

Harvard College



Nice to Meet You

Here, every voice and perspective matters—it's what makes our community both welcoming and dynamic. We invite you to read the student voices within these pages to learn more about Harvard.

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Form friendships with passionate and talented individuals from all over the world.



Enjoy all four seasons in picturesque New England.

Harvard College

Harvard College is a close-knit undergraduate community within Harvard University. With world-class faculty, groundbreaking research opportunities, and a commitment to a diverse environment of bright, talented students, Harvard is more than just a place to get an education — it's where students pursue limitless possibilities.

“Diversity is more than a word; it is a belief that we are better together, that everyone has something to contribute, and that our individual experiences strengthen and shape our present and future. Our diversity is a source of infinite possibility. Diverse learning communities are essential to the College’s mission of educating citizens and citizen leaders.”

RAKESH KHURANA
DANOFF DEAN OF HARVARD COLLEGE



“Harvard is an incredible place, not because of the name but because of the people. There are such passionate and inspiring individuals. I am always challenged to be my best, and for that I am grateful.”

DYLAN '25, WESTPORT, CT

“I was so thankful that my [military] background was not a common one but instead added to the broad array of unique students learning from each other.”

HUDSON '23, ARLINGTON, TX



“Coming to Harvard can feel scary at first. You wonder if you could truly fit in...but then you talk to another student and realize that we’re all the same — just trying to figure out college!”

KATHLEEN '24, COLLEGE STATION, TX

“Harvard represents the belief that anyone can cultivate the future of their dreams. [Despite] no prior experience in coding, I was inspired by the entrepreneurial spirit of peers to begin my own startup.”

QUINN '25, BELLEVUE, WA



Getting around Harvard

**Raymond '25,
Uniontown, PA**

"Harvard is situated in the heart of Cambridge, a quaint college town beside the great city of Boston...there is so much to do right at [our] doorstep."

50+ COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

75+ HISTORICAL LANDMARKS

5 PROFESSIONAL SPORTS TEAMS

**Adriana '26,
Kalaheo, HI**

"I rotate between riding my bike, taking the T or the bus, or even just taking a long walk into Boston."

24 THEATERS

~3 MILES FROM DOWNTOWN BOSTON

7.7 MILES FROM THE AIRPORT

**David '25,
Kisumu, Kenya**

"[The T] came in handy whenever I wanted to go to downtown Boston or to many of the towns connected by the railway tracks and roads in Greater Boston."

HARVARD SQUARE SUBWAY STOP, 8 BUS ROUTES

212 STOREFRONTS

**Samia '25,
Cambridge, MA**

"A great dessert spot right on Harvard's campus is Amorino, where they serve gelato in the shape of a rose and you can order an unlimited number of flavors!"

98/100 BIKING AND WALKING SCORE

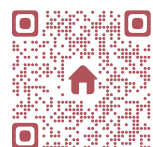
Your Home from the Start

The First-Year Residential Experience

~1,650
FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS



First-year students live in one of 17 first-year dorms in Harvard Yard, eat meals in their own dining hall, and are matched with a team of residential, academic, and peer advisors who ensure nobody goes through the transition to college alone. After the first year, each student moves into a “House” and will live there for the next three years. These Houses are dorm complexes where students live, dine, study, plan events, and play intramural sports.



CHECK OUT THE DORM TOURS PLAYLIST HERE:
[tiktok.com/@harvardadmissions](https://www.tiktok.com/@harvardadmissions)

Entryways:

“All my suitemates came from different backgrounds, experiences, and passions—it was really refreshing to be surrounded by different people.”

SAMIA '25, CAMBRIDGE, MA

Advising:

“A huge shoutout and special thanks to my proctor for her immeasurable help with my adjustment to Harvard and college life!”

INNO '25, IRINGA, TANZANIA



HOUSING IS GUARANTEED FOR ALL 4 YEARS.

