



Federal Priorities

UNI FEDERAL PRIORITIES

ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY AND STUDENT SUCCESS

Invest in need-based federal student aid through the Pell Grant Program, Federal Work Study and Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants

Congress' investment in at least the same level of federal student aid is vital for the success of low-income students at UNI. Approximately 28% of UNI undergraduate students qualify for a Pell Grant each year. The maximum award available to Pell Grant recipients is \$6,095, which only covers 70% of total undergraduate resident tuition and fees at UNI. The average Federal Work Study student receives \$1,500 in funds through the program, and SEOG recipients average \$900 at UNI. Continuous investment in need-based federal aid—including flexible options such as year-round eligibility—is critically important to provide an affordable education to students with financial need.

Invest in TRiO, GEAR UP and Educational Opportunity Centers

TRiO, GEAR UP and Educational Opportunity Centers provide resources and support services to individuals from a wide variety of underserved backgrounds—low income students, first generation students, military-connected students, individuals with disabilities and those who need to complete a secondary credential, to name a few. UNI appreciates Congress' increased investments to these programs in recent years and encourages the continuation of federal support.

Requiring institutions to match up to 20% of federal TRiO funds through cash or in-kind support, as proposed in the PROSPER Act, would strain UNI's ability to effectively administer the programs. In addition, setting aside up to 20% in total federal TRiO funding, without new money allocated to the program by the federal government, would limit the availability of funds for well-established programs.

Invest in and strengthen the TEACH Grant Program

The Teacher Education Assistance for College and Higher Education (TEACH) Grant program has provided an affordable option for preparing individuals to teach in high-need subject areas in low-income schools. Nationally, UNI ranks 8th among public universities in the number of TEACH Grant recipients—translating to an investment of more than \$12.8 million in federal grant aid to UNI educators who serve high-need schools. UNI is a leader in administering the TEACH Grant—with only 23% compared to the national conversion rate of 63%.

As shown in Figure 1, UNI has prepared 685 educators with the help of the TEACH Grant in order to address critical skill needs in high-need schools across Iowa. UNI proposes to work with Congress to strengthen the program to foster greater accountability and stewardship of the TEACH Grant by participating institutions.

FIGURE 1: Distribution of UNI Teach Grand Recipient Alumni Across Iowa (2018)



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & INDUSTRY INNOVATION

Establish the National Center for Military Painter Training and Applied Research at STAR4D: UNI's STAR4D Program is the only military painter training program in the United States that certifies military painters to apply a specialized composite that absorbs radar and prevents corrosion of military vehicles and other assets.

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Expand partnerships and resources to reduce food waste:

The Iowa Waste Reduction Center housed at UNI works directly with businesses to reduce the overall amount of waste disposed into landfills.

Continue the EDA University Center Program: The UNI Economic Development Administration (EDA) program provides assistance to businesses, government entities and nonprofit organizations on a variety of economic development issues.

Support for Additive Manufacturing and Metal Casting Center—Manufacturing USA. UNI's Metal Casting Center is a nationally recognized applied research and testing center known for innovation in the advanced manufacturing industry.

OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY, EFFECTIVENESS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Reduce the burdens of the October 1 date: Change one or more reporting dates since FAFSA, FISAP, TEACH Grant, Direct Loans, Gainful Employment and Common Data Set submissions are all due on October 1.

OTHER PRIORITIES

- Restore advance refunding bonds for tax-exempt organizations
- Maintain the Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program
- Retain subsidized loan options for students
- Ensure adequate protections for all parties involved in a report of campus sexual misconduct.

ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY AND STUDENT SUCCESS



“My favorite thing about my classes is the rigor they hold since I enjoy being challenged when looking at a math problem. The TEACH Grant has relieved a lot of financial stress from continuously taking out loans to pay for college since I am responsible for paying for my own college education. After graduation, my plans are to teach in Des Moines.”

CJ Adalpe

Junior, Math Teaching Major
Chicago, Illinois



“Along with other financial aid, the TEACH Grant has been very helpful in allowing me not to worry that much about money and to allow me to focus on my school work. While I am fulfilling my service requirement for the TEACH Grant, I will gain confidence and knowledge in the classroom. After graduation, I plan to apply for teaching jobs in mathematics.”

Stacy Schmelling

Senior, Mathematics Teaching
Emmetsburg, Iowa



“Federal student aid has made the difference between having a lot of student debt and graduating with a relatively low, very manageable amount. My proudest accomplishment at UNI is securing full-time employment before starting my senior year. After graduation, I will be moving back to Des Moines for a full-time position with RSM as an IT Infrastructure Consulting Associate.”

