

Boston College Info Guide

The Basics

- Boston College was founded in Boston's South end in 1863.
- Classified as Roman Catholic
- Private College
- Boston College is led by the 25th President of BC, William P. Leahy, S.J.
- Dean of Faculties is David Quigly
- School colors: Maroon and gold
- Motto: "Ever to Excel" from the book "*The Iliad*"
- Mascot: The eagle
- Total Enrollment: 14,890
- Endowment: \$2.6 billion
- US News Ranking: 35th
- Faculty to Student Ratio: 1:11
- Selectivity: "Most Selective"
 - Acceptance rate as of 2020: 27.2%
- 2021 Rankings
 - #35 in National Universities
 - #8 in Best Undergraduate Teaching
 - #42 in Best Value Schools
- Total enrollment: 14,171
- Total undergraduate enrollment: 9,370
- Total graduate enrollment: 4,801

History

- Boston College was founded by the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) to educate the predominantly Irish, Catholic immigrant community of Boston in 1863
- BC originated as an undergraduate liberal arts program but eventually added graduate programs and professional schools to become a university.

- The Society of Jesus sponsors 28 colleges and universities in the United States
- BC seeks to provide an education that promotes the integration of intellectual, social, religious, and affective dimensions

Notable Alumni

- Median Starting Salary of Alumni: \$60,400
- Kevin Allocca: Head of YouTube Culture and Trends, Google
- Steve Barry: Managing Director, Chief Investment Officer of Fundamental Equity, Goldman Sachs Asset Management
- Darcel Clark: District Attorney, Officer of the Bronx District Attorney
- Jared Dudley: Los Angeles Lakers, NBA
- Matt Ryan: Atlanta Falcons, NFL
- Lulu Wang: Film director, writer, producer
- Denise Morrison: Former President and CEO, Campbell Soup Company

Traditions

- **Marathon Monday:** Every Patriot's Day, the BC community cheers on runners in the Boston Marathon, including the BC Campus School team, as they make their way up Commonwealth Avenue.
- **Superfans:** Superfans wear gold and get loud as they cheer the Eagles to victory at football games
- **Student Involvement Fair:** This annual fair gives incoming students a chance to explore the more than 300 diverse organizations, programs, and offices on campus.
- **Mass Of The Holy Spirit:** A Jesuit tradition dating back to the Middle Ages, the Mass of the Holy Spirit brings the BC community together to mark the opening of the school year.
- **Christmas Tree Lighting:** BC kicks off the Christmas season with a tree lighting ceremony featuring festive performances, games, and a chance to take a selfie with Santa.
- **ALS Awareness Game:** For one night a year, the BC baseball team plays a home game at Fenway Park to raise money in the fight against ALS.

- **Commencement:** Graduating students and their families celebrate their academic accomplishments and hear from inspiring speakers at the University Commencement ceremony.
- **Convocation:** Freshman Eagles begin their BC journey with the traditional “first flight”—a lantern-led procession down the Higgins stairs to the Conte Forum for an inspiring guest speaker.
- **Beanpot:** Since 1952, teams from BC, BU, Harvard, and Northeastern have competed for hockey dominance in this legendary two-week tournament.
- **Red Bandana:** Every year, the BC community honors the memory of alumnus and 9/11 hero Welles Remy Crowther '99 with a 5k “Red Bandana Race” and a dedicated football and lacrosse game.
- **Arts Festival:** Music, theater, dance, poetry—this vibrant community event draws more than 1,000 talented student and faculty performers.
- **ALC Showdown:** BC’s largest annual student dance competition promotes diversity and cultural awareness through dance.

Class of 2024 Snapshot

- **Total Applicants:** 29,382
- **Acceptance rate:** 26%
- **Average ACT:** 32
- **Average SAT:** 1367
- 36% of students are AHANA students (students of African, Hispanic, Asian, and Native American descent)

Admissions

- Uses the Common Application
- All candidates are required to apply to one of the Universities four undergrad divisions: the Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences, Carroll School of Management, Lynch School of Education and Human Development, or Connell School of Nursing. (Applicants do not have to have a major declared when applying- Engineering and Nursing are exceptions)