12 Houses—12 Harvard Homes

Adams⁰¹ Cabot⁰² Currier⁰³
Dunster⁰⁴ Eliot⁰⁵ Kirkland⁰⁶
Leverett⁰⁷ Lowell⁰⁸ Mather⁰⁹
Pforzheimer¹⁰ Quincy¹¹
Winthrop¹²

House traditions

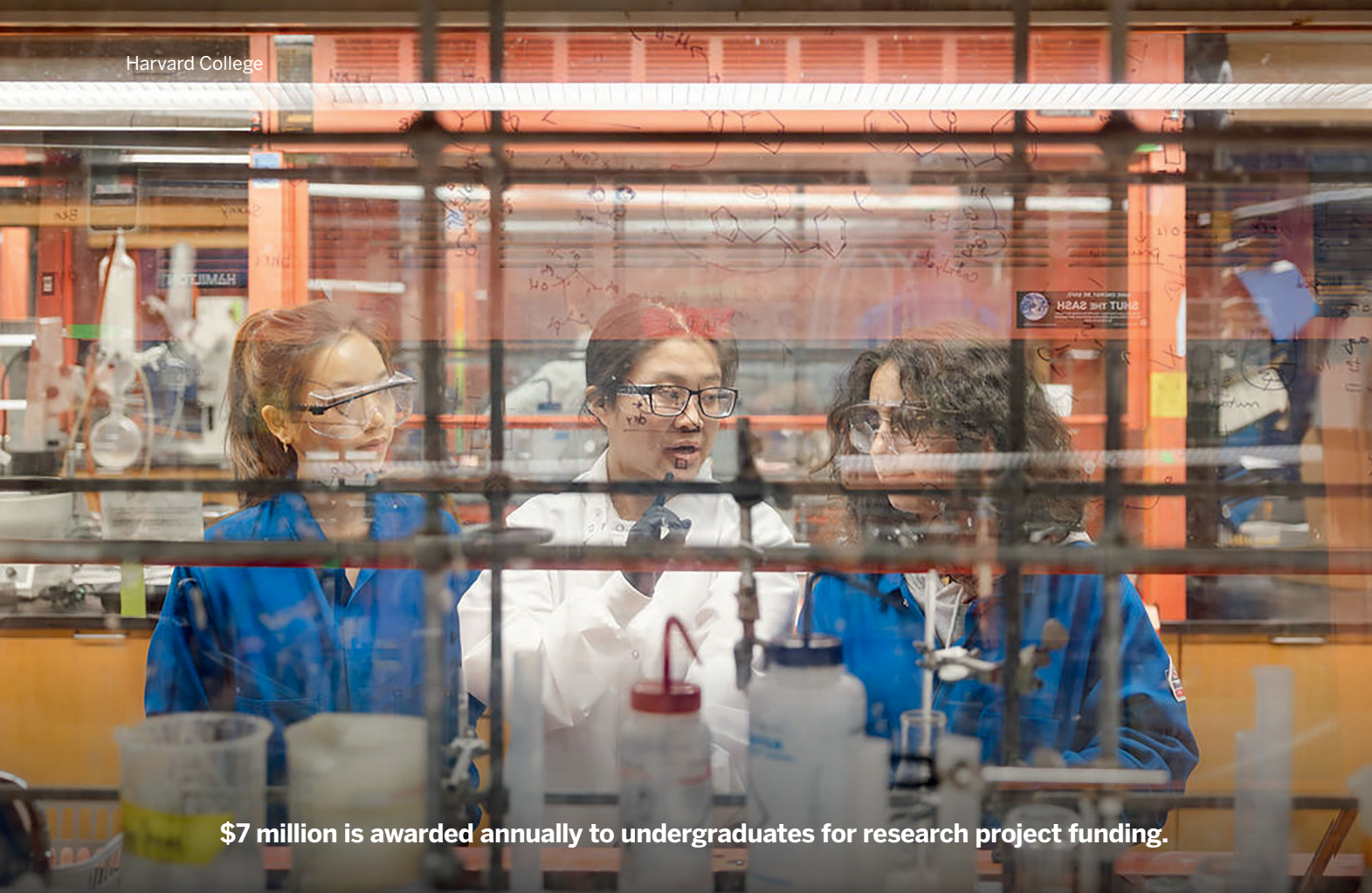
“Everyone at Harvard has their own opinions about which Houses are the best in terms of campus location or room designs. However, each House has its own wonderful traditions and characteristics.”

JADYN '24, CHATTANOOGA, TN

- 01. Drag Night (Harvard's oldest drag night)
- 02. Festivus Winter Party
- 03. Coffee House Open Mic Night
- 04. Fall Hoedown
- 05. Spring Fête Formal
- 06. Annual Drama Society's Shakespeare play
- 07. Hare's Kitchen cooking competition
- 08. Thursday Teas
- 09. Woodturning beginner classes
- 10. Annual celebration of International Polar Bear Day
- 11. Quincy Qarnival
- 12. Senior Casino Royale



“HOUSING DAY”—WHEN FIRST-YEARS RECEIVE HOUSE ASSIGNMENTS—IS A FAVORITE TRADITION!



