It's your turn now. Understanding starting or returning to college as an adult can be overwhelming. Now is the time to do something for yourself whether your goal is to change careers, complete your college degree, or update your skills. You will fit right in at PSC – over 40 percent of our students are returning adults and our average student age is 28. Most of our returning adult students have discovered that the hardest part isn't the schoolwork, the time, or the scheduling – it's taking the first step.

Prairie State College (PSC)
prairiestate.edu
Start near. Go far.
Flexible Scheduling
Classes are available when you are - days, evenings, weekends only, and online. We offer Late Start classes (12-week classes instead of 16).

Dedicated Faculty
Classes are small and offer a supportive environment with highly qualified faculty who take teaching seriously.

A Great Value
PSC’s costs are lower than other colleges and universities. Spend the first two years at PSC and transfer to a four-year university in Illinois and save over 35 percent* on the cost of a bachelor’s degree.

* The average cost of tuition and fees at Western Illinois University, Eastern Illinois University, Northern Illinois University, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Illinois State University, University of Illinois Chicago, and University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign compared to the cost of tuition and fees at PSC. Source for state universities tuition and fees: An Admissions Guide for Counselors, 2008-2009.
Prairie State College (PSC) understands starting or returning to college as an adult can be overwhelming. Now is the time to do something for yourself whether your goal is to change careers, complete your college degree, or update your skills. You will fit right in at PSC – over 40 percent of our students are returning adults and our average student age is 28. Most of our returning adult students have discovered that the hardest part isn’t the schoolwork, the time, or the scheduling – it’s taking the first step.

It’s your turn now.
Prairie State College offers associate’s degrees to prepare students for transfer to four-year colleges and universities.

PSC guarantees that its credits will transfer to other colleges and universities, an assurance that has grown through the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI.) The IAI is a statewide agreement that ensures all general education courses and courses in a student’s major taken at community colleges will count toward a bachelor’s degree at all state universities and most private colleges in Illinois.

“Prairie State was my community college. It offered me a great opportunity to get a college education while I continued to work and support my family. My education at PSC laid the foundation I needed to take my education and career farther than I ever thought possible.”
Michael Hopkins came to PSC because it was a path to a bachelor’s degree that he could begin in his own backyard. After completing his general education courses, Michael transferred to Governors State University to earn a bachelor’s and master’s and then moved on to The John Marshall Law School to earn his J.D. He is now an attorney.
Train for a Career in a Year

PSC’s career programs provide real world training that expands beyond the classroom. PSC offers a wide range of degrees and certificates that can be earned in 3, 6, 12, or 24 months. Our career and technical programs are taught by professors who are recognized experts in their fields with advanced teaching credentials and professional experience.

When Jason Fosco decided he needed training for a career, he looked no further than PSC. Jason enrolled in PSC’s automotive technology program because of the program’s reputation, the flexible class schedule, and location from home.

“PSC is great because I get hands-on training in my field from instructors with real world experience.”
Dean Rogan II enrolled in PSC’s music production program because he wanted to pursue his passion for music. It was “a while” since he was last in school, but he quickly found the professors were there to help him.

“At PSC, the instructors are passionate, and they want you to succeed. The music production program is the only act in town with classes taught by professionals in the field who share their wealth of knowledge with the students.”
A mother of two, Diana Gudowski decided to enroll in PSC’s Photography program because she wanted to do something for herself. She took a couple of classes a semester while she worked part-time and took care of her family.

“Prairie State College offered me the flexibility to earn a degree. The teachers were wonderful, and I enjoyed coming to school. PSC became my second family.”
Julia Reich

Julia started taking classes at PSC on a part-time basis in 2004.

“My experience at PSC has been awesome – the professors pour everything into the program – it is not just a job for them, it’s a passion. They demonstrate that through their teaching.”
After 30 years of working in the airline industry, Alanda Gray had a choice to make when her company was sold: retire early or relocate. Deciding neither was an option, she enrolled in PSC’s Networking program. After earning her certificate, Alanda has a career as a Webmaster.

“PSC was close to home and affordable. The college provides returning adults with an excellent support system. Thanks to my Prairie State education, I have a thriving career.”
Prairie State

Founded:
• 1958

Student Body:
• 5,368 students enrolled in credit classes and programs
• 62% female, 38% male
• 66% part-time, 34% full-time
• 61% daytime, 39% evenings and weekends
• Average student age: 28

Faculty:
• Full-time faculty: 83
• 95% of full-time faculty have a master’s or doctorate degree
• Student-Faculty ratio: 20:1

Number of degrees and certificates offered:
• 75+

Accreditation:
• North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
Financial Aid
In addition to state and federal grants, the PSC Foundation provides a wealth of scholarship opportunities. Financial aid is available to assist students in meeting the costs of a college education. If you need help paying for tuition, fees, books, and other expenses, you should apply for financial aid. Eligibility requirements vary for each type of assistance, so all students are encouraged to apply.

Affordable Child Care
PSC’s Children’s Learning Center is a licensed facility that provides quality childcare for children ages 15 months to 12 years old. Full and regularly scheduled part-time care is offered to accommodate the scheduling needs of students. For more information call (708) 709-3725.

New Directions Support Group
To help make the transition to college life easier, PSC has a support group, New Directions. This group is for adults who are returning to college or for individuals beginning college many years after high school. Monthly meetings offer encouragement and support for your academic success.
Find Out More Today

Learn more about PSC from our advisors. They can assist you with the enrollment process and help you choose the classes you need start your college career. Contact the Academic Services and Counseling Center at (708) 709-3506. Or, fill out the enclosed card and one of our advisors will contact you. You also can explore PSC on our Web site at prairiestate.edu.
I want to start near, go far!

Name ___________________________________________________________ Today’s date _________________________
Address ________________________________________________________________________________________________
City __________________________________ State ________ Zip ____________
Daytime phone number __________________ Evening phone number ______________
e-mail address __________________________________________________________@_________________________

Please mail me info about:
☐ Associate degrees and certificate programs  ☐ Ask an enrollment advisor to contact me
☐ Non-credit classes  ☐ Financial aid

I’m thinking of doing my first two years at Prairie State, then getting a four-year degree. Possible majors are:
________________________________________________________________________________________________

I’m interested in the following two-year career programs:
________________________________________________________________________________________________

How did you hear about PSC?
☐ newspaper  ☐ high school counselor
☐ PSC Web site  ☐ schedule
☐ other Web site  ☐ friend/family member
☐ direct mail  ☐ flyer/poster
☐ college fair  ☐ radio

Year of high school graduation _______________________________
Name of high school _______________________________________
I expect to enter Prairie State College in:
Fall 20____ Spring 20____ Summer 20____
I’m ☐ a new college student ☐ transferring from
☐ a returning student ☐ another college

Prairie State College recognizes the diversity of students, faculty, staff, and community as an integral part of lifelong learning. We are committed to building and maintaining an inclusive, accessible, and supportive environment on campus. Prairie State College embraces the diversity of individual beliefs and opinions, and supports diversity in religion, gender, ethnicity, race, sexual orientation, physical and mental ability, age, and socioeconomic status. The College will adhere to policies and procedures, which discourage harassment and other behaviors that infringe upon the freedom and respect every individual deserves.