

University System Charter

The University of Nebraska is a public research land grant statewide system. We impact the world in transforming lives and communities to an extraordinary future through our commitment to creating and sharing knowledge, inspiring and nurturing discovery and through forging and sustaining relationships built upon trust.

Mission

UNK's academic excellence and accessible, transformative education empower students and strengthen communities.

Supporting Statement

We transform lives through accessible, high-quality education grounded in research, service and real-world experience. We create opportunity for every student, offering a supportive community and hands-on learning that build leaders ready to make an impact. Through partnerships and career pathways, UNK fuels growth, expands opportunity and shapes a thriving future for our region.

Vision

The University of Nebraska at Kearney will be a premier regional university and transformative leader in higher education – shaping the future through uncompromising academic excellence and expanding affordable access to students of all ages. We prepare lifelong learners who excel in careers, lead with purpose and strengthen communities. Through research and partnerships, we drive discovery, economic vitality and an enhanced quality of life for Nebraska and beyond.

Values

At the University of Nebraska at Kearney, our values guide everything we do. We are student-centered, fostering a personalized environment where every student feels known, valued, connected and supported to succeed. We believe in community and collaboration, working alongside faculty, alumni, employers and neighbors to strengthen Nebraska and beyond. Through teaching, service, research and engaged learning, we prepare learners to inquire, think critically and creatively, and enrich the student experience with hands-on opportunities inside and outside the classroom. And with a commitment to access, stewardship and regional impact, we deliver affordable education, steward resources with integrity and build pipelines that strengthen Nebraska, fuel regional growth and expand opportunity.

Student-Centered & Supportive

Every student matters. We create a friendly, approachable, personalized environment where students, faculty and staff feel known, valued and connected.

Community & Collaboration

We thrive as a connected community – students, faculty, staff, alumni, employers and neighbors – working together to strengthen Nebraska and beyond. Through these relationships, we prepare graduates who drive growth, innovation and meet workforce needs, creating lasting impact for our region and state.

Teaching, Service & Engaged Learning

Rooted in the teacher-scholar model, we enrich learning through excellence in teaching, service and scholarship. Inside and outside the classroom we prepare learners to inquire, think critically and creatively, while students gain hands-on experiences – research, service, internships, study abroad and involvement in organizations – that prepare them for careers, communities and lifelong impact.

Access, Stewardship & Regional Impact

We provide affordable education and responsibly manage resources to ensure a strong return on investment. Our geographic location allows us to uniquely serve students and communities, building pipelines that strengthen the state and region.