

Is northwestern.edu legit? TrustSniffer's high-trust assessment: 90/100

northwestern.edu

Verdict

90

OUT OF 100

HIGH TRUST

northwestern.edu appears legitimate.

Our checks found nothing pointing to fraud. Ordinary care still applies when you pay or sign in.

Not ScamLow Risk

Assessed 2026-08-11 by automated analysis. Classification confidence 75%.

What this site appears to be

A Northwestern University cookie/privacy information page listing cookie categories, cookie names, durations, and descriptions. It explains consent options and third-party services used (e.g., Google, Stripe, Vimeo).

Evidence status and limitations

Evidence completeness: UNKNOWN

- The real-world operator identity was not independently verified.
- Module-level completeness metadata is unavailable for this legacy report.

At a glance

The checks that decide most of this verdict.

Malware engines	None flagged it VirusTotal	CLEAR
Google Safe Browsing	Not listed Google	CLEAR
Abuse reports on the host	0 reports AbuseIPDB; shared hosting inflates this count	NOTED
Domain age	28 years old Registered history	CLEAR
Web archive	Archived since 2000 5000 snapshots	CLEAR
Certificate	Encrypted connection Issued by InCommon RSA Server CA 2	NOTED

The page as captured

No screenshot is retained for this report.

Key findings

- Automated classification: Not Scam.
- Domain age: more than 10 years (registration continuity).
- Public web-archive history exists since 2000.
- No flags from the reputation services TrustSniffer consulted at assessment time.

Full analysis

Overview

The website is an institutional Northwestern University information page focused on cookie usage and privacy practices. It explains consent choices, cookie categories, durations, and purposes, including services such as Google, Stripe, and Vimeo; its apparent purpose is informational and compliance-oriented rather than commercial or transactional.

Scam/Impersonation Risk

No contradictions were observed. The assessed content contains no phishing, impersonation, malicious solicitation, or suspicious financial-service indicators, and the page presents a coherent institutional privacy function. The domain also shows long-term registration continuity and substantial historical presence, which is consistent with an established website rather than a newly created or repurposed operation. External reputation checks found no malicious or suspicious detections. Evidence:

- Domain registration: 1999-02-18; age 27.5 years.
- Web archive: 5,000 snapshots spanning 2000-04-08 to 2019-11-02, covering 20 years.
- External reputation: 0 malicious detections, 0 suspicious detections, and no phishing or impersonation indicators.
- Global traffic footprint: rank 2597.

Regulatory Verification Notes

The page identifies Northwestern University and describes cookie practices across Northwestern websites, but the available evidence supports apparent institutional identity rather than independently verified operator identity. The observed page is not presenting a regulated financial or commercial service; if reliance extends beyond informational privacy content, the available material does not establish a licensing or registration basis for that separate activity. The site provides meaningful privacy and consent disclosures, including descriptions of third-party services, which supports a transparent page purpose. Evidence:

- The page title and body identify “Northwestern University” and describe cookie and privacy information for Northwestern websites.
- Hosting: AS103, NWU-AS - Northwestern University, US.
- TLS certificate: InCommon RSA Server CA 2, OV validation, subject organization Northwestern University, valid to 2026-09-18T23:59:59+00:00.
- The page documents cookie names, categories, durations, consent options, and stated purposes.

What to Verify Next

Before any credential or payment interaction on another Northwestern-related page, independently confirm that the page belongs to the institution through an established institutional channel. Where an interaction involves a purchase or other financial commitment, confirm the applicable merchant identity, return or cancellation terms, and payment-protection arrangements before proceeding. Evidence:

- The assessed page is informational and contains no login form, sensitive form, or untrusted form destination.
- The page presents consent controls for accepting, rejecting, or customizing cookies.
- Observed browser behavior showed no wallet connection, wallet-sensitive action, clipboard hijacking, hidden form, or cloaking indicator.

Summary Verdict

Available evidence is consistent with an established, apparently legitimate website with a high-trust, low-risk posture. The conclusion is well supported by aligned institutional content, long-term provenance, clean external reputation, and consistent technical evidence, while independent real-world operator verification remains incomplete.

Infrastructure Integrity

The site resolves to likely origin infrastructure with two observed IP addresses and no CDN detected. This direct hosting posture provides less edge-layer abstraction than a CDN-backed deployment, but it is not, by itself, an indication of malicious activity.

Closing Assessment

Normal informational use is proportionate; any credential or payment interaction should follow ordinary independent checks of institutional identity, applicable terms, and payment protections.

Written analysis generated 2026-08-11 by the TrustSniffer Analysis Engine from the evidence in this report.

What the analysis found

No rule findings contributed to this verdict.

Identity verification

Status	UNVERIFIED
Identity score	55/100
Identity verification confidence	60%

- Identity verified on page

Identity verification measures whether the site can be independently connected to a real-world brand or person. It is separate from the classification confidence.

What TrustSniffer observed

First-party facts recorded during the assessment of northwestern.edu.

- The request stayed on northwestern.edu. It was not redirected to another domain. CLEAR
- The registration is paid up to 2027-07-31. NOTED

- The earliest public archive of this site is from 2000-04-08. CLEAR
- It is hosted on NWU-AS, from a server in US. NOTED

Domain intelligence

Registrar	Not available
Hosting	NWU-AS - Northwestern University, US
Country	US
Server IP	2620:10d:2060:1130::11
Name servers	Not available
SSL issuer	InCommon RSA Server CA 2
SSL expiry	2026-09-18
Domain age	27.50 years (continuous registration)
Domain expiry	2027-07-31
Archive first seen	2000-04-08
Archive snapshots	5000
Reputation	VirusTotal: 0 flagged AbuseIPDB: 0 reports Google Safe Browsing: 0 matches

About this assessment

A trust score summarises the evidence TrustSniffer could collect about northwestern.edu at assessment time. It is a starting point for your own judgement, not a guarantee: a high score means the signals were consistent with a legitimately operated site, a low or critical score means several risk patterns were present.

TrustSniffer assesses a website from the evidence it can collect at a point in time: domain registration and age, hosting and certificate, the content the site served, and third-party reputation feeds. A score is a summary of that evidence, not a guarantee and not a legal finding. There is no human rating and no user review in it. A site can change after it is assessed.

This report online: <https://trustsniffer.com/report/northwestern.edu> · assessed 2026-08-11