Seth Thompson

Senior, Management Information Systems
Des Moines, Iowa

TRiO PROGRAMS

UNI CENTER FOR URBAN EDUCATION (UNI-CUE)

The University of Northern Iowa places a high priority on providing quality education to financially disadvantaged and minority students. To fulfill this commitment for all students, the UNI Center for Urban Education (UNI-CUE) is housed at an off-campus location in downtown Waterloo. UNI-CUE is the home to four federally funded TRiO programs – the Educational Opportunity Center (EOC), Educational Talent Search (ETS), Student Support Services (SSS) and Classic Upward Bound (CUB).

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY CENTER (EOC)

The Educational Opportunity Center promotes postsecondary education in communities with large populations of low-income, first generation adults who are often unaware of educational and career opportunities. Last year, UNI-CUE's EOC served nearly 2,000 clients, including over 600 students who are currently enrolled in college courses at UNI or Hawkeye Community College. EOC staff assist students to enroll in and succeed at a postsecondary institution.

EDUCATIONAL TALENT SEARCH PROGRAM (ETS)

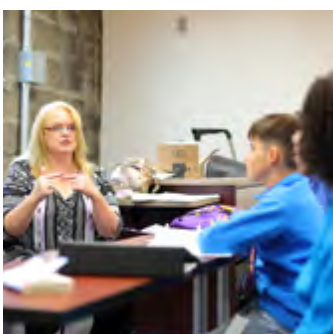
The Educational Talent Search Program helps students prepare for a college education. In the last year, more than 1,200 students were provided services by ETS, including: study skills workshops, completion of admissions applications, ACT/SAT registration/workshops/fee waivers, financial aid assistance, college tours, career interests surveys, GED information, tutoring, assistance for high school/college dropouts with re-enrollment into school and assistance with scholarship information.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES (SSS)

First-generation college students, individuals from low-income backgrounds, and persons with disabilities have all been served through Student Support Services. The office helps students prior to and during their time at UNI by providing comprehensive advising services and facilitating connections to other offices on campus who can also help them succeed.

CLASSIC UPWARD BOUND PROGRAMS (CUB)

The primary goal of Classic Upward Bound programs is to prepare individuals with the skills and motivation necessary to complete high school and graduate from a postsecondary institution within six years. To support this goal, CUB operates academic year and summer residential components. Upward Bound Math/Science helps students from low-income families strengthen their skills in math, science, computer technology, English, foreign language, and studying. Veterans Upward Bound provides intensive basic skills development and short-term remedial courses for military veterans to help them transition to college and gain support from the Veterans Administration and community services.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INDUSTRY INNOVATION



PARTNERSHIPS AND RESOURCES TO PREVENT FOOD WASTE

For over 30 years, the Iowa Waste Reduction Center (IWRC) has been working directly with Iowa businesses to reduce the overall amount of waste disposed into landfills. A 2017 Iowa Department of Natural Resources study revealed that food accounts for 20% of landfilled waste, so the IWRC has developed programming to combat this problem. Pilot projects have been conducted in communities across the state, working with organizations from the industrial, commercial and institutional sectors. These projects have shown a significant impact in the communities where they have been implemented, and were developed in a manner to be easily replicated.

The IWRC is proposing to create and lead a regional network of food waste reduction and applied research centers. This regional network would work in conjunction with the newly established Food Loss and Waste Reduction Liaison Office within USDA. The functions of this regional network will be to foster cross-sector partnerships, share best practices, and identify policy issues affecting food waste. The regional network would also advise the Office of the Liaison on region-specific needs and action steps to help address food waste.

In addition, the IWRC is leveraging Congress' investments in the most recent Farm Bill to propose expanded programs, services and resources in the development of statewide food waste reduction plans, carbon utilization and biogas education, and local agricultural marketing.

CORROSION CONTROL, SAFETY AND COST SAVINGS THROUGH MILITARY PAINTER TRAINING AND APPLIED RESEARCH

Corrosion damage costs the Department of Defense (DoD) between \$10-\$20 billion each year, impacting military readiness and safety. Increased corrosion prevention and control efforts are needed to adequately address the wide-ranging and expensive effects of corrosion on tactical equipment and weapons systems. Proper preparation of substrates and effective application of coating is the single most important step in reducing overall corrosion costs. Having properly trained coating applicators is the most cost effective way of mitigating this problem.

