

UNI

University of Northern Iowa

WORKFORCE RECRUITMENT \$3M

Iowa has more job openings than people to fill them, and the state's slow population growth is not keeping pace with retirements. Our state's main economic growth challenge is our population; we must attract people from other states. As an access institution of higher education with a proven track record of keeping graduates in the state, UNI is uniquely positioned to play a critical role in attracting talent from other states and boosting Iowa's economic growth.

UNI is requesting \$3 million in FY 2026 state appropriations that would allow UNI to offer students from states contiguous to Iowa the same rate of tuition and mandatory fees that are charged to resident students. 40% of UNI graduates from the states contiguous to Iowa stay in the state after graduation, joining Iowa's workforce and adding value to Iowa's economic development. Not only will this funding open access to our programs for students from the states contiguous to Iowa, it will also increase enrollment of undergraduates ready to join the Iowa workforce upon graduation.

Employed in IA after graduation	1yr	5yrs	10yrs
% of employed graduates	76.9%	70.6%	67.8%

Source: Post Secondary Employment Outcomes (PSEO), 2024

86% of UNI
graduates from Iowa
stay in the state

88% of UNI transfer
student graduates
stay in Iowa to
live and work after
degree completion

43% of UNI
graduates from
outside of Iowa
stay in the state

90% of graduates enter the workforce with
experience in their field from UNI's robust
internship program, field experiences and
pre-professional part time jobs



UNI expects to triple the number of students from contiguous states upon implementation

	Non-resident enrollment, contiguous states	# degrees	# workers
Current	443	130	52
3x	1,329	390	156
7x	3,101	910	364

Estimates based on enrollment projections from Minnesota Tuition Reciprocity Annual Report, Academic Year 2020-2021