DISCOVER HARVARD
Harvard has educated leaders and shaped the future for nearly 400 years. It has nurtured novelists and scientific pioneers, jurists and composers, architects and actors, business leaders and spiritual leaders, physicians and public servants, and scholars and teachers in nearly every field of human endeavor. This institution leaves an indelible mark on the lives of its students, connecting them to an extraordinary history and challenging them to discover and define their purpose.

Drew Gilpin Faust
President of Harvard University

We want to ensure we are providing students a deeply transformative experience—intellectually, socially, and personally—that will prepare them for a life of citizenship and leadership. Harvard College intends to set the standard for liberal arts and sciences education for the next hundred years. This is who we are.

Rakesh Khurana
Danoff Dean of Harvard College
Harvard transformed my life — and it can transform yours.

- Live in Harvard’s legendary House System, a faculty-led “small college” experience with enhanced personal advising and a graduation rate of 98%.

- Access our “One Harvard” and benefit from the unique resources of the entire University including our renowned graduate schools, research centers, theaters, museums, and Innovation Lab.

- Study and conduct research in state-of-the-art facilities with faculty at the forefront of all the arts and sciences.

- Explore Boston, “America’s College Town,” along with hundreds of on-campus extracurricular and athletic options.

- Afford Harvard through our revolutionary financial aid program with the majority of aid recipients (including international families) paying an average of only $12,000 per year, with no loans required.

Harvard presented possibilities I never imagined — imagine the possibilities waiting here for you.

William Fitzsimmons
Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid
Residential life at Harvard College

RESIDENTIAL SYSTEM
Our students represent all regions of the United States and over 100 foreign countries. You and your classmates will bring a full range of interests and aspirations. You’ll have goals and you’ll work hard, but you’ll also have time to relax and enjoy the company of friends. Residential life at Harvard supports the multiplicity of our students’ experiences.

During freshman year, historic Harvard Yard will be your home. Surrounded by other first-year students, living together in the very heart of campus, you’ll be steps away from the world’s leading university library, state-of-the-art laboratories and classrooms, and a renowned faculty dedicated equally to teaching and research.

As a sophomore, you’ll move into a House. These are residential colleges, where students live, dine, study, plan events, play intramural sports, and enjoy a tight, supportive community that includes faculty and advisors. For many Harvard students, the Houses represent the most rewarding elements of both social and academic life. At some point in your Harvard career, people will ask you which is the best House at Harvard College. The answer will be easy: your House.

HOME AT HARVARD

Harvard College is more than the sum of its many celebrated parts. It is, most of all, a home—a place where you can belong. Each college experience may be different, but at Harvard, there are certain experiences everyone will share. And a strong personal sense of community is one of them.

college.harvard.edu
ABOUT HOUSES

Frankly, I can’t imagine living anywhere else. From the day I moved in, upperclassmen were unbelievably welcoming and understanding of my, and all of the newly-minted sophomores’ adjustment to life in the House. That did so much to help establish the sort of community and presence within the house that makes seeing people you know in the halls, laundry rooms, gym, or dining hall such a joy.

Julius ’20

LOCATION

In Cambridge, you’ll find an environment that combines history and colonial charm with the energy of a modern urban setting. In addition to exploring legendary Harvard Square, home to popular restaurants, cafes, theaters, and, of course, bookstores, you can also enjoy the excitement of Boston, America’s premier “college town.”

A ten minute subway ride from Harvard Square takes you into the heart of downtown Boston. You can visit the great museums (the JFK Library, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Museum of Science, and many others); see exciting performances such as the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the Red Sox, and Celtics; and explore nearby neighborhoods (like the North End and Beacon Hill). Also within easy reach are Atlantic beaches, cozy seaside villages from Cape Cod to Maine, ski slopes, forests, and historic sites.
Incredible range, depth, and variety will characterize your Harvard academic experience. **World-renowned for the quality of our teaching and research,** the College will supply you with the tools to build a highly individualized and rewarding undergraduate course of study.