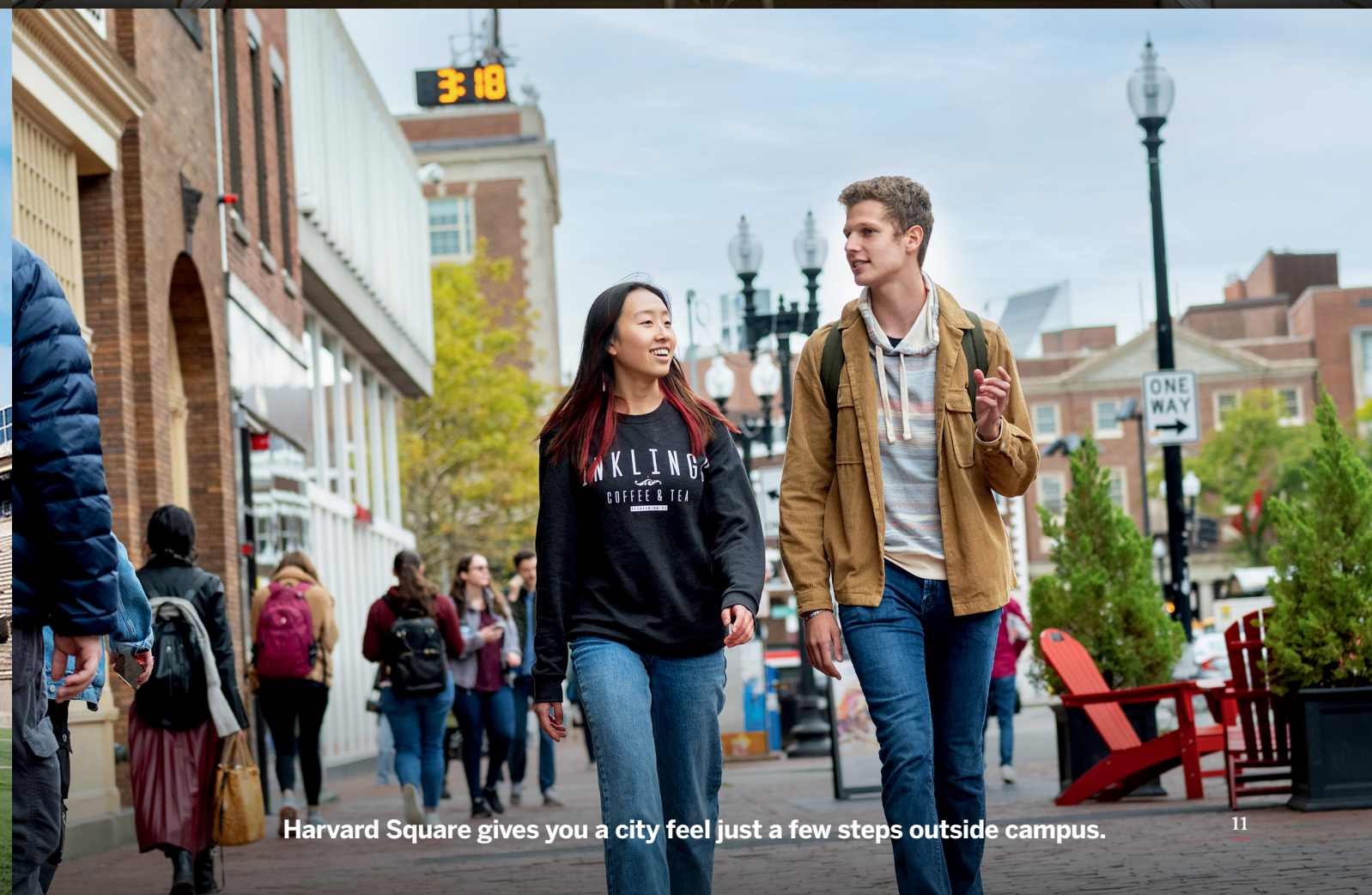
\$7 million is awarded annually to undergraduates for research project funding.



Explore the largest academic library system in the world.



Harvard is home to 42 Division I sports teams—more than any other Division I college.



Harvard Square gives you a city feel just a few steps outside campus.

Be Your Best Self

Caring for your well-being positions you to do your best in the classroom, on the field, or in any endeavor you pursue. Harvard has a wide array of opportunities that provide a strong foundation to help you stay healthy and attend to your physical, mental, and spiritual well-being.



