Since 1906, following the graduation of the first class at the Nebraska State Normal School at Kearney, the Alumni Association has been working to maintain the link between graduates and the University of Nebraska at Kearney. More than 50,000 alumni are now in the files of the association.

The association produces UNK Today, a magazine published twice annually, maintains an alumni database, hosts reunions, coordinates homecoming activities, sponsors Blue Gold Brigade (student alumni organization) and Gold Torch Mentoring Society (a women's mentoring organization), and facilitates the Distinguished Alumni, Alumni Service, Young Alumni and Athletic Hall of Fame Awards.

The Alumni House is located at 2222 9th Avenue in Kearney. The facility, built in 1907, is on the National Register of Historic Places. It was built to be the residence of Dr. A.O. Thomas, the first president of the Nebraska State Normal School.

In 2012, the UNK Alumni Association partnered with the NUFoundation to better utilize resources and serve the alumni as well as the university. The alumni staff offices at 214 West 39th Street in Kearney.