Top 100 Public University
Illinois State made U.S. News & World Report’s 2017 rankings of America’s best public national universities, at No. 78, based on academic quality and excellence.

Top 10% Graduation Rate
Our students complete their degrees on time. Our high graduation rate (73.4 percent) ranks us among the top 10 percent of all U.S. universities.

Record-Breaking Freshman Class
Illinois State remains a first-choice institution. For the third consecutive year, we set a record for freshman enrollment, while maintaining academic quality and small class sizes.

Diverse Campus
Illinois State provides accessible opportunity and increasingly reflects the nation’s changing demographics. This year about one-fifth of our freshman class comes from traditionally underrepresented groups, with a 10-percent increase in African-American students and a 9-percent increase in Latino/Latina students.

High Freshman Retention Rate
Illinois State helps freshmen make the leap to college. Our first-year transition programs raised our retention rate to 81.1 percent, placing us in the top 10 percent in the nation.

Bang for the Buck
Illinois State was ranked by College Factual as the 22nd Best College for the Money out of 1,200 schools across the country.

Record Fundraising
Illinois State recorded the second largest fundraising total in the institution’s history, raising more than $19 million for the third straight year.

High Student Loan Repayment Rate
Illinois State alumni go on to successful careers, shown in the very low student loan default rate of our graduates (2.8 percent) compared with the national average (11.8 percent).

Military Friendly School
Illinois State supports veterans and those in the military. We have been designated a Gold Medal-level Military Friendly School by Victory Media, and we’re ranked the top college for veterans in Illinois by College Factual and among the country’s best universities for veterans by Military Advanced Education & Transition.

Top College Town
Bloomington-Normal ranks as one of the top 10 college towns in America based on its quality of life and arts and entertainment opportunities. The University’s hometown is also a top 5 destination among smaller communities in the U.S. for recent college grads.

Great Place to Work
Illinois State was named a Great College to Work For by The Chronicle of Higher Education—the only four-year, public university in Illinois on the list.