- The Boston College Writing Supplement **must** be submitted along with the Common Application. The prompt changes each year, but provides multiple topics to write about
- **SAT Code:** 3083
- **ACT Code:** 1788
- Prospective members of the class of 2025 and 2026 are test-optional
- **Priority Scholarship and Early Decision 1 applicant** will have any SAT results taken through the October 3rd testing date, and ACT results through the October 10th testing date.
- For **Early Decision 2 and Regular Decision applicants**, any SAT results taken through December 5th and ACT results through December 12th will be considered.
- International applicants must submit TOEFL, IELTS, or Duolingo English Test exam scores
- Most competitive applicants take at least four years of English, Math, Social Science, Natural Science, and Foreign Language.
- All applicants must submit a high school transcript online at the Common App website, or by mailing said transcript to
 - Boston College Undergraduate Admission
 - Document Processing Center
 - PO Box 1481
 - Portsmouth, NH 03801
- **All candidates must submit** The School Report and Counselor Recommendation Form. Your counselor or school official holds responsibility for submitting these forms. If your school has its own form, Boston College will also accept that document.
- **All candidates must submit** Teacher Evaluations. Two teacher evaluations are written by teachers who have taught you in either English, social studies, science, math, or foreign language.
- **Regular Decision and Early Decision deferred candidates must submit** a Mid-Year Grade Report. This must be submitted as soon as it is available from your school
- **Application Fee:** \$80

- This must be submitted with your Common Application. If this presents a financial hardship for your family and you are a U.S citizen or permanent resident, you can apply for an application fee waiver through the Common Application.
- **Applicants with an intended major in Studio Art** can submit a portfolio through SlideRoom. If you are **not majoring in Studio Art**, you can still submit an optional creative portfolio that highlights your involvement in any art form (photography, painting, drawing, ceramics, digital media, and video) within the Activities or Additional Information section of the Common Application OR the QuestBridge Application.
 - All portfolios must be submitted via **SlideRoom** by **November 1st for Early Decision I** or Questbridge National College Match candidates, and by **January 1st for Early Decision II** and Regular Decision candidates
- **Early Decision I:** Early Decision I is a binding admission program that views Boston College as their top choice. Deadline November 1st. Early Decision applicants will be notified of their admission status no later than December 15th.
- **Early Decision II:** Early Decision II is a binding admission program for students who view Boston College as their top choice. Deadline: January 1st. Early Decision II applicants will be notified of their admission status by February 15th.
- **Regular Decision:** Regular Decision is a non-binding admission program, the majority of applicants apply through Regular Decision. Deadline January 1st. Regular Decision applicants will be notified of their admission status no later than April 1st.
- **Spring Freshmen:** Human-Centered Engineering and Nursing students are not eligible for spring enrollment. Deadline: November 1st. Applicants will be notified of their admission status by December 15th.

Academics

- 9,358 Undergraduate students
- 58 Majors
- 8 schools
 - **Robert J. Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences (MCAS)**
 - **Undergraduate Majors**
 - African and African Diaspora Studies: B.A.

- Art History: B.A.
- Biochemistry: B.S.
- Biology: B.A., B.S.
- Chemistry: B.S.
- Classical Studies: B.A.
- Communication: B.A.
- Computer Science: B.A., B.S.
- Economics: B.A.
- English: B.A.
- Environmental Geoscience: B.S.
- Environmental Studies: B.A., B.S.
- Film Studies: B.A.
- French: B.A.
- Geological Sciences: B.S.
- German Studies: B.A.
- Hispanic Studies: B.A.
- History: B.A.
- Human-Centered Engineering*: B.S.E.
- Independent: B.A., B.S.
- International Studies: B.A.
- Islamic Civilization and Societies: B.A.
- Italian: B.A.
- Linguistics: B.A.
- Mathematics: B.A., B.S.
- Music: B.A.
- Neuroscience: B.S.
- Philosophy: B.A.
- Physics: B.S.
- Political Science: B.A.
- Psychology: B.A., B.S.
- Russian: B.A.

- Slavic Studies: B.A.
- Sociology: B.A.
- Studio Art: B.A.
- Theatre: B.A.
- Theology: B.A.

■ **Graduate Programs**

- Biology: M.S.T., Ph.D.
- Chemistry:* M.S., M.S.T., Ph.D.
- Classical Studies: M.A.
- Economics: Ph.D.
- English: M.A., M.A.T., Ph.D.
- French: M.A., M.A./M.B.A.
- Geology: M.S., M.S.T., M.A./M.B.A.
- Geophysics: M.S., M.S.T., M.A./M.B.A.
- Greek: M.A.
- Hispanic Studies: M.A., M.A./M.B.A.
- History: M.A., M.A.T., Ph.D.
- Irish Literature and Culture: English, M.A.
- Italian: M.A., M.A./M.B.A.
- Latin: M.A.
- Mathematics:* Ph.D.
- Middle Eastern Studies: M.A.
- Philosophy: M.A., Ph.D.
- Philosophy and Theology: M.A.
- Physics:* M.S., M.S.T., Ph.D.
- Political Science: M.A., Ph.D.
- Psychology: B.A./M.A., Ph.D.
- Sociology: M.A., Ph.D., M.A./M.B.A., Ph.D./M.B.A.
- Theology: M.A. (joint Philosophy), Ph.D.