**RANGE: A LIBERAL ARTS EDUCATION**
At Harvard, you will be exposed to a broad array of academic topics, spanning the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences and engineering. You will take courses in the General Education Program, designed to introduce you to subject matter from across the University, and connect what you learn in the classroom to life after college. This breadth of learning will prepare you to engage in your community and enable you to think thoughtfully, critically, and constructively about the world.

**DEPTH: CHOOSING A CONCENTRATION**
At the end of your third term, you will choose your primary field of focus, your concentration. This will give you the opportunity to dive into a specific field and explore a sequence of courses specific to the discipline. We offer 49 concentrations, but students whose interests bridge multiple areas may combine fields or devise a special concentration. Secondary fields provide further opportunity for focused study outside of the primary area of concentration. The list of offerings can be found on our website.

[college.harvard.edu/academics](http://college.harvard.edu/academics)
You can choose from over 3,500 courses to create a highly individualized plan of study. Each semester, you will spend the first week sitting in on classes and determining how well a class fits with your goals and needs. “Shopping Week” gives you the flexibility to make important academic decisions with confidence, genuine interest, and direction. After declaring a concentration, you will work with a faculty adviser to design your program, adjusting it as necessary. You may also register at many of our ten Harvard graduate schools or MIT.

I’m interested in making art with people who don’t typically make art and who come from different sections of academia. Astrophysics people making movies and poetry or really serious math people making music—it’s so fascinating to me to see those crossovers.

Lance ’19

I was scared to be too hyped or nervous before moving off to college, so I did not know what to expect. I knew I wanted to build true relationships with people from different backgrounds, faiths, and ethnicities and get the most out of the education provided, but I wasn’t expecting more, and yet more was given. The community at Harvard has been so accepting, open, and thought-provoking; the professors and faculty are so willing to talk, and hearing the stories of hundreds of people coming from all walks of life has changed my perspective on many issues. I cannot be more excited for what is to come.

Bushra ’20
RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES
The research opportunities at Harvard College are virtually endless. Our world-renowned faculty values the opportunity to work with undergraduates, and beginning with freshman year, you can pursue research as part of your normal academic program or as paid term-time or summer employment. This past year, more than 1,500 students participated in undergraduate research, receiving a total of more than $5 million in project funding—and that’s not counting internships and mentorships.

RESOURCES
Are you looking for a college with resources? We have them: dozens of libraries, 12 teaching museums, 24 campus buildings devoted to science and research, and multiple theaters and performance spaces. In addition, you can seek career advice at the Office of Career Services, request a peer tutor at the Bureau of Study Counsel, collaborate with peers at the Innovation Lab, and cross-register at many of Harvard’s graduate schools or MIT.

LANGUAGES
Proficiency in language is vital to the linguistic and cultural proficiency required in an increasingly global society. Harvard offers an array of over 80 languages including Chinese, Irish, Arabic, Haitian Creole, Swedish, Turkish, more than 20 African languages, and many others. Students can combine language study with literature, politics, music, film, and history.

STUDY ABROAD
Join the 60% of students who enjoy an international experience during their time at Harvard. No matter your field of study, you can study in classrooms abroad, take part in field-based cultural immersion programs, or take language intensive courses. You choose when and where!
At Harvard College, we expect our students to dive into academic life, get to know their professors, and pursue interests both inside and outside of the classroom. The curriculum is structured, but you will have the chance to be creative, as well.

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES
Harvard College educates the world’s future leaders in science and technology, broadly and deeply. Embedded in the liberal arts and emphasizing hands-on learning and cross-disciplinary work, the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences provides students with the technical and critical skills to create solutions to the problems of the world.

www.seas.harvard.edu

ARTS AND HUMANITIES
You’ll find vibrant and exciting fields in the Arts and Humanities, whether you study music, philosophy, theater, film-making, art history, or the literatures of the world. Whether your goal is to practice law or medicine, work in business, the arts, or public service, the Arts and Humanities provide the foundational education necessary to live a life of meaning and professional fulfillment. Consider our new concentration in “Theater, Dance, and Media.”

artsandhumanities fas.harvard.edu

“”
ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH
It’s very satisfying, and indeed inspiring, to work with the young people we will be depending on to confront and solve the scientific problems that will determine our destiny. It’s made me feel incredibly optimistic about the future.

