At Illinois, we are committed to the principle that a diverse community enhances our living, learning, and working environment. We encourage you to explore our MERGE diversity recruiting program—a great opportunity for you to learn more about our campus, our people, and the groundbreaking work we're doing at the University of Illinois.

Apply for an all-expense-paid trip to visit campus!

The Multicultural Engineering Recruitment for Graduate Education (MERGE) program invites promising students to visit campus for an all-expense-paid, in-depth view of the outstanding programs and facilities available for graduate study in the top-ranked fields of engineering, computer science, and physics at Illinois. Previous MERGE programs have hosted over 570 students from 85 universities across the United States and Puerto Rico.

When: MERGE program will be held on campus October 10 & 11, 2014. Travel dates will be October 9th and October 12, 2014.

Eligibility Criteria: Candidate must be a U.S. Citizen or permanent resident, currently enrolled or recently completed an accredited curriculum in engineering, physics. Preference will be given to individuals who will be graduating in the coming year, with a GPA of 3.2 or higher (on a 4.0 point scale), and individuals whose cultural background will increase the diversity of the graduate student body.

Application Procedure: To receive full consideration, we advise that all application materials should be submitted as soon as possible.

The following items must be provided within your application:

- Applicant Profile
- Unofficial transcript
- Statement of not more than 300 words concerning your previous academic work in your proposed or allied fields of study, other educational experiences, and your plans for graduate study. While your transcript and statement do not have to be uploaded at the time you begin your application, they must be included before the submission process will be considered complete.

Application Deadline: September 12, 2014. If applying after September 12, inquire first by email (engr-merge@illinois.edu) to find out if space is available.

Contact: Questions can be sent to engr-merge@illinois.edu, or call the MERGE office at (217) 265-4560.