What is a Mission Statement?

- A statement that delineates, in concise language, why an institution exists and what its operations are intended to achieve.
- Recent practice favors a short, basic statement of purpose – a clear, concise statement: “This is what we are here to do.”

**Suggested NKU Mission Statement**

Northern Kentucky University is committed to excellence in

- placing student success at the center of all that we do to instill a commitment to lifelong learning,
- preparing students for specific careers or graduate studies, and
- supporting research, creative activity, and service that contribute to student learning.

As the commonwealth’s only regional university located in a major metropolitan area, NKU leverages public engagement and other service and learning opportunities that contribute to developing well-rounded productive citizens, expanding their perspectives, and transforming lives in ways that benefit the commonwealth, the tri-state region, and the world.

**Mission Statement Alternate #1**

Northern Kentucky University is a student-centered, comprehensive public university transforming the lives of its students and producing intellectual capital for the commonwealth and the world. As Kentucky’s only regional university located in a major metropolitan area, NKU is committed to meeting the diverse needs of the tri-state region through excellence in instruction, research and creative activity that support student learning, and public engagement.

**Mission Statement Alternate #2**

Northern Kentucky University is a comprehensive public university committed to student success through excellence in teaching, research and creative activity, and public engagement that leads to active lifelong learning in a global society. As the commonwealth’s only regional university located in a major metropolitan area, NKU serves a tri-state area with opportunities in the arts and humanities, business, education, healthcare, humanities, law, and informatics.

**Mission Statement Alternate #3**

Northern Kentucky University is a student-centered, comprehensive public university dedicated to preparing students for their careers and lives by offering a high-quality education, undergraduate research and creative activity, and public engagement opportunities for the betterment of the commonwealth, the tri-state metropolitan region, and the world.
What is a Vision Statement?

- A clear description of what the institution intends to become within a certain timeframe.
- The vision is the University’s strategic position in the future.

**Suggested NKU Vision Statement**

By its 50th anniversary in 2018, Northern Kentucky University will be nationally recognized for innovative and effective approaches to student success and personal connections to students, faculty, and staff.

**Vision Statement Alternate**

Northern Kentucky University will be internationally known as a model for innovation and excellence in public engagement and student-centered teaching, research, and creative activity. NKU will continue to enhance its position as an institution of choice with distinctive, progressive programs that increasingly attract diverse and talented students.

What are Core Values?

- Values explain what the institution stands for and the way in which it intends to conduct its activities.
- Value statements declare: “These are the characteristics we believe are important in how we do our work.”

**Suggested NKU Core Values**

- **Integrity** in teaching, learning, scholarship, and leadership
- **Diversity** in people and ideas in a supportive, inclusive environment
- **Responsibility** and **accountability** that support collegiality, collaboration, and mutual trust
- **Excellence** obtained through high standards for students, faculty, administration, and staff
- **Innovation** and **creativity** that enable students to reach their highest potential
- **Public engagement** that promotes social responsibility and advances the vitality of the region and the commonwealth
- **Wellness-oriented** and **safe** campus environment
- **Meaningful connections** with students in support of their learning

**Additional Core Values Suggestions**

- **Ethical conduct** in all that we do
- **Sustainability** that shows respect for the environment