"Our mental health resources are amazing! Aside from Counseling and Mental Health Services, we have third-party counseling, student-run counseling groups, and so much more."

HELEN '26, DENVER, CO

90+
RELIGIOUS, CULTURAL
AND IDENTITY-BASED
AFFINITY GROUPS.



"Harvard puts forth great effort into ensuring that students have the ability to nurture a wonderful living community, regardless of their dorm or House."

RICCARDO '25, MORRISVILLE, NC

"Last spring, I was able to go on a weekend wellness retreat in the Harvard Forest. [It was] a great mental reset."

ADRIANA '26, KALĀHEO, HAWAII



"[I found] my community in affinity groups. Once I found GAASA (Generational African American Students Association), I found a place like home."

GRACE '26, CHEVERLY, MD

Some of Harvard's Resource Offices

- Harvard University Health Services (HUHS)
- Counseling and Mental Health Service (CAMHS) with a 24/7 Support Line
- Disability Access Office
- Harvard Chaplains
- Harvard College Women's Center
- Harvard International Office
- Military Student Services
- Office of BGLTQ Student Life
- Office for Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging (OEDIB)
- Office of Gender Equity

Carpe Diem

Amy '23

TARRYTOWN, NY & SARAGURO, ECUADOR
SOCIAL STUDIES CONCENTRATOR

“I imagined coming to Harvard would be the typical ‘open books, suck up all that knowledge,’ and that would be learning, but what I did not expect about Harvard was that the most special part to me, reflecting on these last four years, is community.”



THE KNOWLEDGE AMY
GAINED AT HARVARD
GAVE HER A WAY TO
FIND HERSELF.



BRICE WALKED ON TO THE
VARSITY BASEBALL TEAM
THROUGH OPEN TRYOUTS.

Brice '24

ALMA, MI
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING CONCENTRATOR

“Coming here has made me realize that I do belong here. There’s lots of people doing lots of different things, but I think at the end of the day, we all get together and realize we’re part of something bigger and something really unique.”

Learn more about the day-to-day of Harvard students firsthand
youtube.com/harvardstudentlife



3:00 PM



Gathering resources in the library for her senior thesis

4:30 PM



Taking time out to ride her skateboard at the Smith Playground skate park

6:00 PM



A picnic with friends along the Charles River

8:00 PM



Making magazines in the Leverett art studio with Harvard University Native American Program (HUNAP)

10:00 AM



Preparing a piece for Applied Math 101

12:00 PM



Grabbing lunch with friends in the Eliot House dining hall

2:00 PM



Working on a project in the Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Science Makerspace

4:00 PM



Taking some time away from schoolwork for baseball practice

Explore Your Academic Options...Then Dive Deep

We offer 50 Concentrations (our word for majors), 49 Secondary Fields* (our word for minors), and a special option that allows students to design their own Concentration.

- African and African American Studies

Anthropology

Applied Math

Art, Film, and Visual Studies

Astrophysics

Biomedical Engineering

Chemical and Physical Biology

Chemistry

Chemistry and Physics

Classics

Comparative Literature

Comparative Study of Religion

Computer Science

Earth and Planetary Sciences

East Asian Studies

Economics

Educational Studies

Electrical Engineering
- Energy and the Environment

Engineering Sciences

English

Environmental Science and Engineering

Environmental Science and Public Policy

Ethnicity, Migration, Rights

Folklore and Mythology

Germanic Languages and Literature

Global Health and Health Policy

Government

History

History and Literature

History and Science

History of Art and Architecture

Human Developmental and Regenerative Biology

Human Evolutionary Biology

Integrative Biology

Linguistics

- Mathematics

Mechanical Engineering

Mind, Brain, Behavior

Molecular and Cellular Biology

Music

Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations

Neuroscience

Philosophy

Physics

Psychology

Romance Languages and Literature

Slavic Literatures and Cultures

Social Studies

Sociology

South Asian Studies

Statistics

Studies of Women, Gender, and Sexuality

Theater, Dance, and Media

“At Harvard, I have been able to explore all of my interests and develop new ones. You never stop learning.”

GLORIA '24,
LYONS, IL



ALL 50 HARVARD MAJORS CONCENTRATIONS
EXPLAINED IN 15 MINUTES OR LESS

youtube.com/Harvardconcentrations

STUDENTS HAVE
UNTIL NOVEMBER
OF THEIR SECOND
YEAR TO DECLARE
A CONCENTRATION.

Ask “Why?” Ask “Why Not?”

A Liberal Arts and Sciences Education



7:1 AVERAGE STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIO

Why study the liberal arts?

