Applicant Packet:

Getting Started at SIUE:

- The purpose of the [New Employee Guidebook](#) is to help new employees become familiar with Southern Illinois University Edwardsville including the mission, vision, values, policies, processes, services and benefits available.
- The [Faculty Handbook](#) offers valuable information on policies concerning students, faculty, and University employees. The handbook also includes details regarding research and teaching guidelines and organizational structures.

Unique Aspects at SIUE:

- SIUE has been Nationally Recognized for Excellence, has a Commitment to Diversity and Sustainability, and upholds Academic Excellence. Please visit the [University's Points of Pride](#) to review SIUE's achievements.
- The University has a 36-acre property which highlights the natural areas, gardens, and student-designed sculptures. Visit [The Gardens at SIUE](#) for more information.
- The Cougar Lake Recreation Area is surrounded by views of Cougar Lake an excellent place for walking, hiking, and fishing. For more information, please visit: [Cougar Lake Recreation Area](#).
- Located south of Prairie Hall is the [Disc Golf Course](#). The Disc Golf Course is free and open to all SIUE community members. Visit the link for information on basic rules, location, and equipment.

SIUE Equity Initiatives:

- To learn more about community and cultural organizations on campus, please visit the [Flyer on SIUE Organizations](#)
- For information on support for dual career couples, please visit the [Flyer on Dual Career Resources](#)
- Find out more about family-friendly benefits at SIUE by visiting the [Flyer on Family-Friendly Resources](#)

Internal Funding Opportunities

- SIUE offers internal funding for both competitive and non-competitive programs. Faculty can apply for non-competitive programs to receive incentives for travel, production and publication, application resubmissions, and more. Additionally, competitive programs reward academic excellence for both faculty and graduate students. For more information on internal funding opportunities click here: [Internal Funding](#).

Quality of life:

- To evaluate the cost of living in this area, please use the [Cost of Living Calculator](#).
- Below are links with information about public schools in the area, their performance rankings, and childcare facilities for applicants with children.
    - [Find Public School District](#)
    - [Performance Rankings for Illinois Public Schools](#)
    - [Performance Rankings for St Louis Area Public Schools](#)
    - [Find Childcare Facilities](#)

- o   SIUE Childcare. For information on enrollment at the SIUE Early Childhood Center, click here: Enrollment and Tuition.

Area benefits:

- In 2010 Edwardsville, IL was named one of the nation's best towns for families by Family Circle magazine. In 2013 Edwardsville, IL was ranked as #1 by NerdWallet in their list of Best Cities for Young Families. To learn more about Edwardsville's accomplishments, click here: Edwardsville, IL
- Troy, IL has a small town feel and is perfectly located for short and easy commutes to SIUE, primary schools, and various entertainment activities within the metropolitan area. To learn more about living in Troy, IL, click here: Troy, IL
- Maryville, IL is one of the fastest growing communities in the area and is ranked as one of the safest communities in Illinois. To learn more about Maryville, IL, click here: Maryville, IL
- Granite City, IL is a vibrant community with below average crime rates and cost of living. For more information about Granite City, IL, click here: Granite City, IL
- Collinsville, IL is known for its "small town charm and big city amenities." Collinsville is an affordable and growing community. For more information on Collinsville, IL, click here: Collinsville, IL
- In 2009 and 2011 Glen Carbon, IL was listed in CNN Money's top 100 best places to live. To learn more about living in Glen Carbon, click here: Glen Carbon, IL
- In 2018 Alton, IL was labeled as the Best Place to Retire in Illinois by Forbes magazine and as the Best Place to Live for Under $40,000 a year by AARP magazine. To learn more about Alton's accomplishments, click here: Alton, IL
- St. Louis, MO offers free and affordable family fun. To learn more about the benefits of living in or around St. Louis, MO, click here: St. Louis, MO

