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

Enjoy all four seasons in picturesque New England.

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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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
DANOY 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.”

DYL "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
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.

“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!”

50+ COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
75+ HISTORICAL LANDMARKS
5 PROFESSIONAL SPORTS TEAMS
24 THEATERS
212 STOREFRONTS
7.7 MILES FROM THE AIRPORT
-3 MILES FROM DOWNTOWN BOSTON
98/100 BIKING AND WALKING SCORE
50+ COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
5 PROFESSIONAL SPORTS TEAMS
24 THEATERS
212 STOREFRONTS
7.7 MILES FROM THE AIRPORT
-3 MILES FROM DOWNTOWN BOSTON
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.

Advising:
“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

“Housing Day”—when first-years receive house assignments—is a favorite tradition!

CHECK OUT THE DORM TOURS PLAYLIST HERE:
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

CHECK OUT THE DORM TOURS PLAYLIST HERE:
tiktok.com/@harvardadmissions

12 Houses—12 Harvard Homes

Adams 01
Cabot 02
Currier 03
Dunster 04
Eliot 05
Kirkland 06
Leverett 07
Lowell 08
Mather 09
Pforzheimer 10
Quincy 11
Winthrop 12

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

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

Explore the largest academic library system in the world.

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.

“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, HAWAI‘I

“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

“[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

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

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.”

**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

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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

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

ALL 50 HARVARD MAJORS CONCENTRATIONS EXPLAINED IN 15 MINUTES OR LESS
youtube.com/Harvardconcentrations

*THIS LIST INCLUDES ALL CONCENTRATIONS AND A SELECTION OF SECONDARY FIELDS.
Ask “Why?” Ask “Why Not?”

A Liberal Arts and Sciences Education

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

1-2 WRITING
1 QUANTITATIVE
0-2 FOREIGN LANGUAGE
2 DISTRIBUTION
1 course from each category:
• Arts and Humanities
• Science and Engineering
• Social Sciences

4 GENERAL EDUCATION
1 course from each category:
• Aesthetics and Culture
• Ethics and Civics
• Histories, Societies, Individuals
• Science and Technology in Society

6-12 ELECTIVES
• Double Concentration
• Joint Concentration
• Secondary Field
• Intellectual Exploration
• First-Year Seminars
• Study Abroad
• Lemann Program on Creativity and Entrepreneurship
• Mindich Program in Engaged Scholarship
• Language Citation
• Concurrent Master’s Degree

30-34 CONCENTRATION
• 30-34 courses average
• 50 different Concentrations

3,700+ 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

“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?”

RAFIID ’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


7:1 AVERAGE STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIO

673 AVERAGE STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIO
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!”

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.”

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

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.

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
- 15+ Media and Publications
- 20+ Religious and Spiritual Life
- 50+ Wellness and Adjustment

Filling Out Your Harvard Experience

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!”

Alumni reunion celebrations every 5 years

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.

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.”

Ann ’16, Everett, WA

Become a Part of a Global Alumni Community

“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.”

Colette ’16, Durban, South Africa
The College hosts a variety of social events for students.

Make a “veritaffle” (shield-stamped waffle) in the first-year dining hall, Annenberg.

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

Check out Eastbound—the Asian American Dance Troupe’s spring performance.
You Can Afford Harvard

Quick Financial Aid Facts

Aid is the same regardless of nationality or citizenship status.

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

$64,500 is the average annual scholarship students receive to attend Harvard.

100% of demonstrated financial need is met for each admitted student.

100% of students can graduate debt-free.

$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.

$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.

2023–2024 School Year

Scholarship Recipients’ Income Levels

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.

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

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!
“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

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 (SAT/ACT Required)
- $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 welcomes students from across the United States of America and all over the world with diverse backgrounds and far-ranging talents and interests.
Harvard, Transforming

Each incoming student will make Harvard better. Come help write our next chapter.
Harvard does not discriminate against applicants or students on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry or any other protected classification.

Harvard College Admissions Office
and Griffin Financial Aid Office
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Cambridge, MA 02138

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