The Iowa Waste Reduction Center at UNI has established Spray Technique Analysis and Research for Defense (STAR4D) as the premier comprehensive coating applicator training program in the United States for the DoD and its contractors. Trainees, supervisors and instructors, as well as DoD members throughout all ranks, promote STAR4D training as integral to the continued success of coatings facilities across the country for improving applicator skills, decreasing hazardous emissions and reducing corrosion, thus saving millions of dollars.

Today, over 3,300 DoD and contract employees from all branches of service have been certified by STAR4D. Training is conducted either in Cedar Falls or at one of six satellite sites strategically located at military facilities across the country.

In order to meet demand for STAR4D's services, UNI proposes a National Center for Military Painter Training and Applied Research and to become a prime contractor with the Department of Defense.

FACILITY:

- 16,000 ft² facility located in the Cedar Falls Technology Park
- Variable-speed conveyor line with five-stage parts washer, liquid paint booth, powder coating booth and combination infrared/convection cure oven
- Drive-through blast/preparation booth, paint booth and infrared cure oven capable of handling a vehicle the size of a Humvee
- Wide assortment of liquid and powder coating application equipment including plural component systems, state-of-the-art classroom and virtual-reality training systems

CAPABILITIES:

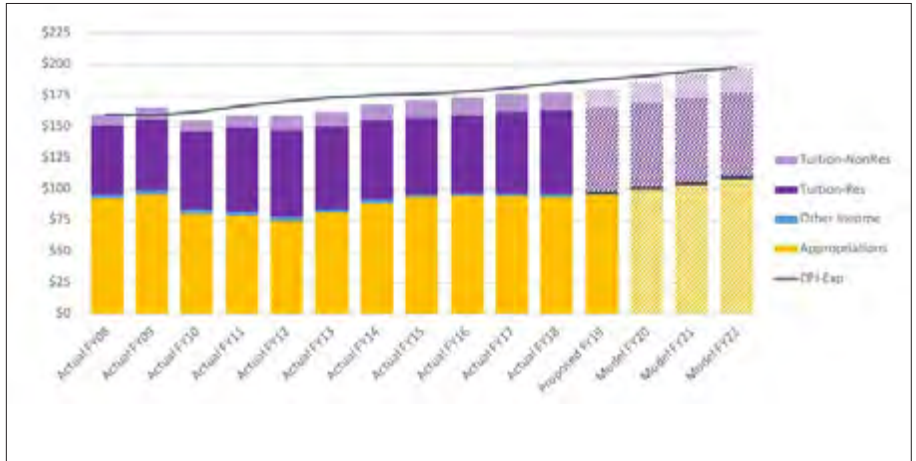
- Applied research on pretreatment, surface preparation, coating application, cure time and overall process controls
- Training and certification for military and federally contracted painting facilities
- Custom development of training curriculum for public and private industry coating facilities

EDUCATING IOWANS FOR IOWA®

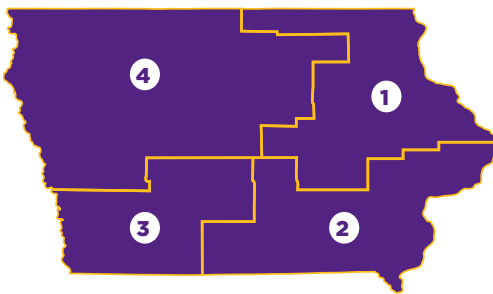
UNI is focused on providing high-quality education while managing costs to students and taxpayers. We've built a five-year budget model based on the university's FY08 budget. The university will manage a slow and steady enrollment increase, continue to look for cost savings and efficiencies, and keep our expenses at the Consumer Price Index of 1.75 percent. UNI has limited tuition flexibility; our tuition is near the median of our peers and above the median of regional competitors. In addition, student debt at the university sits \$5,000 below the national average.

Our budget enables us to offer reasonable and predictable tuition increases for Iowa students and their families. Though our budget anticipates an increase in out-of-state enrollment, we will not back away from the commitment to enroll at least the same percentage of Iowa high school graduates who attend the university.

