



Kendall College

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For Immediate Release

Kendall College Partners with Illinois Restaurant Association to Offer Tuition Benefit *IRA member employees statewide offered tuition reduction on all degree programs*

Chicago—April 23, 2013— [Kendall College](http://www.kendall.edu) is pleased to announce a new benefit for Illinois Restaurant Association (IRA) members statewide that provides reduced tuition rates for their employees and families to support their pursuit or completion of a degree in several disciplines.

As part of the partnership with the IRA formed on the cusp of the Chicago-based nonprofit's centennial, Kendall College will extend a 20% tuition reduction on degree programs in business, culinary arts and hospitality.

"Offering Illinois Restaurant Association members' employees the means to achieve or continue college education is an investment in the most important asset of our state's vibrant foodservice industry," says Kendall College President Emily Knight. "Kendall is proud to play this important role in ensuring the future health and success of restaurants and many other businesses throughout Illinois by helping our state's citizens acquire and thrive in hospitality-sector careers."

Kendall College was selected by the IRA as an official partner for this member benefit for the quality of its education, ranked as the best in Illinois for preparing students for careers in hospitality management and culinary arts as substantiated by a recent study (<http://culinary.kendall.edu/about/kendall-1-for-preparing-students>); a hybrid education-delivery format for Kendall's business and hospitality programs that effectively combines classroom and online instruction; four start times per year, which awards greater lifestyle accommodation and convenience to students; and an experiential approach to learning and support services, including dedicated enrollment advisors, financial-aid consultants and admissions representatives.

"The Illinois Restaurant Association has worked since 1914 to provide restaurant operators and suppliers with valuable business services, networking opportunities, cost-saving programs and vital advocacy," says IRA President Sam Toia. "Working with Kendall College in a way that makes quality education in hospitality management, culinary arts and business more accessible and affordable is yet the latest example of the IRA's commitment to its members' ongoing success."

The foodservice industry in Illinois is the largest private-sector employer in the state. Foodservice operations employed more than 516,000 people in 2012 and realized \$20.9 billion in sales. The IRA projects a 3.7% increase in offered jobs (517,900) and sales (\$21.7 billion) in 2013.

Kendall College will also offer IRA members' employees and their families a 15% tuition reduction on pursuing bachelor's-degree programs in early childhood education.

For more information about Kendall College's Illinois Restaurant Association partnership benefit, visit www.kendall.edu/partner. For more information about the Kendall College School of Culinary Arts, School of Hospitality Management and School of Business, visit www.kendall.edu.

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About Kendall College:

Kendall College, founded in 1934, is located in Chicago, Illinois and is a member of the *Laureate International Universities* network. Kendall offers undergraduate degrees in [business](#), [culinary arts](#), [early childhood education](#) and [hospitality management](#) to a diverse and passionate community of more than 2200 students. The curriculum combines strong academics with practical experience and international educational opportunities that help give students in business, hospitality and culinary arts programs the skills and expertise to be leaders in their professions. Kendall College was ranked the number one program in Chicago for preparing students for careers in hospitality management and culinary arts in a survey of management at Chicago's leading hotels and Michelin Guide restaurants ([ORC International – 2011 Survey](#)). Kendall College is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA), www.ncahlc.org; 1-312-263-0456. For more information, visit www.Kendall.edu.