

Elevate College Prep

Overnight Summer Programs



2026

ILLINOIS TECH

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Dear Student,

On behalf of Illinois Tech's Elevate College Prep team, I'd like to welcome you to your Illinois Tech summer program! Participating in Elevate College Prep is a great way to explore your interest in STEM subjects, to make new friends, and to get a taste of college life on Illinois Tech's world-renowned Mies Campus.

Elevate College Prep also offers you the chance to see firsthand how **Illinois Tech's one-of-a-kind Elevate initiative** empowers our students with a world-class education that provides guaranteed access to hands-on experiences such as internships, research projects, study away, competitions, and more.

Elevate College Prep is a first step toward college readiness, preparing you for a journey that knows no bounds! We are delighted to provide you with experiences that will develop your leadership in a college and career setting.

The summer will be here before you know it, so please use this welcome guide to learn important information about your life as a summer programs student. Please review it carefully, and let us know if you have any questions. We are very excited to meet you in a few short weeks!

Best,

Scott Tillman

Associate Director of Pre-College Access
Elevate College Prep
Illinois Tech



For Overnight Students



Check-In and Orientation

Check-In.



Check-in will run from **2–4 p.m. (CDT)** on the Sunday prior to the start of a program. Students should plan to arrive at **Cunningham Hall**, which is located at 3100 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60616. At check-in, students will receive their room assignment, Hawk ID card, and more information about the dorms and campus. They'll also get to meet the STEM learning intern team (Illinois Tech undergraduate and graduate students who serve as summer program camp counselors). At check-in each student will be asked to show a government-issued photo identification card.

Orientation.



From **4–9 p.m.**, summer program students will participate in an orientation alongside the STEM learning interns. They'll get to know their fellow students, go on a tour of campus, and learn about safety and conduct policies. They'll also have dinner in **The Commons dining hall**. Parents and guardians are welcome to join through the presentation portion!

Check-out.



Check-out will run from **6–8:30 p.m. (CDT)** at Cunningham Hall on the Friday of the conclusion of a program. After their summer program ends, students can check themselves out without a parent/guardian present if their parent/guardian emails their approval to precollege@illinoistech.edu at least two business days prior to the program's conclusion.

Remember Your Hawk ID



If you will not be able to check in/check out during the scheduled time, please email us at precollege@illinoistech.edu to let us know when we can expect you.






Program Information

Program	Dates
Experiment in Architecture	July 6–17
Biomedical Engineering: Drug Delivery Innovations	July 6–17
From Lab to Life: A Chemistry Career Exploration	July 6–17
Pre-Health Academy: Discover Your Path in Health Care	July 6–17
Decision Leadership	July 6–17
Understanding the Human Mind	July 20–24
Build Your Own Robot	July 20–24
Cybersecurity Bootcamp	July 27–31
Summer Legal Academy	July 27–31
Rocket Engineering 101: Design, Build, Launch	July 27–31
Game Design from the Ground Up	July 27–31
Influencing the Digital World: Social Media 101	July 27–31