Outdoor Activities

- There are over 100 miles of paved trails perfect for biking or walking throughout Madison County. For information on the trails, parking, and rules, please visit the Madison County Bike Trails.
- The Watershed Nature Center is over 40 acres of woodlands, wetlands, and grassland habitats. Visit the Watershed Nature Center for hiking, environment education, and to enjoy the natural habitats of Edwardsville.
- Enjoy the meeting of the Great Rivers, by Touring the Byway. The byway winds west and north via Illinois Routes 3, 143, and 100. Illinois Route 100 leads you through Alton and bends along the forested river bluff approximately 25 miles to its ending point in Grafton at Pere Marquette State Park.
- The St. Louis Zoo is home to over 12,000 animals and has been labeled America's Top Free Attraction. Use the link to make a reservation to access the St. Louis Zoo.
- The Missouri Botanical Garden offers over 70 acres of beautiful horticulture display, including a 14-acre Japanese strolling garden, Henry Shaw's original 1850 estate home, and one of the world's largest collections of rare and endangered orchids. Visit the link for information on tickets, events, and location.

Parks

- For information on some of the favorite local parks please visit the links below:

- o Alton, IL: [Alton Dog Park](#)
- o Collinsville, IL: [Collinsville Aqua Park](#)
- o Edwardsville, IL: [City Park](#), [Leon Corlew Park & Splash Pad](#), [Joe Glik Park](#), [Edwardsville Township Community Park](#)
- o Glen Carbon, IL: [Miner Park](#), [Ray M. Schon Park](#)
- o Granite City, IL: [Wilson Park](#)
- o Maryville, IL: [Drost Park](#)
- o St. Louis, MO: [Forest Park](#)
- o Troy, IL: [Tri-Township Park](#)

Museums

- The St. Louis City Museum is housed is a mixture of a children's playground, funhouse, and architectural marvel made from found and repurposed objects by internationally acclaimed artist Bob Cassilly. Visit the [City Museum](#) for information on location and prices.
- The St. Louis Art Museum highlights various works of art of the highest quality across time and cultures. Admission to the St. Louis Art Museum is free. For information on current and upcoming exhibitions, please visit: [St. Louis Art Museum](#).
- The St. Louis Science Center is one of the largest science centers in the U.S. and abroad. The Science Center features more than 700 interactive experiences in ten galleries and an indoor-outdoor GROW agricultural pavilion and gallery. Admission to the St. Louis Science Center is free. For more information, please visit: [St. Louis Science Center](#)
- The National Blues Museum explores the Blues and celebrates the genre as the foundation of all modern American music. For information on location and tickets, please visit: [National Blues Museum](#).
- The Missouri History Museum (MHM) has been acknowledged for excellence at both the local and national level. MHM is a non-profit organization that works to preserve and promote history. For more information, please visit: [Missouri History Museum](#)

Shopping

- SIUE employees can enjoy discounts from many vendors both locally and nationally. Vendors are listed under each category. Select the categories you are interested in for details. Click here to view: [Employee Discounts](#).
- Learn how you can support local businesses in Edwardsville by visiting the full list of [Local restaurants, shops and businesses in downtown Edwardsville](#).
- For a more comprehensive list of local businesses in and around Madison County, click here: [Local Businesses.](#)

Farmers' Markets

- The Soulard Farmers' Market has been a tradition for over 200 years in St. Louis. The market offers various locally grown or crafted products. For information on hours and location, click here: [Soulard Farmers' Market](#).
- The Tower Grove Farmers' Market has been named the Best Farmers' Market by Sauce Magazine and Riverfront Times. For more information, click here: [Tower Grove Farmers' Market](#).
- The Goshen Market in Edwardsville features many local businesses and farmers. For more information visit: [The Goshen Community Market](#).

- The Alton Farmers' and Artisans' Market offers fresh produce, baked goods, handcrafted jewelry, and much more. For information on hours and location, click here: [Alton Farmers' and Artisans' Market](#)

Local Festivals

- Festivals are a great way to engage with the community, learn about local businesses, and to have fun! There are a wide range of festivals for wine lovers, foodies, antique car enthusiasts and everyone in between. Check out the links below to learn about some of the festivals in our area:
    - [Alton Jazz and Wine Festival](#)
    - [Collinsville Italian Fest](#)
    - [Edwardsville Roots Festival and BBQ Competition](#)
    - [International Horseradish Festival](#)
    - [Route 66 Festival](#)
    - [Soulard Mardi Gars](#)
    - [St. Louis Earth Day Festival](#)
    - [Taste of St. Louis](#)