

HARVARD



OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AND FINANCIAL AID

COUNSELOR NEWSLETTER

FALL 2018

DEAN'S UPDATE



Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your work on behalf of students applying to Harvard College. Teacher and guidance counselor recommendations remain integral to our committee's evaluation process, and we are grateful for your honest, thoughtful accounts of students' performance. To assist in your ongoing advising of students, I would like to share with you a few updates taking place here in Cambridge.

This year, the College added a fiftieth field of concentration to our extensive academic offerings: Environmental Science and Engineering. The Harvard John A. Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences remains an engine of innovation on campus and beyond, offering Harvard undergraduates the opportunity to contribute to research projects ranging from machine learning and artificial intelligence to wearable medical devices.

Whatever a student's academic focus, we believe that Harvard College is well equipped to help students realize their academic, personal, and career aspirations. Our students work closely with world-renowned faculty, and they live and learn in a unique residential House system: a community of undergraduates, advisors, and tenured faculty members. In fact, the College is well on its way toward completing our ambitious House renewal project, through which the upperclass Houses are being renovated and revitalized. Over the coming months, we look forward to seeing the renewed Lowell House, as well as the reopened Smith Campus Center, a hub of college and university life.

This past spring, we revised our policy on students' submission of test scores. Beginning with the 2018-2019 application cycle, applicants may choose to submit their ACT or SAT scores with or without writing. Applicants may also provide self-reported test scores (including ACT, SAT, Subject Tests, Advanced Placement, IB, etc.). Admitted students who decide to enroll at Harvard College will be required to submit official test scores.

Finally, you may have read news coverage regarding a lawsuit that aims to prevent Harvard College from considering race as part of its effort to build a dynamic class of students. Harvard College does not discriminate against applicants from any group in its admissions processes. We will continue to vigorously defend the right of Harvard, and other colleges and universities, to seek the educational benefits that come from a class that is diverse on multiple dimensions. Diversity adds significantly to the rigor and depth of students' educational experiences. It encourages students to question their own assumptions, to test received truths, and to appreciate the spectacular complexity of the modern world.

Your work on behalf of students has never been more important. We look forward to continue working with you in the year ahead.

William R. Fitzsimmons
Dean of Admissions & Financial Aid

A BRIEF PROFILE OF THE CLASS OF 2022

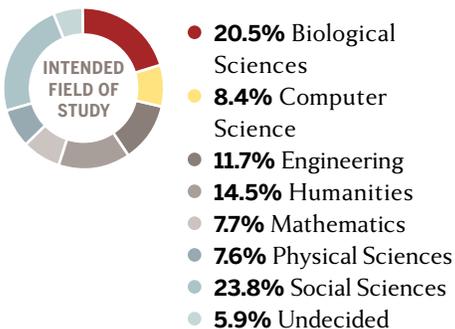
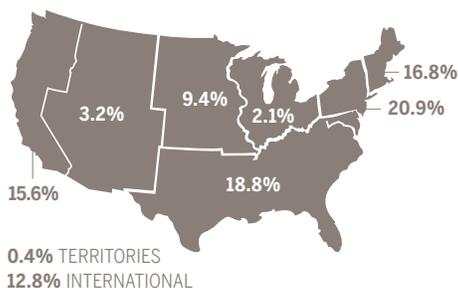
2,024

of **42,749** applicants were admitted to the **Class of 2022**.

1,656 MATRICULATES

81.8% YIELD

63 ADMITTED FROM WAIT LIST



22.9% ASIAN AMERICAN

15.2% AFRICAN AMERICAN

12.3% HISPANIC OR LATINO

1.9% NATIVE AMERICAN

0.4% NATIVE HAWAIIAN

ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

COURSES



3,500+

Number of courses available (including cross-registration at Harvard graduate schools and MIT).

50 FIELDS OF CONCENTRATION (MAJORS) OFFERED

49 SECONDARY FIELDS (MINORS) OFFERED

120+ FRESHMAN SEMINARS OFFERED

80+ FOREIGN LANGUAGES OFFERED

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.



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

Virtually **all faculty teach undergraduates**.

STUDENT LIFE

CAMPUS RESOURCES



97%

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

BUREAU OF STUDY COUNSEL

WOMEN'S CENTER

OFFICE OF BGLTQ STUDENT LIFE

OFFICE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND PREVENTION

OFFICE OF CAREER SERVICES

UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES

ACCESSIBLE EDUCATION OFFICE



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 Foreign Language, Expository Writing, and Quantitative Facility.



GRADUATES



98%

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

66%

of students will have some **international experience**—study abroad, research, or some other opportunity—during their time at Harvard.

COMMUNITY AND ACTIVITIES



1,665

of our **6,700 undergrads** are **first-year** students.



Cambridge & Boston:

Half college town, half metropolitan hub.



Learning from peers:

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 groups.

Harvard undergraduates can participate in athletics at the **intramural, club, or varsity level**. If you have students who are interested in one of our 42 Division I teams, please direct them to the following site for more information.
college.harvard.edu/athletics

ADMISSIONS AND FINANCIAL AID

ADMISSIONS: WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Some admission applicants will demonstrate extraordinary promise in academic or research endeavors. Some will 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	As soon as possible or by November 1	As soon as possible or by January 1
Secondary School Report and two letters of recommendation	November 1 or October 15 if possible	January 1 or December 15 if possible
Initial components of the financial aid application	November 1	February 1
All financial aid application materials	November 15	February 1
Notification date for applicants	Mid-December	Late March

TYPICAL FINANCIAL AID PACKAGE



- Scholarships [\$53,700]
- Student Term-Time Work [\$2,800]
- Parent Contribution [\$11,650]
- Student Summer Work & Asset Contribution [\$1,600]

Our aid is entirely need-based, and grant eligibility is determined in the same manner for all admitted students.

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% 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.

90%

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

20%

of our students' families **pay nothing**.

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.

college.harvard.edu/npc

APPLICATION

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

Students may submit additional materials such as art, music, or research through our **Applicant Status Portal**.

facebook.com/harvardadmissions

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

Learn more at college.harvard.edu/school-counselors

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

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

college.harvard.edu

We value our relationship with our school and CBO counselors. To be put in touch with your regional admissions officer, simply call our office at **617-495-1551** and we will connect you.

HARVARD COLLEGE
OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS AND FINANCIAL AID
86 Brattle Street
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138