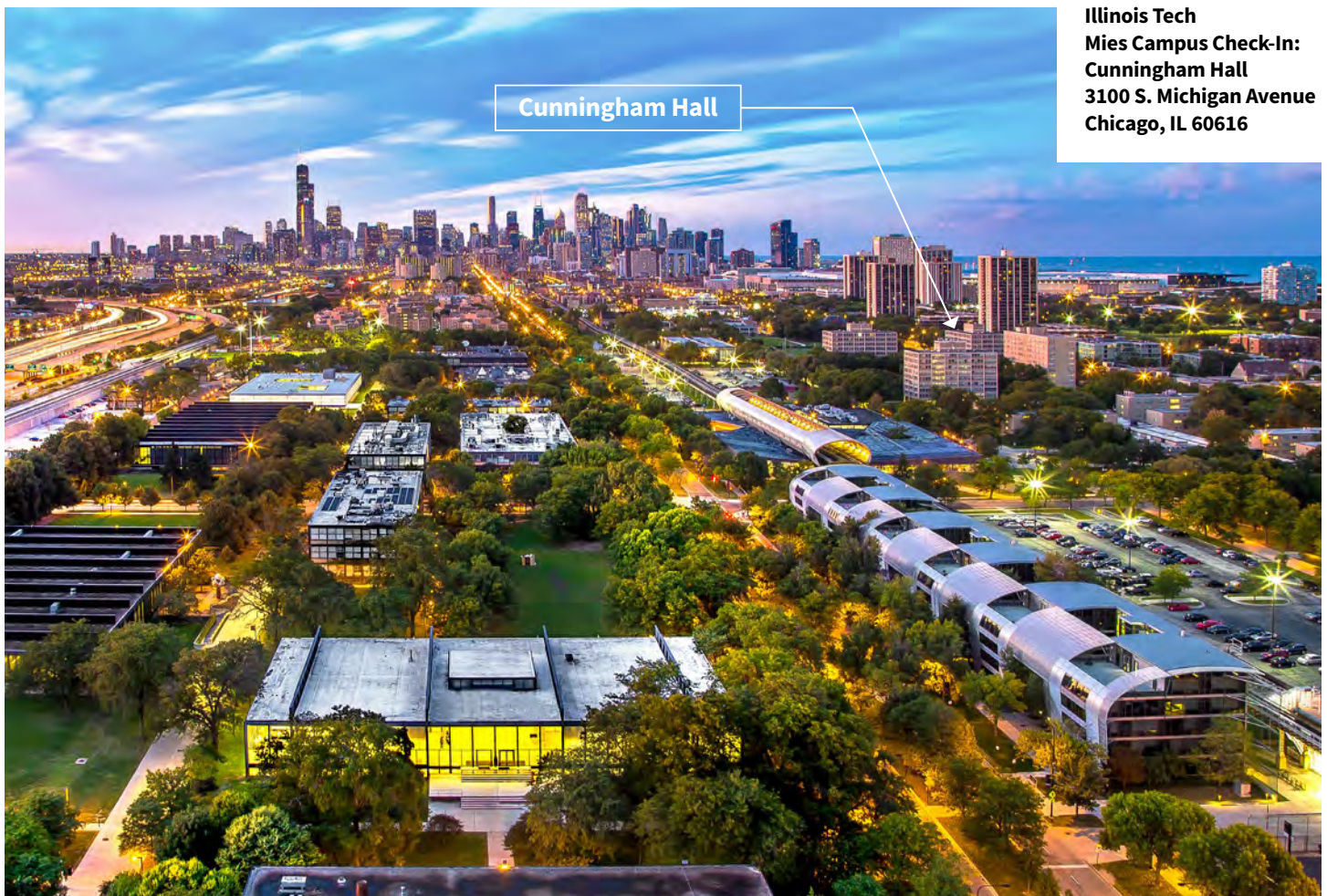
Getting to Campus

It's easy to get to Illinois Tech's Mies Campus by public transit, taxis, or ride shares.

<p>»» View our directions to campus to plan your route.</p>	
<p>Public Transportation: If you're flying into Chicago's O'Hare International Airport (ORD) or Chicago Midway International Airport (MDW), you can reach campus by Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) trains or buses.</p>	
<p>Taxi: If you prefer to take a taxi from the airport, please find the taxi stand. Information on taxis at O'Hare can be found at the following link.</p>	

Please note that if you plan to use any rideshare such as Lyft or Uber to travel to campus, prepare the following in advance:

- ▶ **Download the Lyft or Uber app to your smartphone**
- ▶ **Add your credit card information before traveling**
- ▶ **Ensure that you have data service enabled on your smartphone**



Where You'll Be Staying

All summer program participants will be staying in Illinois Tech's **Cunningham Hall**, which is located at 3100 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60616.

The STEM learning interns will be housed alongside the students on each residential floor, and are available to provide support and guidance. Cunningham Hall features residential floors in a pod-style configuration, with student rooms pinwheeling around central study and social lounge areas. The building is bathed in natural light, with beautiful views of campus and downtown Chicago. Floors two through seven will be open to students and include a mix of single-, double-, and triple-occupancy rooms and common-use bathrooms.

