University of Illinois at Chicago among top schools for online bachelor's

By Lorene Yue
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University of Illinois at Chicago is among the top 20 schools in the nation offering an online bachelor's degree, according to U.S. News & World Report magazine.

The Chicago campus of the University of Illinois landed at No. 18 on the magazine's 2013 ranking for online bachelor's degrees. It was one of three area schools on the list. DeVry University ranked 61 and Loyola University Chicago was 64.

U.S. News also rated graduate schools offering degrees in various areas of study including business, education and nursing.

The University of Chicago was not included in the rankings because it does not offer online degrees. Northwestern University does not offer an online bachelor's degree, but it does offer some online master's degrees.

Rankings were compiled based on school survey responses to questions about graduation and retention rates, faculty credentials and student support and technology. Graduate programs also were rated based on admissions selectivity and in some cases peer reputation.

Here's how Illinois schools fared in the 2013 online education rankings.

Online graduate degrees in business:

16. University of Illinois at Springfield
80. University of St. Francis, Joliet
100. McKendree University, Lebanon
113. Benedictine University, Lisle
131. DeVry University
132. Judson University, Elgin

Online graduate degrees in education:

4. Northern Illinois University
19. Roosevelt University

62. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

65. University of St. Francis

119. Benedictine University

Online graduate degrees in engineering:

42. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Online graduate degrees in nursing:

33. University of St. Francis

46. Chamberlain College of Nursing

49. Benedictine University

50. Rush University