

# The Voluntary System of Accountability at the Regent Universities

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## What is the VSA?

- Web reporting template to provide information on the undergraduate student experience
- Project funded by a Lumina grant
- Partnership between AASCU and NASULGC
  - Representing more than 600 public institutions
  - Enrolling more than 7,500,000 students
  - Awarding 70% of U.S. bachelors degrees



## Goals of VSA

- Provide consistent, comparable, transparent information for higher education stakeholders
- Aid students and families in college choice process
- Demonstrate greater institutional accountability for student learning and development

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## Audience

- Prospective and current students and families
- Policymakers, legislators
- Accreditors, institution and state boards
- Campus faculty and staff
- Public

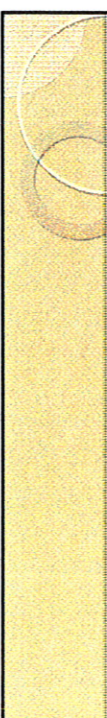
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## VSA Participation

- Voluntary
- 4-year, public institutions
- Sections of College Portrait template required according to timeline
- Most public universities and colleges are likely to participate – approximately 300 already

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## College Portrait: A Voluntary System of Accountability™

- 5-page web reporting template
- Standard, comparable format
- Most elements compiled from currently available data sources
- Opportunity to add university-specific links and information
- Dynamic content; systematically updated

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## College Portrait Content

- Student Characteristics
- Undergraduate Success & Progress Rate
- Cost of Attendance and Financial Aid
- Undergraduate Admissions
- Degrees and Areas of Study
- The Institution's Community
- Study at the Institution
- Carnegie Classification of Institutional Characteristics
- Student Housing
- Campus Safety
- Future Plans of Recent Bachelors' Degree Recipients
- Student Experiences and Perceptions
- Student Learning Outcomes

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The College  
Portrait:  
Six Pages of  
Uniformly  
Formatted  
Information



## Institutional Banner

### Student Characteristics

- Total Number
- UG Profile
  - Gender
  - Race/Ethnicity
  - Geographic
  - Age

### UG Success and Progress

- 4 and 6 year graduation
- First to second year retention

- Cost of attendance and financial aid
- Cost calculator
- Financial aid awarded
  - Overall
  - Need based scholarships and grants
  - Need based Loans

### UG Admissions

- Applied, Admitted, Enrolled
- Academic preparation
  - ACT and SAT
  - Class rank
  - HS GPA
- Degrees and areas of study

## Community (Links to distinctive attributes)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Study<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students per faculty</li><li>• Small classes</li><li>• Medium classes</li></ul></li><li>• FT Instructional Faculty<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• % Women</li><li>• % Minority</li><li>• % with highest degree</li></ul></li><li>• Carnegie classification</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Student Housing</li><li>• Campus Safety</li><li>• Future plans of degree recipients</li></ul> |
|---|---|

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## Student Experiences and Perceptions

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Group Learning Experiences</li><li>• Active Learning Experiences</li><li>• Institutional Commitment to Student Learning and Success</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Student Satisfaction</li><li>• Student Interaction With Campus Faculty and Staff</li><li>• Experiences With Diverse Groups of People and Ideas</li></ul> |
|---|--|

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## Student Learning Outcomes

- Student Learning Assessment at the Institution
- Pilot Project to Measure Core Learning Outcomes

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## Future Plans

- Systematically update all information
- Refine the content of optional information
- Annually update NSSE data
- Pilot student learning outcomes assessment instruments

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## Reporting Schedule

### • Completed:

- Student Characteristics
- Cost
- Undergraduate Admissions
- Degrees & Areas of Study
- The Community
- Study at ISU/SUI/UNI
- Student Housing
- Carnegie Classifications
- Campus Safety

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## University of Northern Iowa



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"It feels just right" . . . that's how many of our 12,500 students describe the University of Northern Iowa. Large enough to provide a rich and full college experience, but small enough that you get to know faculty personally and make new friends easily. We're ranked #2 among Midwest comprehensive universities by U.S. News and World Report. We put students first with quality faculty who pride themselves on teaching, an excellent faculty-to-student ratio, exceptional graduation rates, a winning Division I Panther athletics program, one of America's best college dining services, a vibrant campus life, and outstanding internship and job placement assistance. Visit our website at [www.uni.edu](http://www.uni.edu) <<http://www.uni.edu>> or call us at (319) 273-2281 or (800) 772-2037 to learn more about us and to schedule a campus visit.

