to the contributions they provide the university community, helps create campus-wide values for the adult/non-traditional student cultural perspective (Miller Brown, 2002 pg. 72). Acknowledging these students also helps develop a sense of visibility and advocacy for our non-traditional student population. A nominee should be chosen based on character, leadership, and citizenship, as well as academic successes. This student demonstrates excellent behavior inside and outside the classroom, displays excellent citizenship by his/her willingness to help fellow classmates, and demonstrates leadership and integrity. The student shows exemplary character through his/her compassion, honesty, trustworthiness, responsibility, optimism, and loyalty in helping to create a positive university environment. Finally, the nominee might simply have an inspirational story to share with his/her peers.

**An Adult Learner or Non-Traditional Student fits any of these categories:**

- 24 years old or older
- Has dependents or children
- Military or veteran student
- Married, divorced, widowed, etc.
- Those who had delays in enrollment
- Attends part-time
- Earned a GED
- Commutes to campus
- Transfer student
- Off-Campus resident

**Criteria include, but are not limited to:**

- Student makes contributions to the community through service and volunteering.
- Student displays exemplary leadership skills through good character, hard work, and honesty.
- Student shows positive attitude toward classmates, faculty, staff, learning, and school.
- Student encourages others to excel.

Keep these qualities and characteristics in mind when explaining why a particular Adult Learner should be recognized. Share with us any other information that makes your candidate particularly influential to our community.

**Reference**

Featured Adult Learner Nomination Form

Month/Year: __________________________

Nominee Information

Student Name: ________________________________

Major: ______________________________________

E-Mail: ______________________________________

Why do you believe that this student should be recognized as a Featured Adult Learner?