

KENDALL COLLEGE

900 N. North Branch Street

Chicago, Illinois 60642

<http://www.kendall.edu/>

Kendall College's history goes back more than 75 years with their tradition of emphasizing a post-secondary education that is coupled with an approach that features practical and applied learning with a close-knit academic community. Kendall College, originally named the *Evanston Collegiate Institute*, was founded in 1934 as a collaborative effort between two groups of Methodist churches that later included two seminaries that created a junior college that focused on work study programs. In 1950, the school was renamed to Kendall College, reflecting the importance of the financial support of the Kendall family; which had donated some of the proceeds from their insurance business to toward the former Evanston Collegiate Institute. About 27 years after that, Kendall began offering baccalaureate degrees while still emphasizing their focus on practical study coupled with work experience.

As previously mentioned, Kendall College was located in Evanston for most of its history. This provided challenges to students and staff, as it was not easy to reach the campus by public transportation. Since moving to their Goose Island location in 2005, this problem has been alleviated and comes with the added bonus of providing Kendall with a lot more space; in fact enough space to expand their student body from 350 students to about 2,000.

Kendall's employees number about 525 or so, and include faculty, operations and other staff. They offer mostly business and hospitality related programs along with early childhood education curricula and still stress the working component by requiring all students to complete internships in order



to receive their degrees. Overall, Kendall is happier with the new location of the campus, although some challenges still present themselves in the form of mail service issues, the state of the bridge on Halsted between Chicago and North Branch avenues and lack of green spaces.

These issues are being tackled by the LEED Council, which has enjoyed a mutually beneficial partnership with Kendall, helping them address issues (and helping the college get a traffic light placed near the campus) and making use of their excellent facilities for meetings and events. Miss Felicia Davis, the Vice President of Student Affairs, sits on the board of the LEED Council, and says that she appreciates the fact that LEED “advocates for [Kendall College’s] needs.” Kendall also works closely with the community, in terms of connecting with community centers, businesses, the culinary and hospitality industries, and most importantly students and their families. According to Miss Davis, “the faculty really gets to know their students and cater to their needs.” When asked what was unique about the school and where a good place to get lunch is, Miss Davis’ answer was predictably: “Our cafeteria; we have great food!”