Before students can help change the world, they need to understand it. The curriculum challenges students' thinking by asking difficult questions and exploring unfamiliar concepts. Students have the opportunity to indulge in their passion for inquiry and discovery across disciplines.

What is the curriculum?

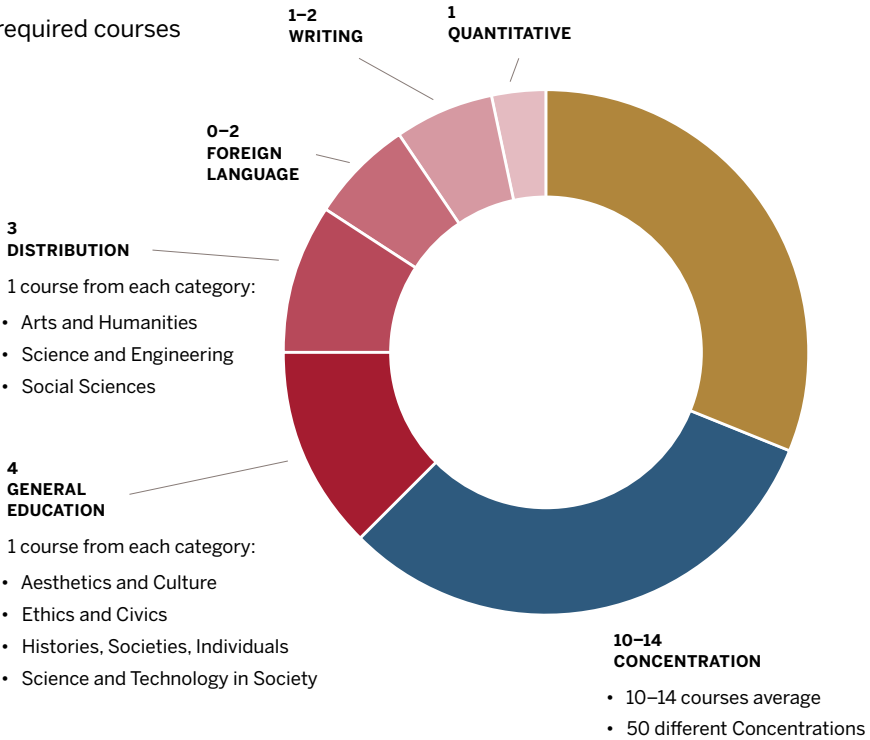
The flexible liberal arts and sciences curriculum ensures both broad-spanning and focused scholarship opportunities. Of the 32 courses, approximately 1/3 will cover various disciplines, 1/3 will be dedicated to your Concentration, and 1/3 will be electives.

Why not study multiple fields?

Students make academic connections when studying similar material from different academic angles. Harvard encourages exploration, which might include secondaries, joint or double Concentrations, or language citations. You can also take courses at MIT, Berklee, and Harvard's professional schools.

College curriculum courses

Up to 12 required courses



Ask “How?”



“It is fun to engage with undergraduates who have scholarly minds and who you learn from as much as you teach.”

EMMANUEL AKYEAMPONG
ELLEN GURNEY PROFESSOR OF HISTORY AND PROFESSOR OF AFRICAN AND AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES



WIDENER LIBRARY

3,700+ COURSES

Innovation Lab. ArtLab. Classroom to Table. Salata Institute. 24 Science and Research Buildings. Study Abroad. Office Hours. Largest Academic Library System Worldwide. Institute of Politics. Launch Lab X. Office for the Arts. 12 Teaching Museums. 5 Theaters. And more.

“I got to control a telescope in Mauna Kea in real time to collect data, and I even built a nuclear deuterium fusor all in one semester! How cool is that?”

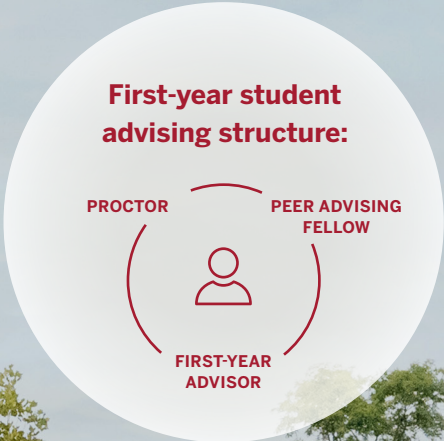
RAFID '25,
MONTCLAIR, NJ

“I discovered a community of like-minded changemakers across all Harvard schools, fueled by the mentorship of seasoned professionals in the innovation realm.”

