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## 09/14/1984 - Fall Enrollment

University Marketing and Communications

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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
Charleston, Illinois

news

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CHARLESTON, IL--Official Fall Semester on-campus enrollment at Eastern Illinois University totals 9,908 students, near the 9,850 target established by the University.

"Our 9,850 target," according to President Stan Rives, "was established to honor a commitment to the Illinois Board of Higher Education and with full knowledge that there were nearly eight percent fewer 1984 high school graduates in Illinois than in 1983."

The 9,908 Fall 1984 total compares with a 10,028 Fall 1983 total, 120 or 1.2 percent fewer students at Eastern than a year ago. "This slight enrollment reduction," said Rives, "is consistent with our commitments to the Board of Governors and the Board of Higher Education to effect a modest decrease in our enrollment in exchange for better-than-average budget increases."

Eastern's 1984-85 appropriation of \$34.5 million, a \$2.2 million increase over last year's \$32.3 million budget, is the second largest percentage increase for Illinois public universities.

Enrollment by class at Eastern for Fall 1984 breaks down as follows (with Fall 1983 figures in parentheses): Freshmen 2,875 (2,858 a year ago); Sophomores 2,026 (2,047); Juniors 2,120 (2,166); Seniors 2,069 (2,143); and graduate students 818 (814).

"We are particularly pleased," said Rives, "with the increase in transfer student enrollment and the stabilization of graduate enrollment. We are concerned about the slight decline in new freshman enrollment even though it is less than the statewide decline of nearly eight percent in high school graduates. Overall, these data demonstrate that Eastern remains an attractive institution to students and their parents."

Enrollment in off-campus courses, which is still in progress, is expected to increase beyond the total Fall 1983 extension enrollment of 453. The total of Fall 1984

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on and off-campus enrollment at Eastern is anticipated to be near the 10,481 total of Fall 1983. The decline in high school graduates is allowing the University to serve more place-bound, employed adults in off-campus locations.

Rives complimented Vice President for Student Affairs Glenn Williams, Director of Admissions John Beacon, and the Eastern Admissions staff for their work in bringing total enrollment near the target established by the University.