

**Illinois State University**  
**Academic Affairs**  
**FY19 Planning Document**  
**Graduate School**

**I. Major Objectives for FY19**

The Graduate School has recently updated its strategic plan. This plan as well as all four goals within *Educate Connect Elevate Illinois State* will drive the FY 19 Planning document:

Below are the 10 strategies and associated tactics that will guide the Graduate School over the next 6 years.

1. Continue to improve the role of the Graduate School in problem-solving, customer service and leadership
  - a. Continue to look for ways to serve our constituents. (ongoing)
  - b. Seek to enhance customer service to faculty, staff, and students. (ongoing)
  - c. Advocate for electronic degree audits to aid faculty staff, and students. (FY 19)
2. Advocate for graduate students, student services, and student scholarship and creative activity.
  - a. Work closely with the graduate student senator to communicate issues relevant to graduate students. (ongoing)
  - b. Develop a plan to best utilize the Graduate Student Advisory Board. (FY 19)
  - c. Work with Milner Library's Information Use and Fluency Department/Scholarly Librarian to develop the "Grow a Researcher" program. (FY 19)
  - d. Capitalize on establishing/growing programs that meet the demands of potential students and the job market such as:
    - i. accelerated master's degree programs (FY 18)
    - ii. online programs (FY 19)
3. Maintain standards across campus
  - a. Review and develop a policy to deal with decimated courses and the lack of curriculum process review with them. (FY 19)
  - b. Develop an exit survey to determine the quality of the program. (FY 19)
4. Review and improve the thesis/dissertation process including deadlines and formatting.
  - a. Remove thesis and dissertation proposal approval form submission deadlines to expedite the process. (FY 19)
5. Provide recruitment assistance to programs.

- a. Require departments to develop recruiting plans to receive recruitment funds. (FY 19)
  - b. Investigate EAB resources on graduate recruitment. (FY 19)
6. Integrate across campus the concept that graduate programs add value to the university in terms of prestige and scholarship.
  - a. Develop stories for news feeds featuring graduate students. (FY 19)
7. Because graduate programs are important to faculty members, work with Chairs/Directors, Deans, and other levels of administration to enhance that value to new hires and current faculty as well as expand graduate program offerings.
  - a. Implement the INTO program at the graduate level. (FY 19)
8. Reposition graduate programs so they get more institutional recognition than they currently receive.
  - a. Elevate the position of the Graduate School in the minds of upper administration so they are a part of the President's Points of Pride, mentioned in talking points to community groups, etc. (FY 19)
9. Advocate that graduate assistants are valuable resources.
  - a. Work with CTLT to provide a teaching certificate for graduate students due to the large number of credit hours they teach. (FY 19)
  - b. Implement a stipend incentive program to attract high quality graduate students. (FY 19)
10. Recognize that graduate students are different than undergraduate students and that different services are required to support them.
  - a. Promote the resources available to graduate students such as Career Services, Milner Library, and CTLT. (FY 19)
  - b. Work with Milner Library to develop a section of the website that specifically targets the needs to graduate students. (FY 19)
  - c. Create an all graduate student orientation. (FY 19)

- II. Permanent Funding requests**
- III. Strategic Budgeted Carryover**
- IV. Provost Enhancement Requests**
- V. Personnel Requests – New TT - No request from Graduate School**
- VI. Personnel Requests – Other TT - No request from Graduate School**
- VII. Facilities Requests - No request from Graduate School**