SKYE '26,
NEW YORK, NY



Support Surrounds You at Harvard



**Kira '26,
Irvington, NY**

"Before coming to Harvard, I would have never known how accessible academic help is on campus. Knowledgeable tutors are accessible for any subject, and the best part is that they are free!"

FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENTS SUPPORT

ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER

RESIDENTIAL PRE-PROFESSIONAL TUTORS

MIGNONE CENTER FOR CAREER SUCCESS

MATH QUESTION CENTER

WRITING CENTER

**Jadyn '24,
Chattanooga, TN**

"The Academic Resource Center (ARC) is a great resource. I meet with an ARC coach each semester to ensure my schedule is one of balance, with ample time for studying and fun."

ACADEMIC COACHES

ACCOUNTABILITY GROUPS

**Audrey '26,
Dublin, CA**

"The Mignone Center for Career Success (MCS) helped me feel prepared...They're a huge reason I was able to get a consulting internship my junior summer."

Beyond the Classroom

Filling Out Your Harvard Experience

At Harvard, you will be able to find nearly any activity you might want to explore, and you can participate at a range of levels.



50,000 SQ. FT.
STUDENT ORGANIZATION
CENTER AT
HILLES (SOCH)



- Athletics**
- 42 Division I varsity teams
 - Won 150+ national or NCAA championships
 - Won a combined 440+ Ivy League championships
 - Been represented at every modern Olympic Games
 - 50+ Club and Intramural Sports
- 450+ Clubs and Organizations**
- 80+ Academic, STEM and Pre-professional
 - 90+ Community and Public Service
 - 60+ Creative and Performing Arts
 - 70+ Cultural and Racial
 - 20+ Gender and Sexuality
 - 25+ Government and Politics
 - 40+ Living and Social
 - 15+ Media and Publications
 - 20+ Religious and Spiritual Life
 - 50+ Wellness and Adjustment

Sophie '23

KINGSTON, JAMAICA

“Being involved in a group that supports the community—like dancing at football and basketball games—has also allowed me to be really involved in Harvard school spirit and community in a way I would not without the Crimson Dance Team.”



Rafid '25

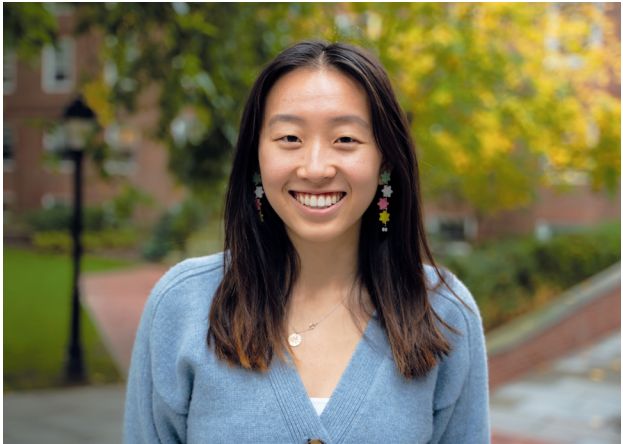
MONTCLAIR, NJ

“As someone very passionate about making outdoor recreation accessible to all, participating on the First-Year Outdoor Program Steering Committee taught me ways to bring in the voices of previously excluded communities.”

Audrey '24

DUBLIN, CA

“Through joining the Chinese Students Association as a [first-year] representative, I was able to get close to many [upper-level students] in my first year at college. These became the people I turned to for class, career, friendship, and even romantic advice as I went through college!”



A Lifetime of
“Go, Crimson!”

Become a Part of a Global Alumni Community

Alumni reunion celebrations every 5 years



REGULAR NETWORKING EVENTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS FOR RECENT GRADUATES

400K+
HARVARD ALUMNI AROUND THE WORLD

“Enter to grow in wisdom.
Depart to serve thy country
and thy kind.”

