

# Chicago Tribune

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**Jodi S. Cohen**  
**Higher Education Reporter**

December 10, 2009

Tom Hardy  
University of Illinois  
1737 W. Polk St., Suite 414  
Chicago, IL 60612

*Sent via email*

Dear Mr. Hardy:

This is a request for public records under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act.

Please make available the following public records with regard to each applicant in Category I (and/or the equivalent designation in the professional schools) who was admitted to the University of Illinois and subsequently attended the University of Illinois: the names of the applicants' parents and the parents' addresses, and the identity of the individuals who made a request or otherwise became involved in the such applicants' applications. Further, please provide any records about the identity of the University official to whom the request was made, any other university officials to whom the request was forwarded, and any documents which reflect any changes in the status of the application as a result of that request. As should be clear from the foregoing, the focus of this request is not on the identity of the applicants per se but instead upon the identity of their parents and sponsors. Accordingly, this narrowly tailored request is not for educational records because the records requested do not directly relate to students. Instead, this request seeks public records reflecting the activities of public officials and in certain instances the possible misconduct of those public officials.

As this request is made in my capacity as a journalist, time is of the utmost concern. If for some reason you feel any record or portion thereof is exempt from public scrutiny, please redact that portion in dispute, provide an explanation of the precise nature of the information redacted, and cite a specific statutory authority under which you are doing so.

Should you have any problems fulfilling this request, please feel free to contact me at (312) 222-3466 or at [jscohen@tribune.com](mailto:jscohen@tribune.com). Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter, and please do not hesitate to call with any questions or comments.

Sincerely,

Jodi S. Cohen