

PROSPECTUS

Overview

From Bloomington-Normal to Asia, the College of Business at Illinois State University continues to develop partnerships with leading corporations and businesses of all sizes. As a result, we are privileged to consult with regional business leaders through the establishment of several advisory boards that keep the College updated on the latest strategies in business. In addition, business faculty members consult with businesses, conduct applied research that influences business thinking, and train business executives who, in turn, can apply what they learn immediately to their careers and influence the success of their companies. A growing population of quality students, engaged and enthusiastic faculty, vital and relevant curricula, and an accomplished roster of graduates are the best evidence of the College's success.

The College of Business at Illinois State University offers bachelor degree programs in accountancy, business administration, business information systems, business teacher education, finance, insurance, international business, management, and marketing. Master's degree programs are offered leading to the M.B.A. and the M.S. in Accountancy. A special integrated Bachelor of Science/Master of Professional Accountancy program is also available. The College has built its reputation on its ability to prepare students who can hit the ground running when they graduate.

The College of Business is a highly respected business college that develops professionals with the personal dedication, ethics, and lifelong learning capabilities needed to succeed professionally and to serve society. An individualized educational experience is achieved by actively involving students, creating a small class atmosphere, maintaining access to faculty, and through continuously improving the curriculum. Survey results indicate that students feel a major strength of the College is the quality of its faculty and their willingness to help students. The College has five full-time academic advisors that are available year-round to assist students in their academic planning. Students continue to select the College of Business for its academic reputation, cost, and the central location of the Illinois State campus.



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Accreditation

Established in 1967, the College of Business is one of only 186 schools worldwide that have achieved accreditation by the AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business – for both its undergraduate and graduate programs in business and accounting. Accreditation assures quality and promotes excellence and continuous improvement in undergraduate and graduate education for business and accounting. As of October 2017, 796 institutions hold AACSB accreditation.

Rankings

- Illinois State's College of Business was again included in Bloomberg BusinessWeek magazine's 2016 rankings of the top 100 best undergraduate business schools in the nation.
- Illinois State University's College of Business is one of the nation's best choices for earning an MBA, according to the 2018 edition of U.S. News & World Report Best Grad Schools in Business.

Class size and Faculty

The College of Business is committed to the undergraduate experience with the majority of classes taught by full-time faculty or industry professionals. None of our business classes are taught by graduate or teaching assistants. The average class size of all 300-level business classes for the Fall 2017 term is currently 28 students, further enhancing the individualized attention that Illinois State University business students have come to expect. Our faculty prepare students for successful professional and managerial careers while maintaining a close relationship with the business community, relying on a balance between quality teaching and applied theoretical research. The first focus of business faculty is excellence in classroom instruction; the second focus is to be innovative scholars through research.

Quality of Undergraduate Students

Traditionally between 16 to 20% of honors students and Bone Scholars are business majors. For the last several years it has taken at least a 3.80/4.0 GPA to make the College of Business Dean's list and the average undergraduate GPA has been over 3.0. This fall, new transfer students have an average transfer GPA of 3.25/4.0. New freshmen have an average composite ACT score of 23.6.



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Fall 2017 Undergraduate Enrollment Data

- 3,854 undergraduate majors
- Percentage by major: 23% Business Administration, 21% Marketing, 20% Accounting & BS/MPA, 15% Finance, 13% Management, 3% International Business, 2% Insurance, 2% Business Information Systems, and <1% Business Education.
- 65% males; 35% females
- 19% minority representation

High-tech Learning Environment

The State Farm Hall of Business is unlike any other in the nation -- large, professional, and technologically sophisticated. The design of the facility blends the small college campus environment with a corporate presence and state-of-the art technologies. Every classroom seat is wired for technology and most of the building has wireless access. Special features include the Enterprise Rent-A-Car Foundation Sales Learning Center, Financial Markets Lab, Business Information Systems Lab, Focus Group Room, nine team rooms, an executive classroom, an executive boardroom, and an interview suite for employers. More information about the building can be found on the web at business.illinoisstate.edu/about/facilities/

College of Business Alumni

Business alumni hold executive positions in many different types of companies and industries, including government, law, and the non-profit sectors. Several have also become successful entrepreneurs and small business owners. More than 76% of our over 31,000 living alumni work in the Midwest, but are represented in all 50 states and abroad. During the 2015-2016 academic year the College of Business conferred undergraduate degrees to 879 individuals.



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Student Organizations

There are 27 student organizations in the College of Business that provide opportunities for networking, developing leadership and organizational skills, and learning about professional issues and career options. Student organizations bring business executives to campus to speak about current issues, schedule field tours of business and industry, and coordinate events that bring students, faculty, and alumni-professionals together. They also provide an opportunity to have fun through a wide array of social activities and events. Each year College of Business student organizations earn regional and national recognition for their excellence.

Internships

67% of our May 2017 graduates participated in internship and professional practice programs with business and government to gain practical work experience related to their academic career goals. The Career Center helps students explore and develop internships and cooperative education positions, and seek employment or graduate/professional school opportunities after graduation. All majors in the College of Business offer internship opportunities and, each department in the College has at least one faculty internship coordinator who works with students and employers to ensure that each internship experience is meaningful.

Study Abroad

Participation in a study abroad experience is a fantastic way for students to gain international experience, learn about other cultures, and become more independent and self-confident. There are many opportunities available that allow students to earn business credit toward their degree, including short summer experiences and semester long programs. Some of the countries available to business students include: China, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Mexico, Netherlands, Spain, and Thailand. Many more exist and students are encouraged to contact our International Business Institute and the Office of International Studies to discuss options and plan for the future.



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Business Centers

Six individual Business Centers are housed within the State Farm Hall of Business and provide opportunities for faculty and students to interact with business and industry; allowing the College to maintain a pulse on trends affecting Corporate America. Centers include the George R. and Martha Means Center for Entrepreneurial Studies, the Katie School of Insurance and Financial Services, the Professional Sales Institute, the International Business Institute, the Organizational Leadership Institute, and the Institute for Financial Planning and Analysis.

Additional Information and Admission

You can learn more about “The Difference...” that a degree in business from Illinois State University can make including detailed academic plans of study and information about scholarship opportunities by visiting our web site: business.illinoisstate.edu, by phone at (309) 438-2251, or by email at cobinfo@ilstu.edu. You may apply for admission to Illinois State University online at admissions.illinoisstate.edu. The priority filing period for the fall 2018 semester is September 1 – November 15. The application deadline is April 1 and subject to change. You are strongly encouraged to file an application as soon as possible during the priority filing period.

