



HARVARD
COLLEGE

Counselor Newsletter

Spring 2023

OFFICE OF
ADMISSIONS
AND
FINANCIAL AID



A BRIEF PROFILE
OF THE CLASS OF 2026

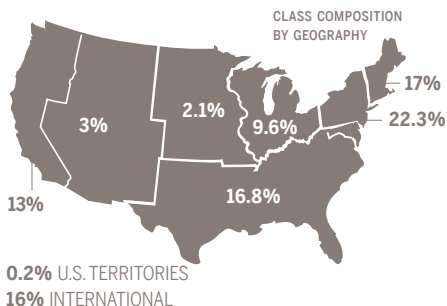
1,987

of 61,221 applicants were admitted
to the Class of 2026.

1,649 MATRICULANTS

83% YIELD

36 ADMITTED FROM WAIT LIST



- 19.1% Biological Sciences
- 7.3% Computer Science
- 7.8% Engineering
- 15.5% Humanities
- 6.7% Mathematics
- 5.8% Physical Sciences
- 30.2% Social Sciences
- 7.6% Undecided

- 14.3% AFRICAN AMERICAN
- 27.6% ASIAN AMERICAN
- 11.9% HISPANIC OR LATINO
- 2.9% NATIVE AMERICAN
- 0.8% NATIVE HAWAIIAN

Dear Colleagues,

We thank you for another year of guiding your students and their families as we continue to navigate the new normal. As the school year reaches its close, we would like to share with you some news from Cambridge.

Harvard College remains committed to our revolutionary financial aid program, which provides need-based assistance to all Harvard undergraduates regardless of their citizenship status. This spring, the Harvard Financial Aid Initiative (HFAI) has expanded once again. We are pleased to announce that beginning in the 2023-2024 academic year, families with annual incomes of up to \$85,000 (up from \$75,000) will be expected to contribute nothing to the cost of their child's education. For 90% of families, attending Harvard is less expensive than attending an in-state public university.

In a continued commitment to supporting students from under-resourced backgrounds, we are excited to offer the Harvard College Rising Scholars Program (RSP), a no-cost program that provides a seven-week summer intensive experience for select incoming freshmen. RSP is designed to introduce students to Harvard's vast array of resources and help students develop their academic voice. The program also supports students throughout their first year as they contribute to Harvard's living and learning community. All students meeting the criteria for the program will be invited to apply.

Our test-optional policy remains intact through applicants to the Harvard College Class of 2030. The past admissions cycle — for the Class of 2027 — was the third cycle for which students have been able to apply to Harvard without submitting standardized testing. Consistent with Harvard's whole-person admissions process, standardized tests are just one factor among many considered. Students who do not submit standardized test scores will not be disadvantaged in their application process. Students are encouraged to send whatever materials they believe would best convey their accomplishments in secondary school and their promise for the future.

Thank you for all you do to support students. We wish you a relaxing summer and look forward to working with you in the fall.

Sincerely,

William R. Fitzsimmons

Dean of Admissions & Financial Aid

Joy St. John

Director of Admissions

Jake M. Kaufmann

Griffin Director of Financial Aid

April 2023

ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

COURSES

3,700+

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.



Each first-year student has **three advisers**.

Practically **all faculty teach undergraduates**.

STUDENT LIFE

CAMPUS RESOURCES

98%

of students traditionally choose to live **on campus for all four years**, and they enjoy an **unlimited meal plan**.

ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

DISABILITY ACCESS OFFICE

OFFICE OF BGLTQ STUDENT LIFE

OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES

OFFICE OF GENDER EQUITY AND INCLUSION

UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES

WOMEN'S CENTER



CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

Liberal arts education

- Concentration [12-14 courses]
- General Education [4 courses]
- Distribution [3 courses]
- Electives + Secondary Field [6-11 courses]
- Students must also fulfill requirements in language, expository writing, and quantitative reasoning.

GRADUATES

98%

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.

COMMUNITY AND ACTIVITIES

1,650

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**.

450+

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

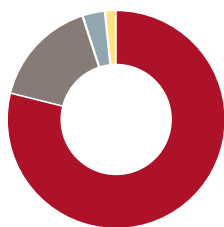
ADMISSIONS: WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

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 or Coalition Application by Scoir	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	Late March

TYPICAL FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE



- Scholarships \$62,350
- Parent Contribution \$12,700
- Student Term-Time Work \$2,700
- 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 \$85,000; 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:



617-495-1551



college@fas.harvard.edu



college.harvard.edu/school-counselors

You and your students can follow us here:



[@applytoharvard](https://twitter.com/applytoharvard)



[@harvardadmissions](https://tiktok.com/@harvardadmissions)



[@harvard_admissions](https://instagram.com/harvard_admissions)



[discoverharvard](https://youtube.com/discoverharvard)

90%

of American families would pay the same or less to send their children to Harvard as they would their state university.

>20%

of our students' families **pay nothing** for their children to attend Harvard.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS' INCOME LEVELS



- \$0-40,000
- \$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**.

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 to Harvard College as a whole. 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

OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS /
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