○ **Boston College Law School (LAW)**

■ **Graduate Programs**

- Law: J.D.
- Law: LL.M.
- **James A. Woods, S.J. College of Advancing Studies (WCAS)**
 - **Undergraduate Majors**
 - Applied Liberal Arts: B.A.
 - English
 - History
 - Interdisciplinary Studies
 - Philosophy
 - Political Science
 - Sociology
 - Communication: B.A.
 - Corporate Systems: B.A.
 - Criminal and Social Justice: B.A.
 - Economics: B.A.
 - Information Systems: B.A.
 - Natural Sciences: B.A.
 - Psychology: B.A.
 - **Graduate Programs**
 - Applied Economics: M.S.
 - Cybersecurity Policy and Governance: M.S.
 - Healthcare Administration: M.H.A.
 - Leadership and Administration: M.S.
 - Sports Administration: M.S.
- **School of Social Work (SSW)**
 - Social Work: M.S.W, Ph.D., M.S.W./Ph.D
- **Carroll School of Management (CSOM)**
 - **Undergraduate Majors**
 - Accounting: B.S.
 - Accounting and Information Systems: B.S.
 - Accounting for Finance and Consulting: B.S.

- Business Analytics (co-concentration)
- Computer Science: B.S.
- Corporate Reporting and Analysis: B.S.
- Economics: B.S.
- Entrepreneurship: (co-concentration)
- Finance: B.S.
- General Management: B.S.
- Information Systems: B.S.
- Management and Leadership: B.S.
- Managing for Social Impact and the Public Good (co-concentration)
- Marketing: B.S.
- Operations Management: B.S.
- **Graduate Programs**
 - Accounting: M.S.
 - Business Administration: M.B.A.
 - Finance: M.S., Ph.D.
 - Management and Organization: Ph.D.
- **William F. Connell School of Nursing (CSON)**
 - **Undergraduate Majors**
 - Nursing: B.S.
 - **Graduate Programs**
 - Nursing: M.S., Ph.D.
- **Carolyn and Peter S. Lynch School of Education and Human Development (Lynch)**
 - **Undergraduate Majors**
 - American Heritage: B.A.
 - Applied Psychology and Human Development: B.A., B.S.
 - Elementary Education: B.A., B.S.
 - General Science: B.A., B.S.
 - Mathematics/Computer Science: B.A.
 - Perspectives on Spanish America: B.A.

- Secondary Education: B.A., B.S.
- Transformative Educational Studies: B.A.

■ **Graduate Programs**

- Applied Developmental and Educational Psychology: M.A., Ph.D.
- Applied Statistics and Psychometrics: M.S.
- Educational Leadership: M.Ed., C.A.E.S., Ed.D.
- Counseling, Developmental and Educational Psychology: M.A., Ph.D.
- Curriculum and Instruction: M.Ed., C.A.E.S., Ph.D.
- Early Childhood Education: M.Ed.
- Educational Research, Measurement and Evaluation: M.Ed., Ph.D.
- Elementary Education: M.Ed.
- Higher Education: M.A., Ph.D.
- Learning Engineering: M.A.
- Reading/Literacy Teaching: M.Ed., C.A.E.S.
- Secondary Education: M.Ed., M.A.T., M.S.T.
- Special Education (Moderate Special Needs, Grades Pre-K–8 and Grades 5–12): M.Ed., C.A.E.S.
- Special Education (Students with Severe Special Needs): M.Ed., C.A.E.S.

○ **School of Theology and Ministry (STM)**

■ **Graduate Programs**

- Sacred Theology: S.T.B., S.T.L., S.T.D.
- Theology and Education: Ph.D.
- Theology and Ministry: M.Div., M.A., M.T.S., Th.M.

