

**For Immediate Release**  
**April 6, 2023**

**University of Illinois Chicago Recognized by Exercise is Medicine® for Efforts to Create Culture of Wellness on Campus**  
*UIC among 149 Campuses Honored Worldwide*

University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) is one of only 149 universities and colleges around the world to be honored by Exercise is Medicine® for its efforts to create a culture of wellness on campus. UIC Campus Recreation, Kinesiology and Nutrition and UI Health organized events, educated students about EIM, and provided free fitness assessments that helped UIC earn silver level designation from the Exercise is Medicine® On Campus (EIM-OC) program.

“We are thrilled to recognize these campuses’ commitment to make movement a part of daily campus culture and give students the tools to cultivate physical activity habits that will benefit them throughout their lives,” said Robyn Stuhr, Vice President of Exercise is Medicine. “These campus programs are nurturing future leaders who will advance a key tenet of Exercise is Medicine: making physical activity assessment and promotion a standard in health care.”

“Moving forward we will continue to work with our campus partners to include physical activity as a vital sign and create a referral system to provide physical activity prescriptions for students,” said Lynne Thompson, Interim Director of UIC Campus Recreation and Chair of EIM-OC Committee.

EIM-OC at UIC continues to grow. This past year the committee taught exercise is medicine sessions for first year seminars, provided free fitness assessments for EIM Month in October, engaged with students through social media with “Technique Tuesdays” and “Workout Wednesdays”, and distributed resources to campus departments for students to provide information about the recommended guidelines for physical activity.

Of the 149 campuses recognized this year, 73 received gold, 55 silver and 21 bronze. All gold, silver and bronze universities and colleges will be officially recognized on June 1 as part of the 2022 Exercise is Medicine World Congress, held in conjunction with the American College of Sports Medicine’s Annual Meeting.

EIM-OC calls upon universities and colleges to promote physical activity as a vital sign of health and encourages faculty, staff and students to work together to improve the health and well-being of the campus community.

EIM-OC launched its recognition program in 2014 to honor campuses for their efforts to create a culture of wellness. Schools earn gold, silver or bronze status based on their activities. Gold level campuses have created a referral system where campus health care providers assess student physical activity and refer students as necessary to a certified fitness professional as part of medical treatment. Silver campuses engage students, faculty and staff in education initiatives and make movement part of the daily campus culture while bronze level campuses promote and generate awareness of the health benefits of physical activity.

View a complete list of recognized schools and learn more about the EIM-OC program at [exerciseismedicine.org/support\\_page.php/eim-on-campus](http://exerciseismedicine.org/support_page.php/eim-on-campus).

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#### **About Exercise Is Medicine**

The American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) co-launched Exercise is Medicine® (EIM) in 2007 with the American Medical Association. ACSM continues to manage the global health initiative, which seeks to make physical activity assessment and promotion a standard in clinical care, connecting health care with evidence-based physical activity resources for people everywhere of all abilities. EIM is committed to the belief that physical activity promotes optimal health, is integral in the prevention and treatment of many medical conditions and should be regularly assessed and included as part of health care. Visit [exerciseismedicine.org](http://exerciseismedicine.org) for additional information.

#### **About the American College of Sports Medicine**

The American College of Sports Medicine is the largest sports medicine and exercise science organization in the world. More than 50,000 international, national and regional members and certified professionals are dedicated to advancing and integrating scientific research to provide educational and practical applications of exercise science and sports medicine. More details at [acsm.org](http://acsm.org).