Jene Golovchenko
Rumford Professor of Physics and Gordon McKay Professor of Applied Physics
Athletics for everybody

REACH NEW HEIGHTS

Chances are that as a Harvard student you will participate in some form of athletics and physical recreation on campus—nearly 80% of our students do!

FACILITIES
Our extensive athletic facilities include the nation’s oldest football stadium (which looks a lot like Rome’s Coliseum), modern strength/conditioning rooms and aerobic studios, an ice rink, and beautiful boat houses along the river—all in constant use. You can match your level of skill and interest by participating on teams ranging from varsity and junior varsity to club, intramural, or recreational. Or be a spectator and cheer on the Harvard Crimson!

VARSITY
Harvard hosts the nation’s largest Division I athletic program, with 42 sports and nearly 1,300 athletes. Our athletes pursue excellence both in the classroom and on the field, enjoying success within the Ivy League, as well as on national and international levels.

Offerings include:

- BASEBALL
- BASKETBALL
- HEAVYWEIGHT CREW
- LIGHTWEIGHT CREW
- CROSS COUNTRY
- FENCING
- FIELD HOCKEY
- FOOTBALL
- GOLF
- ICE HOCKEY
- LACROSSE
- RUGBY
- SAILING
- ALPINE SKIING
- NORDIC SKIING
- SOCCER
- SOFTBALL
- SQUASH
- SWIMMING & DIVING
- TENNIS
- TRACK & FIELD
- VOLLEYBALL
- WATER POLO
- WRESTLING
CLUB
Join a group of peers who share a common interest in recreation and sport. Club sports are student-initiated and student-run, providing opportunities for leadership and decision-making. Fully recognized by the College and supported by the Department of Athletics, activities range from informal games to intercollegiate and tournament competition.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS
Express House pride by competing in various intramural sports for the ultimate House trophy, the Straus Cup. Intramural sports range in skill level and in variety, including sports such as flag football, soccer, volleyball, Ultimate Frisbee, crew, basketball, softball and innertube water polo.

ON SPORTING LIFE
Club and intramural sports have been such a vital part of my time at Harvard so far! The camaraderie of a sports team is unlike any other, and I would not give up the fun experiences I have had and the people I have met there for anything.

Becca ’17

HARVARD HAS...
Won 138 national or NCAA championships
Won a combined 372 Ivy League championships
Been represented at every modern Olympic games
PERFORMING, FINE AND APPLIED ARTS

If you’re an artist—of sight, sound, or movement—you will flourish here. At Harvard, you will find many offerings in music, the visual arts, drama, and dance. Even if you’re not yet an artist, consider the possibilities.

Offerings include:

- **FIVE ORCHESTRAS**
- **CHAMBER MUSIC AND CHORAL ENSEMBLES**
- **SEVERAL JAZZ BANDS AND COMBOS**
- **A WIND ENSEMBLE**
- **A GOSPEL CHOIR**
- **A GLEE CLUB**
- **NUMEROUS A.CAPPELLA AND MADRIGAL GROUPS**
- **ART STUDIOS**
- **A PRINT WORKSHOP**
- **CERAMICS STUDIOS**
- **DARKROOMS**
- **WOODWORKING SHOPS**
- **20 STUDENT DANCE COMPANIES**
- **WORKSHOPS IN DRAWING, PAINTING, POTTERY, PHOTOGRAPHY, SCULPTURE, AND FILMMAKING**
- **MORE THAN 60 STUDENT PRODUCTIONS A YEAR**
- **THE LOEB DRAMA CENTER** (with credit / non-credit courses in acting, directing, playwriting, dramaturgy, and design)
- **NEW THEATER, DANCE, AND MEDIA CONCENTRATION**
- **THE HARVARD COLLEGE DANCE CENTER** (credit / non-credit courses in modern dance, ballet, jazz, tap, choreography, and improvisation)

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Since 1636, Harvard has maintained a steadfast commitment to advancing society through meaningful individual and collective participation in service. The Phillips Brooks House Association has stood as the leading public service organization on campus for the past 100 years, offering more than 85 student-run, community-based, and non-profit public service programs. We bet there’s at least one that’s perfect for you.