DEXTER GATE INSCRIPTION

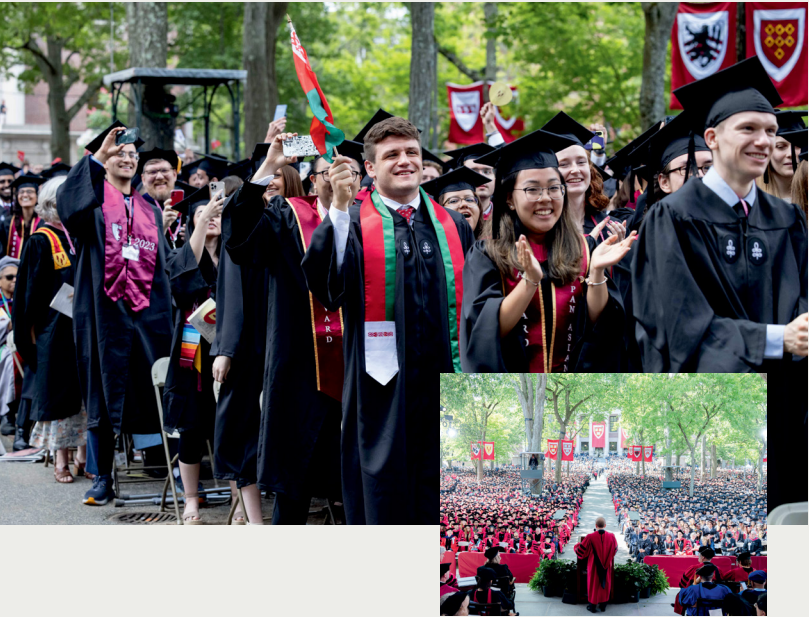


Volunteer and student mentorship opportunities

250+
HARVARD CLUBS AND SHARED INTEREST GROUPS TO JOIN

98% graduation rate — among the highest at American colleges and universities

A Harvard education prepares students to graduate and pursue any professional path they want, in any field — public service and government, education, technology and innovation, finance, law, medicine, and more. With our resources and vast alumni network, any pursuit is possible.



“At Harvard, I was always encouraged to ask why and to leave a space better than how I found it. These words of wisdom guided me during college and also post-graduation as I [think] about ways I can make a meaningful contribution to the world.”

Lifelong Friends:
“I still think of Harvard-Yale as the best day of the year... seeing all these familiar faces in one place again is one of the most wonderful things I can think of in post-grad life.”
MARTHA '20, WORCESTER, MA

Harvard's Lasting Impact:
“I worked for Professor Friedman for two years of college, and he's been a mentor since then. He's given me advice and written me letters of recommendation, and we're still in touch [all these] years later.”
JEREMY '12, SAN DIEGO, CA

From Classroom to Career:
“I concentrated in Social Studies, with a focus field in the American legal system. My senior thesis on pro se litigants, people who represent themselves in court, was the start of a lifelong interest in criminal justice reform.”
ANNIE '16, EVERETT, WA

COLETTE '16, DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA



The College hosts a variety of social events for students.



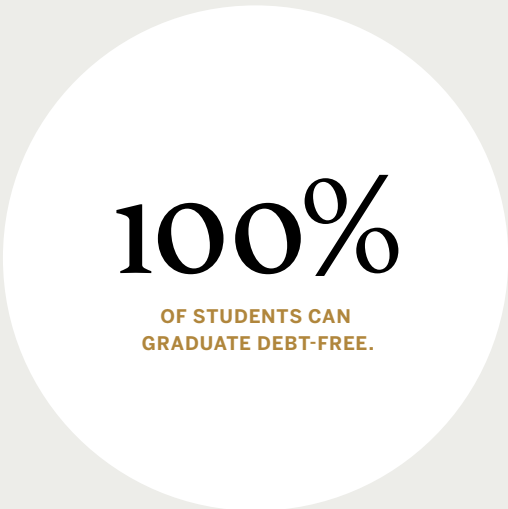
The “Quad” is comprised of 3 upper-level Houses and a beautiful courtyard.



You Can Afford Harvard

Quick Financial Aid Facts

90% of U.S. families would pay the same or less to send their children to Harvard as they would their state university.



Nearly 1/4 of our students' families pay nothing for them to attend.



Aid is the same regardless of nationality or citizenship status.

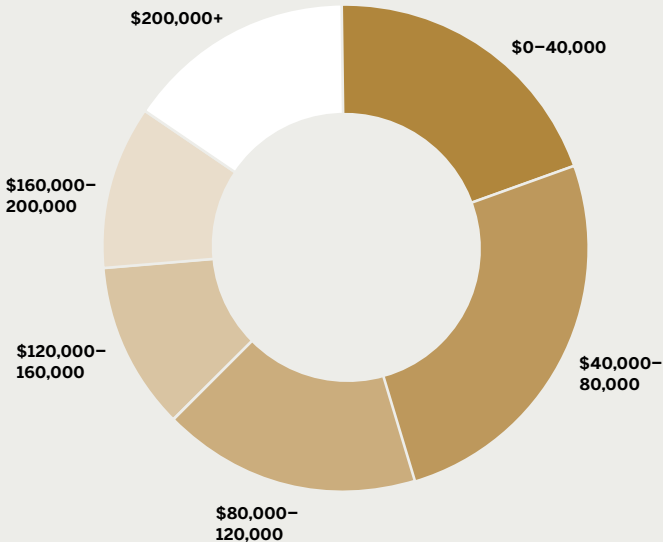


“We aim to eliminate financial barriers for students beyond attendance costs. From day one, students should feel fully included in the robust academic, extracurricular, and social experiences that shape their education.”

