

Center for College Access and Success

Founded in 1978, the *Center for College Access and Success* (CCAS) is the largest school improvement organization in Chicago. We serve diverse communities in metropolitan Chicago and nearby urban centers. Our goal is to create a college-going culture where students develop the skills they need to apply, transition, and eventually graduate from college.

If you are an alumnus of any of our College Bound programs (GEAR UP, Talent Search, Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math and Science), be sure to check in with your advisor regarding TRIO Student Support Services and other activities, scholarships, and incentives offered on the main campus to help with your successful transition to Northeastern Illinois University.

A Unique Role

The *Center for College Access and Success* is in the unique position of connecting research, innovative programming, and educational funding priorities. We collaborate across the University to create programs for students that increases access to postsecondary education, and improves retention and success. The Center implements these programs in pre-K-12 schools supported by grants from local, state, and federal agencies, private foundations, and corporations.

Preparing for Success

All *Center for College Access and Success* programs are focused on aspects of *Preparation, Readiness, Access, and Success* as a formula for success in education, career and life. We use innovative and research-based strategies that motivate students to become academically prepared, increasing their potential for successful futures.

A Leader in Programs and Resources

For the last 42 years, the Center has demonstrated an exemplary record in student outcome improvement. We are helping to expand the university's participation in the national dialogue about first generation, low-income college goers.

Approaches That Work

The *Center for College Access and Success* brings together teachers, parents, administrators, and staff from community agencies, universities, arts and cultural organizations, and businesses to share knowledge and resources. The Center is successful because we are able to work with all of the stakeholders that create a college-going culture in homes, schools, and communities.

Programs areas include: College Readiness and Access, College Success Support, Out-of-School Time, Parent and Family Engagement, STEM Initiatives, and Professional Development for teachers, administrators and other school and community staff.

For more information, visit our website Center for College Access and Success (<http://www.centerforcollegeaccessandsuccess.org/>)