> college.harvard.edu/admissions/choosing-harvard/student-activities
CULTURAL GROUPS

Harvard sponsors more than 50 cultural, ethnic, and international organizations, as well as groups representing nearly every religious and political perspective. The Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations hosts many activities throughout the year that celebrate campus ethnic and cultural diversity.

POLITICS & MEDIA

Harvard is home to numerous student-run media and political organizations, including a daily student newspaper, humor magazines, political newspapers, ethnic and cultural publications, a student-run radio station, and a yearbook. The Institute of Politics (IOP) brings students together with prominent academics, politicians, activists, and policymakers.

ON LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM

There’s so much you can do here – so many clubs, so many organizations. I can be in the Black Students Association and in the Canadian Club and I can also be a part of the Sports Analytics Collective. That’s what I love most about being here. If there’s something you want to do, you can do it.

Carrington ’20

As a staff writer for our student newspaper, The Crimson, I have had a chance to be directly involved with campus activities by covering issues that range from student events to student life. Through The Crimson, I have been able to explore my interest in journalism and find a close knit community.

Ahilya ’19

Your education will extend far beyond your courses. Joining extracurricular activities will complement your studies and create wonderful opportunities for friendship and learning. Student activities range in skill levels; you can pursue life-long passions or novel interests.
YOUR HARVARD
Traditions evolve over time to reflect the interests of the students, but one thing is true for everyone—you will make friendships that will last a lifetime. In your House, on the field, around a seminar table, over a pizza, you’ll meet and get to know people who will enrich your thinking, your life, and your career.

ALUMNI LIFE
Your connection to Harvard will not end after your Commencement Ceremony. After graduating from Harvard, there are many opportunities to stay connected and involved. Join a shared interest group, attend your five, ten, twenty year reunions, participate in professional networks, or in one of the 200+ local alumni groups around the world. Attending Harvard is only the beginning.

college.harvard.edu/student-residentiallife
ON FRIENDSHIP

The people I was friends with before coming to Harvard—we all had similar interests, but my best friends here—we’re all interested in different things. Every conversation we have is a learning process and an adventure. I’ve found that the community here is incredibly collaborative. Everyone is really open to working together and making sure everyone as a whole succeeds.

Cata ’20
At Harvard College, we seek to enroll students who will educate each other within a variety of campus settings—academic, extracurricular, and social.

ADMISSION: 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.

FINANCIAL AID: REMOVING ECONOMIC BARRIERS
We bring the best people to Harvard, regardless of their ability to pay. About 70% of our students receive some form of aid, with over 50% receiving need-based scholarships.

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.

Get an estimate of your financial aid on our Net Price Calculator:

college.harvard.edu/npc
“ON ACCESS
I applied to 15 different schools, and Harvard was the only non-state school I applied to. Financial aid was really important to my family, and my parents said they would not be able to contribute to my college tuition. When I was accepted to Harvard, I was super excited—but I was also trying to push that excitement down because I was assuming I wouldn’t be able to come since it would be too expensive. When my parents and I saw my financial aid award, we were shocked. Harvard was one of the most affordable options for me out of every school I applied to.

Sadie ’20

OUR FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM Requires no contribution from Harvard families with annual incomes below $65,000; asks an average of 10% of income for those with incomes up to $150,000; and expects proportionally more from families with incomes above $150,000. Families at all income levels who have significant assets are asked to pay more than those in less fortunate circumstances and our financial aid officers work closely with families to ensure Harvard is accessible to all admitted students. We do not require students to take out loans, although they are asked to contribute to the cost of their education through term-time and summer work.

You can afford to go to Harvard. Harvard was named a “Best Value” by US News. In fact, the majority of Harvard families pay an average of only $12,000 per year due to our revolutionary financial aid program. About 20% pay nothing!

### Deadlines

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<td>Common Application,</td>
<td>As soon as possible or by November 1</td>
<td>As soon as possible or by January 1</td>
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<td>Universal College Application</td>
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<td>or Coalition Application</td>
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<td>Secondary School</td>
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The people I have met and the friends that I have made are the reasons that Harvard has become my home away from home.

Alicia ’18