JAKE KAUFMANN
GRIFFIN DIRECTOR OF FINANCIAL AID

2023–2024 School Year

Scholarship Recipients' Income Levels



\$85K* and Under

Families with total incomes \$85K and under will pay nothing to attend Harvard.

\$85K–\$150K

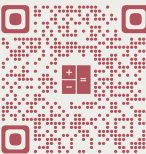
Families with total incomes between \$85K and \$150K pay 0–10% of their income.

\$150K and Over

Families with incomes above \$150K will be asked to pay proportionately more than 10%, based on their individual circumstance.

Families at all income levels who have significant assets are asked to pay more than those without assets.

*All amounts are in USD.



EACH STUDENT'S CIRCUMSTANCE IS UNIQUE. VISIT OUR NET PRICE CALCULATOR TO GET AN ESTIMATE OF WHAT HARVARD WOULD COST YOUR FAMILY. ALSO AVAILABLE IN SPANISH!

Timeline of Financial Support

“Affordability” means more than tuition, housing, and food. Here are a few examples:

Pre-arrival:
\$2,000 Start-Up Grant for move-in expenses*

All 4 years:
Student events fund for campus events*

Breaks/holidays:
A travel allowance to/from campus is included in your financial aid budget

First winter:
Winter coat funding*

Summers:
Funding for study abroad / unpaid internships (available through other Harvard offices)

Junior year:
\$2,000 Launch Grant for career-related expenses*

*Given to students on full financial aid.



Speak *Your* Truth

Applying to Harvard College

“What matters to you? What do you like to study? What motivates you? What kind of student are you? What would you be like as a roommate? What niche would you take on in college? Who would you be beyond Harvard? Your essays [and] activities list will each give you a chance to write more about these. It’s important to simply see the application as an opportunity to talk more about who you are.”

EMILY '24,
HOUSTON, TX



Harvard welcomes students from across the United States of America and all over the world with diverse backgrounds and far-ranging talents and interests.



“Whole-person review means that members of the admissions committee take time to read every aspect of your application. When we finish, we hope to understand your story, not just your list of achievements.”

JOY ST. JOHN
DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ATHLETICS

ESSAYS

SAT/ACT (OPTIONAL)

GPA/TRANSCRIPT


LEADERSHIP

ALUMNI INTERVIEWS

TEACHER AND COUNSELOR RECOMMENDATIONS

AWARDS

LIFE EXPERIENCES



Admission Review:
Harvard College holds an expansive view of excellence and takes into account many factors when building a class.


Application Timeline

- November 1:** First-year Restrictive Early Action (REA) application and financial aid application* deadline
- Mid-December:** Decision notification for first-year REA applicants
- January 1:** First-year Regular Action application deadline
- February 1:** First-year Regular Action financial aid application deadline*
- March 1:** Transfer application and financial aid application* deadline
- Late March:** Decision notification for first-year Regular Action applicants
- Mid-June:** Decision notification for transfer applicants

*Students can apply for financial aid at any point in the application process, after being admitted, after enrolling, or during their Harvard career. Financial aid deadlines listed above generally ensure that financial aid information will be available at the same time as the admissions decision release.

Application Requirements

- Common Application or the Coalition Application by Scoir
- Harvard College Questions for the Harvard supplement
- Secondary School Report (including a counselor letter of recommendation)
- Official transcript(s)
- Two teacher letters of recommendation
- Official standardized test scores (optional)
- \$85 fee (or request a fee waiver)
- Midyear School Report (after your first-semester senior grades are available)
- Final School Report (for admitted students only)



Harvard, Transforming



Each incoming student
will make Harvard
better. Come help write
our next chapter.

Apply:
college.harvard.edu/admissions/apply

Follow us:

 @harvard_admissions

 @harvardadmissions

 @HarvardCollegeAdmissions

**Harvard College Admissions Office
and Griffin Financial Aid Office**

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