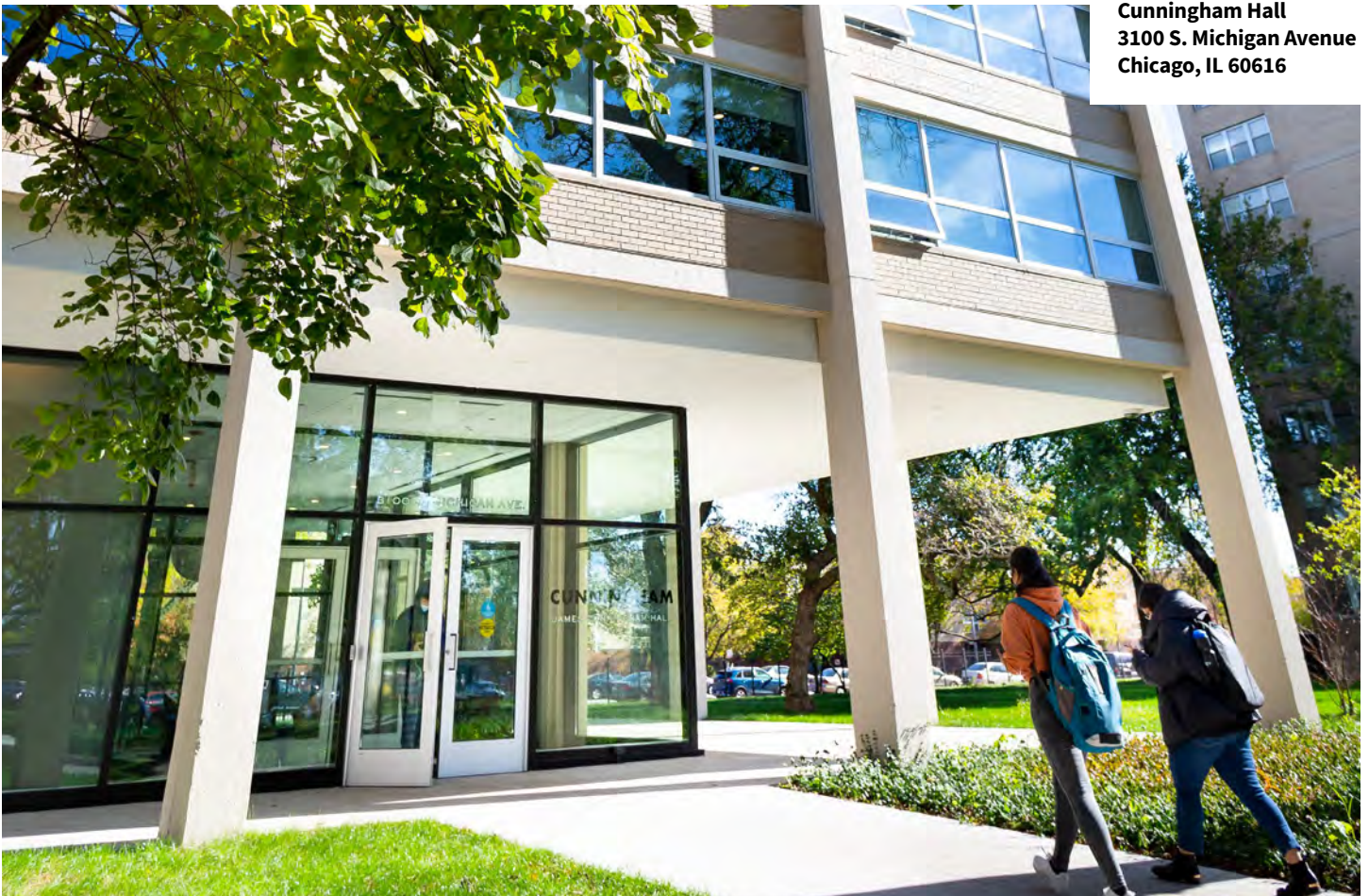
Building Features:

- ▶ **All residential spaces on floors two through seven provide an XL twin-size bed, desk, chair, dresser, and closet space for each resident**
- ▶ **Student lounges available on every floor**
- ▶ **Laundry and fitness facilities available in the basement**

Illinois Tech residence halls take security very seriously. Cunningham Hall has a single point of entry and exit that is staffed 24 hours a day by community desk assistants. Floors within the residence hall and individual rooms are key controlled and accessible only by the students residing in them. Each summer program student's unique Hawk ID card will allow them to access the dorm's public spaces, their residential floor, and their assigned room.