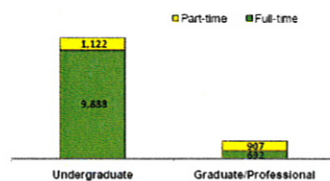
### Student Characteristics (Fall 2007)

[More](#)

#### TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS

12,609

#### Student Level and Enrollment Status



#### UNDERGRADUATE PROFILE

Total 11,010

#### Gender

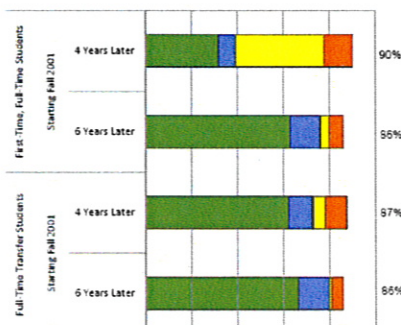
Women	6,254	57%
Men	4,756	43%

#### Race/Ethnicity

### Undergraduate Success and Progress Rate

[More](#)

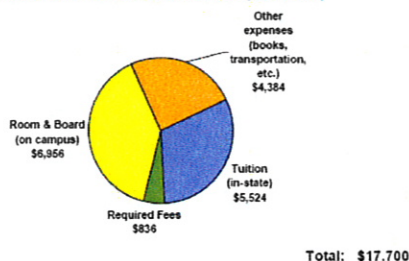
■ Graduated from UNI  
■ Graduated from other institution  
■ Still Enrolled at UNI  
■ Still Enrolled at other institution





Costs of Attendance and Financial Aid [More](#)

## Typical Undergraduate Costs per Year Without Financial Aid for Full-Time, In-State Students (2008-2009)



[CLICK HERE](#) for typical out-of-state costs and any discipline-specific tuition

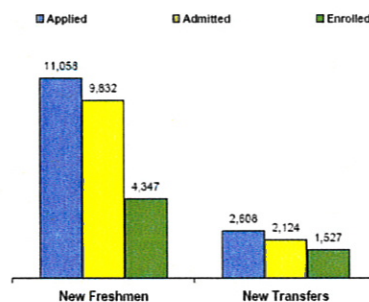
The cost to attend varies based on the individual circumstances of students and may be reduced through grants and scholarships.

[CLICK HERE](#)  
To get a cost estimate for  
students like you!

## Financial Aid Awarded to Undergraduates (Fall 2007)

## Overall Financial Aid

• 84% of Fall 2007 full-time undergraduates received financial aid of some type including need-based loans, work study, and

Undergraduate Admissions [More](#)

## Academic Preparation of New Freshman

## Test(s) Required for Admission: SAT or ACT

Middle 50% of Test Score Range	ACT	SAT
Composite	21.75-27.25	
Math	20.78-27.09	530-680
English	20.06-26.29	
Critical Reading		510-640

50% of admitted students have test scores within the ranges listed, 25% have scores above, and 25% have scores below.

Percent in top 25% of High School Graduating Class	58%
Percent in top 50% of High School Graduating Class	93%
Average High School GPA (4-point scale)	3.47

## The Hawkeye Community

The University of Iowa offers opportunities in more than 100 diverse areas of study. But an Iowa education is much more than what you learn in the classroom. Iowa students are active on campus and off—as volunteers, entrepreneurs, explorers, and leaders. You can make connections in living-learning communities, find your niche among more than 400 student groups, explore the world through a study abroad program, conduct cutting-edge research with a faculty member, or put your knowledge into practice through an internship or co-op. Iowa offers endless opportunities to develop leadership skills, get practical experience, meet people from many different backgrounds, and be involved in making the world a better place.

Study at UI [More](#)

## Classroom Environment

Students per Faculty	15 to 1
Undergraduate classes with fewer than 30 students	82%
Undergraduate classes with fewer than 50 students	92%

## Full-Time Instructional Faculty

Student Housing [More](#)

94% of new freshmen live on campus  
30% of all undergraduates live on campus

Campus Safety [More](#)



## Student Experiences & Perceptions

### National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE)

- To be reported within 2 years of becoming a VSA participant
- Update at least every 3 years
- Regent universities will be updating annually

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## Student Learning Outcomes

- Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAPP)
- Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA)
- Measure of Academic Proficiency & Progress (MAPP)

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## Student Learning Outcomes

- To be reported within 4 years of becoming a VSA participant
- Updated at least every 3 years
  - ISU: pilot CAPP assessment in Spring 2009
  - SUI: pilot CAAP in Fall 2008
  - UNI: continue MAPP pilot in Fall 2008

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## Conclusions

Three Regent institutions are:

- Early adopters of the VSA
- Exceeding expectations or on schedule with reporting timelines
- Systematically updating data
- Refining optional information

• PROVIDING TRANSPARENCY & ACCOUNTABILITY

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