BUDGET HISTORY WITH BUDGET MODELING THROUGH FY 2022



TITLE IV FUNDING IN IOWA



Region	Federal Pell Grant	SEOG	Federal Work Study
1	1,173 \$4,413,860.74	187 \$166,538	141 \$212,318.66
2	421 \$1,647,995	77 \$72,375	81 \$125,957.43
3	303 \$1,188,737	52 \$47,562	66 \$101,977.86
4	695 \$2,617,367	127 \$116,750	96 \$148,646.17

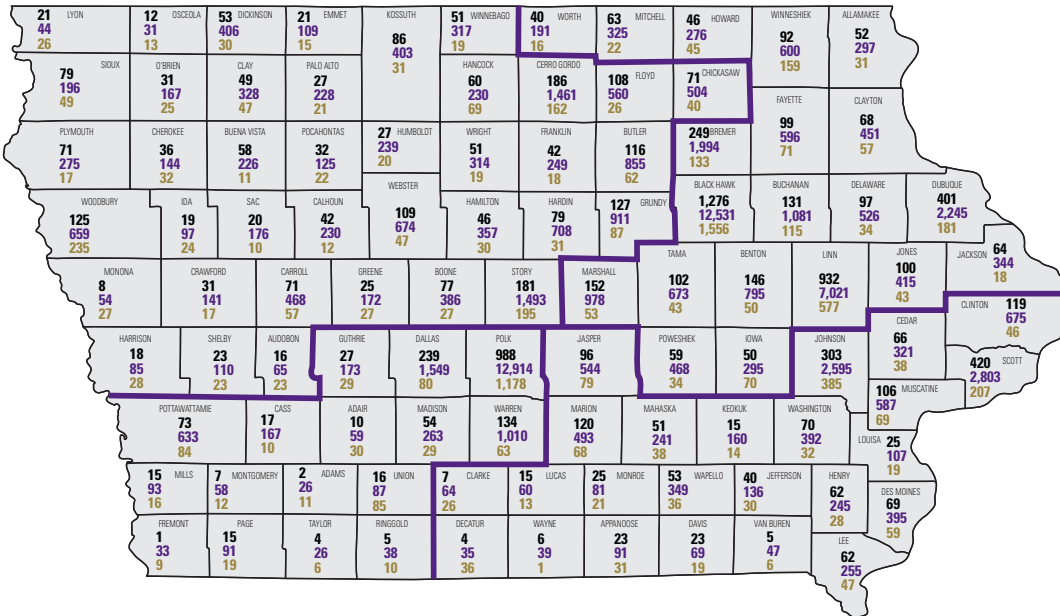
UNI TOTALS:

Federal Pell Grant	2,592
Federal Pell Grant	\$9,867,959
SEOG	443
SEOG	\$403,225
Federal Work Study	384
Federal Work Study	\$588,900.12

Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant (SEOG)

UNI IN IOWA

- Number of UNI Students (Fall 2018)
- Number of UNI Alumni
- Number of Clients Served by Business and Community Services



RECOGNITION AND VALUE



RECOGNITION

- UNI has recently been recognized by AASCU for its commitment to student success and its strength in cultivating economic growth and industry innovation. In 2016, the university received the Student Success and College Completion Award for a course-embedded mentoring program. In 2017, we received the Regional and Economic Development Award for the success of our EDA University Center Program. In 2018, UNI was awarded an extension to its designation as an EDA University Center.
- UNI has been recognized as a national leader in reducing student debt. A description of our program and its impact on student borrowing has been featured by the American Council on Education in their blog at www.higheredtoday.org.
- UNI is also leading the way to prepare teachers to address critical skill shortages in high-demand subject areas in high-need schools through the TEACH Grant. UNI's stewardship of the TEACH Grant has been highlighted by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) in their blog.
- UNI's John Pappajohn Entrepreneurial Center was recognized by the International Business Innovation Association as the Student Entrepreneurship Program of the Year.

RANKED NATIONALLY AS ONE OF THE **"100 BEST VALUES IN PUBLIC COLLEGES"** BY KIPLINGER'S PERSONAL FINANCE MAGAZINE AND **"BEST BANG FOR THE BUCK"** BY WASHINGTON MONTHLY.

95%

OF **UNI** GRADUATES FIND SUCCESS WITHIN 6 MONTHS OF GRADUATING

79% ARE EMPLOYED

15% ARE CONTINUING THEIR EDUCATION



1% OTHER/NOT SEEKING FOR VARIOUS REASONS INCLUDING: MILITARY, CAREGIVERS, PERFORMANCE OR ENTREPRENEURSHIP



85% UNI grads from Iowa stayed in Iowa



2/3 UNI grads who leave Iowa indicate they want to return in the future



47% UNI grads from out of state stayed in Iowa

UNI GRADUATES HAVE THE LOWEST INDEBTEDNESS OF ANY FOUR-YEAR PUBLIC INSTITUTION IN IOWA

95%

OF **UNI** FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS RECEIVE AID

90%

OF **UNI** STUDENTS GRADUATE WITH EXPERIENCES DIRECTLY RELATED TO THEIR FUTURE CAREER



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