For the duration of summer programs, Cunningham Hall will be divided into male, female, and nonbinary floors, and students will be assigned a roommate from their program who shares their gender identity.

Spectacular views of Chicago's downtown.



Cunningham Hall
3100 S. Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60616

Where You'll Be Eating

Meals will be served in **The Commons** dining hall. The Commons is an “all-you-care-to-eat” venue, and allows a wide variety of food options for students, including vegetarian, vegan, and allergen-controlled options.

From a fresh salad bar to made-to-order pasta and stir fry, students will experience a wide range of flavors and options. Deli sandwiches, grilled and fried items, and comfort foods are available all day in The Commons.



What to Pack

What should I bring?

- ▶ Government-issued photo ID
- ▶ Writing supplies (pens, pencils, notebooks, paper, etc.)
- ▶ Cell phone and charger
- ▶ Refillable water bottle
- ▶ Shampoo, soap, and other personal toiletries
- ▶ Linens are provided but students are able to bring additional bedding if needed
- ▶ Beach towel
- ▶ Computer (optional)
- ▶ Power strip (optional)
- ▶ Spending money (optional)
- ▶ Clothing hangers (optional)
- ▶ Robe (optional)

What clothing should I bring?

- ▶ Clothing for a variety of weather conditions
- ▶ Swimsuit
- ▶ Workout clothes
- ▶ Rain gear and umbrella
- ▶ Comfortable shoes
- ▶ Shower shoes
- ▶ Sleepwear
- ▶ Extra undergarments and socks
- ▶ A set of clothes that you don't mind getting dirty

What should I not bring?

- ▶ Alcohol/illegal substances
- ▶ Candles or incense
- ▶ Hot plates
- ▶ Extension cords and outlet splitters



For a complete list of what not to bring, **please visit the following link.**



What Your Days Will Look Like

During the day, students will attend their respective academic programs, which are held in classrooms and lab spaces across campus. In the evenings (and on weekends for two-week programs), students will have the opportunity to participate in social activities on campus and around the city of Chicago.



Sample after-class activities include volleyball, frisbee golf, moving and painting nights, video games, and hanging out in **The BOG**, Illinois Tech's student social space with bowling, arcade games, darts, billiards, foosball, air hockey, ping pong, and more. Students will also have the chance to participate in fun off-campus activities, such as attending Chicago White Sox baseball games, biking along the lakefront of Lake Michigan, exploring the Chinatown neighborhood, and visiting local museums.

Community Standards

Illinois Tech summer programs are an excellent opportunity to engage in academically rigorous activities, experience independence on a world-class university campus, and make friendships that last a lifetime! Like Illinois Tech undergraduate students, summer program students are held to high behavioral standards to ensure the health and safety of the community.

Curfew

There is a 10 p.m. curfew for all summer program students. Students must be in the building and on their respective residential floors at this time. Students may socialize in the floor common rooms. All students must be in their assigned rooms by midnight. Students must check in with the STEM learning intern on duty before or at 10 p.m. in the residence hall lounge. Students must remain in the residence hall from 10 p.m. until 7:30 a.m. the following morning.

The first time a student fails to check in by curfew they are given a warning. Anything exceeding the warning is a curfew violation. Parents/guardians will be notified of each curfew violation. Three curfew violations will result in dismissal from an Illinois Tech summer program. No refund will be issued, and students may be required to return home at their own expense. Any student found to have left the residence hall during the hours of curfew and following the attendance check (10 p.m.–7:30 a.m.) will be dismissed from the program.

Guests

Summer program students are not permitted to have outside guests in the residence hall or during any portion of the summer program at any time. Programs observe a zero-tolerance policy toward outside guests. Students found in violation of this policy will immediately be dismissed from their summer program and may be required to return home at their own expense.

