Counselor Newsletter Spring 2021

A BRIEF PROFILE OF THE CLASS OF 2024

2,015 of **40,248 applicants** were admitted to the **Class of 2024.**

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1,407 MATRICULANTS 69.8% YIELD 34 ADMITTED FROM WAIT LIST







- 18.9% Biological Sciences
 8.2% Computer
 - Science
 - 10.6% Engineering14.8% Humanities
 - **14.8%** Humannies
 7.4% Mathematics
 - 7.4% Mathematics
 7.7% Physical Sciences
 - 26.0% Social Sciences

 - 6.5% Undecided

14.7% AFRICAN AMERICAN 24.4% ASIAN AMERICAN 12.7% HISPANIC OR LATINO 1.8% NATIVE AMERICAN 0.3% NATIVE HAWAIIAN



HARVARD COLLEGE Admissions & Financial Aid

Dear Colleagues,

This past year posed extraordinary challenges. With so much uncertainty regarding the fluctuating state of public health, students and their counselors were required to make weighty decisions based on imperfect knowledge. Your guidance amid these conditions was enormously helpful for students, and we are grateful for your work.

Looking ahead, we are cautiously optimistic that we will be able to welcome all students back to campus in the fall. Our entire faculty and staff—from residential proctors to professors—are working to ensure that students can safely enjoy the complete Harvard experience. While we continue to monitor the progress of the pandemic and will adjust our plans if needed, our goal is a full return to campus.

While Harvard remains closed to visitors, our website offers many digital resources to help students and their families get to know the College. Admissions officers will hold online information sessions throughout the summer and fall. Our virtual tour is available to help prospective students become acquainted with campus. Student stories illuminate many aspects of the undergraduate experience. And our social media channels provide yet another window into life at Harvard.

In the coming year, we plan to continue our policy allowing students to apply to Harvard College without standardized test scores. While students who have scores may send them if they would like, those who do not will be at no disadvantage in our process.

Finally, our commitment to financial aid is unwavering. As always, we meet the full financial need of all Harvard undergraduates without requiring loans. We have no limit to the number of students we can support with financial aid, and applying for aid does not adversely affect an applicant's chance of admission.

Thank you again for your tireless work in this difficult year. We wish you a restful summer, and look forward to continuing our work together.

Sincerely,

William R. Fitzsimmons Dean of Admissions & Financial Aid May 2021

ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

COURSES

3,/00

Courses available (including cross-registration at Harvard graduate Schools and MIT).

50 FIELDS OF CONCENTRATION (MAJORS) 50 SECONDARY FIELDS (MINORS) 120+ FIRST-YEAR SEMINARS 80+ LANGUAGES

FACULTY

12 Median class size.

7:1 Average student/faculty ratio. In the Harvard John A. Paulson School of **Engineering and Applied Sciences**, the student/faculty ratio is 5:1.

2

Each first-year student has three advisers.

Practically all faculty teach undergraduates.

TUDENT LIFE



CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

Liberal arts education

- Concentration [12-14 courses]
- General Education [4 courses]
- Distribution [3 courses]
- Electives + Secondary Field [6-11 courses]

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• Students must also fulfill requirements in language, expository writing, and quantitative reasoning.

GRADUATES

of our students graduate, one of the highest graduation rates in the nation.

66%

of students normally have some international experience study abroad, research, or another opportunity—during their time at Harvard.

CAMPUS RESOURCES

of students traditionally choose to live

on campus for all four years, and they enjoy an unlimited meal plan.

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ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER
ACCESSIBLE EDUCATION OFFICE
OFFICE OF BGLTQ STUDENT LIFE
OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES
OFFICE OF GENDER EQUITY AND INCLUSION
UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES
WOMEN'S CENTER

COMMUNITY AND ACTIVITIES

of our 6,700 undergraduates are typically first-year students.

50+ colleges and universities and 75+ historical landmarks span Cambridge and Greater Boston.

Harvard students come from **all 50** states and more than 100 countries.

student organizations of all kinds, including arts, public service, cultural, and pre-professional.

Harvard undergraduates can participate in athletics at the **club**, **intramural**, **or** varsity level. Please direct students who are interested in one of our 42 Division I teams to the following website for more information:

college.harvard.edu/athletics

ADMISSIONS AND FINANCIAL AID

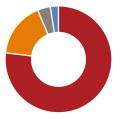
ADMISSIONS: WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Some applicants demonstrate extraordinary promise in academic or research endeavors. Some show uncommon talent in other areas, such as leadership, performing arts, or athletics. Most of our students combine the best of both scholastic and extracurricular achievement. Personal qualities integrity, maturity, strength of character, and concern for others — also play an important part in our evaluations.

DEADLINES

	EARLY ACTION	REGULAR DECISION
Common Application, Universal College Application, or Coalition Application	November 1	January 1
Secondary School Report and two letters of recommendation	November 1	January 1
Financial aid application materials	November 1	February 1
Notification date for applicants	Mid-December	Typically, late March

TYPICAL FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE



- Scholarships [\$59,100]
- Parent Contribution [\$12,700]
- Student Term-Time Work [\$2,600]
- Student Asset Contribution [\$250]

Our aid is entirely need-based, and grant eligibility is determined in the same manner for all admitted students regardless of nationality or citizenship status.

FINANCIAL AID: REMOVING ECONOMIC BARRIERS

Applying for financial aid does not jeopardize any student's chance for admission, including international applicants. Indeed, the Admissions Committee may respond favorably to evidence that a candidate has overcome significant obstacles, financial or otherwise. All of Harvard's financial aid is awarded on the basis of demonstrated financial need—there are no academic, athletic, or merit-based awards. Harvard meets the demonstrated need of every student for all four years.

Our financial aid program requires no contribution from Harvard families with annual incomes below \$65,000; asks no more than 10 percent of income for those with incomes up to \$150,000; and expects proportionally more from families with incomes more than \$150,000. Families at all income levels who have significant assets are asked to pay more than those without. Our financial aid officers work closely with families to ensure that Harvard is accessible to all admitted students. We do not require students to take out loans, although they are asked to cover their personal expenses through term-time work.

We value our relationships with our school and CBO counselors. To be put in touch with your regional admissions officer, simply contact us at:



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@harvard_admissions



university.

N%

of American families would pay the

same or less to send their children

to Harvard as they would their state

• \$0-40,000

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS' INCOME LEVELS

- \$40,000-80,000\$80,000-120,000
- \$120,000-160,000
 - \$160,000-200,000
- \$200,000+
- 100% of our students can graduate debt-free.

N%

of our students' families

pay nothing for their

children to attend

Harvard

Your students can get an estimate of their financial aid on our Net Price Calculator, también en español. college.harvard.edu/npc | college.harvard.edu/npc-espanol

APPLICATION

For undergraduate study, students apply only to Harvard College. While applicants can indicate an interest in a particular academic area, they do not apply to a specific School or department. Harvard students declare their concentration (field of study) at the end of their third semester.

Students may submit additional materials, such as art, music, or research, using the instructions in their **Applicant Portal**.



HARVARD COLLEGE

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