Drug and Alcohol Use

The illegal use of drugs and alcohol is strictly forbidden during Illinois Tech summer programs. Furthermore, smoking and the use of e-cigarettes and comparable devices is banned in all enclosed public places, buildings, and residence halls on Illinois Tech's campus. Illinois Tech summer programs observe a zero-tolerance policy for the illegal use of drugs and alcohol. Students found in violation of this policy will immediately be dismissed from their summer program and may be required to return home at their own expense.

Medication

Students are expected to store and administer their own prescription and non-prescription medications over the course of their Illinois Tech summer program. Refrigerators are available for rental in the student residence hall for medicinal storage at a student's request. Summer program staff are not permitted to administer medications, and they may not provide any medications aside from those explicitly defined on the Authorization, Consent, and Release for Certain Over-the-Counter Medications and Treatment form.

Attendance

Elevate College Prep participants are expected to attend the entirety of their designated summer program, including during all class time and out-of-class activities. Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis by summer program staff and instructors; this is contingent upon written approval from a parent/guardian that is sent to precollege@illinoistech.edu at least five business days in advance of the absence. In the case of emergencies, the approval process will be expedited.



Community Standards:

Sign-Out Policy

During specified non-program hours, residential students may sign out with a STEM learning intern to go to another Illinois Tech building or space (computer lab, library, The Bog, etc.) that has been designated within the Illinois Tech vicinity for no longer than two hours. Students must sign out with a STEM learning intern and state their destination and expected return time. Residential students are not permitted to leave the Illinois Tech campus unaccompanied by a STEM learning intern or a summer programs professional staff member at any time.

On a case-by-case basis, residential students may be permitted to leave the Illinois Tech campus for an overnight visit on weekends; this is contingent upon written approval via email from a parent/guardian to precollege@illinoistech.edu at least five business days in advance of the absence. The email must include the student's time and date of departure, destination, means of transportation, and time of return. It also must note who will be picking up/dropping off the student, or if the student may leave unaccompanied. **Please note:** any requested nights away that affect the student's program attendance must also be approved by the lead instructor for the student's designated program.

Conflict

Minor conflicts and disagreements with fellow students are a normal part of participating in summer programs and gaining independence. Students should attempt to discuss and resolve their disagreements between themselves. If they are unable to reach a successful resolution, students are encouraged to seek the assistance of STEM learning interns or professional staff, all of whom are trained to mediate conflicts.

Mutual Respect

Together, Elevate College Prep students create and uphold a mature, welcoming, and safe community. Participating students acknowledge the value that diversity adds to their educational experience, and they are compassionate and open-minded to fellow students, instructors, summer program staff, and the Illinois Tech community. Illinois Tech terms this good will toward our fellow humans **mutual respect**.

Students determined to have behaved in a way that is not mutually respectful will be disciplined at the discretion of Elevate College Prep staff. This may include, but is not limited to, warnings, notifying parents/guardians of indiscretions, and/or dismissal from Elevate College Prep staff at the student's expense.



Health and Safety

The health and safety of the Illinois Tech community, including Elevate College Prep program participants, is of the utmost importance.

Participating students are chaperoned at a 10:1 ratio for all in-person summer programs.

In the **case of medical emergencies**, summer program students will be transported to:

Insight Hospital and Medical Center
2525 South Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60616



Public Safety

Please refer to our **Public Safety** website for additional information regarding campus safety policies and procedures. We encourage all summer program attendees to store Public Safety's emergency number on their personal phones and sign up for **campus alerts**:

- ▶ **Mies Campus: 312.808.6363**
- ▶ **Non- Emergency: 312.808.6300**









Summer program participants will be supervised by trained Illinois Tech professional staff, faculty, or STEM learning interns during the course of their programs.




Staff on Duty


During summer programs, an on-duty phone number will be accessible to students and parents 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The number will be provided closer to check-in via email and shared at orientation with both parents and students. A summer program staff member on duty will respond to all calls.

Campus Map


-  Accessible Entrance
-  Accessible Entrance w/ Power Operated Door
-  Elevator/Lift
-  Parking
-  Accessible Parking
-  Single Occupant Bathroom

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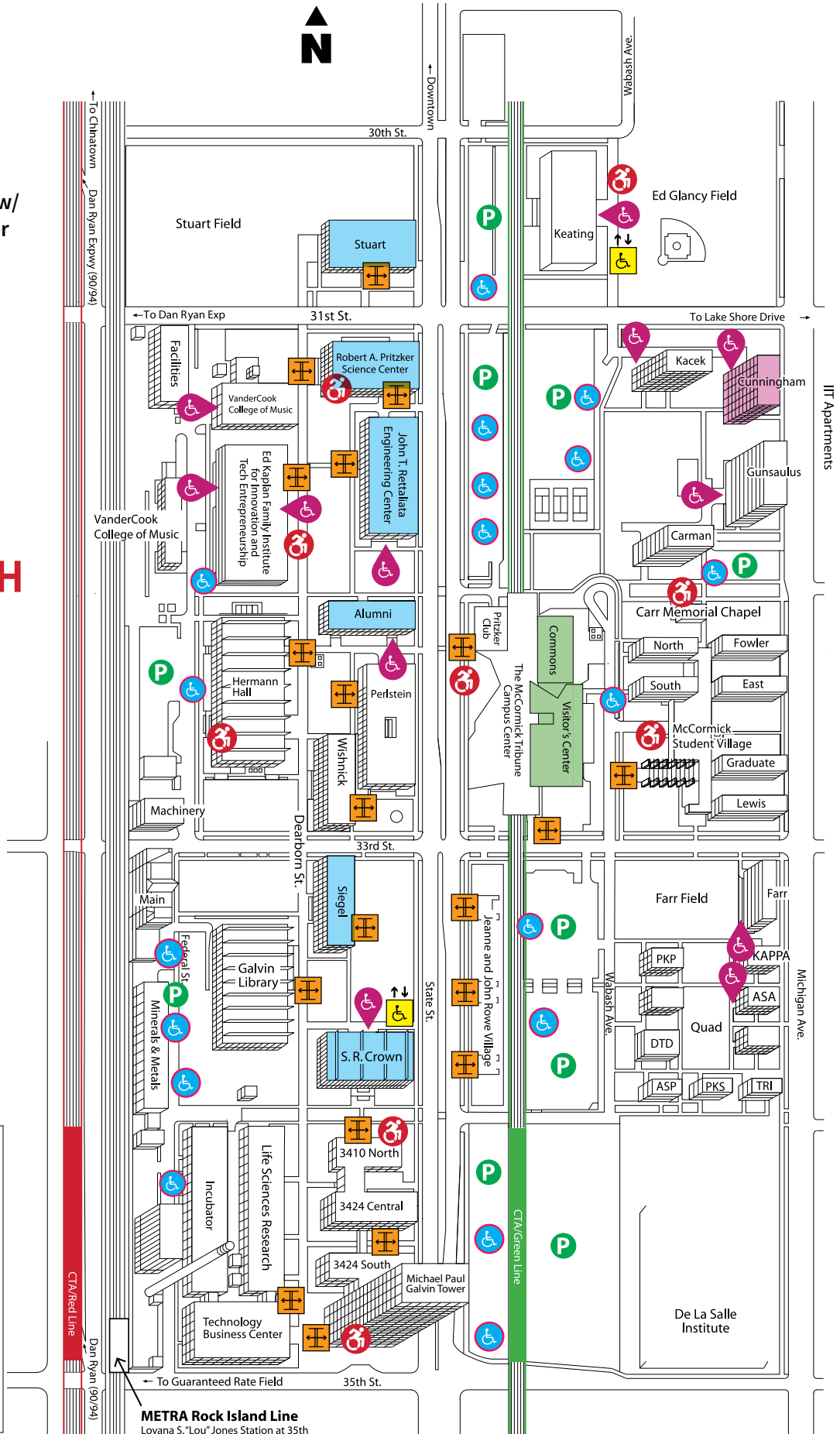
-  Dining Hall
-  Elevate College Prep Buildings and Labs
-  Overnight Housing and Check-In



**Illinois Tech Online
Mies Campus Map**



go.iit.edu/mies-map



Illinois Institute of Technology
Elevate College Prep
10 West 35th Street
Chicago, IL 60616

The design features a black background with three red geometric shapes: a large square in the upper right, a medium square in the lower left, and a smaller square in the lower right. The text is centered within the large red square.

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