● **Most Popular Undergraduate Majors/ School strengths**

- Economics
- Finance
- Biology
- Political Science

- Communication
- Computer Science
- Psychology
- Applied Psychology and Human Development
- Nursing
- Marketing

Libraries

- **O'Neill Library**: Main research library, more than 1,400 seats, collaborative study spaces, Connors Family Learning Center, Technology Support Center, reference (research) help available 24/7.
- **Bapst Library**: 400 quiet study spaces, beautiful architecture
- **Burns Library**: Houses rare books and special collections, including the largest and most comprehensive Irish collection in the United States.
- **Educational Resource Center**: Meets specialized needs of the Lynch School of Education and Human Development, with an emphasis on learning in K-12 classrooms. Has an interactive technology room, and a 50 seat multimedia classroom.
- **Law Library**: Supports legal research instruction, scholarship, and teaching. Access to all essential databases.
- **O'Connor Library**: In Weston Observatory, accessible only by appointment. Contains specialized collections of earth sciences, monographs, periodicals, and maps.
- **Social Work Library**: Supports the teaching and research needs of the Boston College School of Social Work. Houses group study spaces, charging stations, and a technology lab.
- **Theology and Ministry Library**: 250,000 volume collection contains resources on biblical studies, Catholic theology, canon law, and Jesuitica.

Research

- \$63.3 million in sponsored research grants
- 304 research proposals submitted
- 35 research centers and institutes

- Both graduate and undergraduate research opportunities

Core Curriculum

- 15-course program required
 - 1 course in arts
 - 1 course in cultural diversity
 - 2 courses in history
 - 1 course in literature
 - 1 course in mathematics
 - 2 courses in natural science
 - 2 courses in philosophy
 - 2 courses in social science
 - 2 courses in theology
 - 1 course in writing

Affordability

- The financial situation is not considered in the admission decision, so your finances will not influence your admittance.
- Financial aid is provided based on a family's need.
 - Cost of attendance - family contribution = demonstrated need
- **2020-2021 Academic Year Costs**
 - Undergrad Tuition: \$59,050
 - Mandatory Fees for Resident Student: \$1,397
 - Room and Board: \$15,220 (estimated depending on housing)
 - Estimated cost for books and incidental items: \$2,950
 - Total Tuition, Fees, Room, and Board: \$78,617
- **Types of Aid**
 - Scholarships and Grants
 - BC has more than 500 scholarships
 - Gabelli Presidential Scholars Program

- This scholarship program covers full tuition for 15 qualified applicants each year. This is the only academic merit scholarship offered at BC. Both Regular Decision and Early Decision candidates are eligible for this scholarship if they apply by November 1st. There is no separate application for this scholarship.

■ Loans

- Federal Direct Subsidized Loan: Need-based student loan with a fixed interest rate that resets or changes each July. You are not charged interest while you are enrolled in school at least half-time.
- Federal Direct Unsubsidized Loan: If you don't qualify for the Federal Direct Subsidized Loan, you may qualify for the Unsubsidized loan. This interest rate is fixed and will reset or change each July. You are charged interest while you are in school.

■ Work

- Part-time employment opportunities are available on and off-campus.
- Federal Work-Study Program: Need-based employment program, where the money goes towards tuition and needs to be decided by financial aid.

Campus Life

● **Housing**

- Living and Learning Communities
 - Give students a chance to live intentionally alongside their peers that share their interests and values
- Residence Hall Association
 - Hosts events that build community within and outside of Boston College
 - Homecoming Fall Fest
 - Cookies and Conversation
 - Laser Tag
 - BC Street
 - Charity Water Contest
 - CoRo-Q

- Recovery Housing
 - Recovery housing is a residential community within BC's campus for students who have made a commitment to recovery from substance dependence.
- 30 residence halls
 - [Video about living on campus](#)
- Three types of rooms offered
 - **Traditional**
 - Varying combinations of double, triple, quadruple, or lofted triple rooms
 - Common bathrooms on each floor.
 - In halls with traditional rooms, students must enroll in the full University Meal Plan.
 - **Suite**
 - Suites have two or three people per bedroom, with four to nine people per suite.
 - Each suite contains a private bathroom and common area
 - Suite-style halls require the full University Meal Plan.
 - **Apartment**
 - Apartments have two or three people per bedroom with two to six people per apartment.
 - Each contains a private bathroom, living room, dining area, and full kitchen.
 - Residents in apartments are not required to participate in the University Meal Plan though they may choose to sign up for the Flex Dining Plan.

- **Dining**

- Note: There are more options that are closed for the foreseeable future that can be found on [Boston College's Dining Website](#)
- BC After Dark
 - Thursday-Saturday nights, Hillside and the adjacent outdoor patio turns into BC After Dark. Full service, Coffee, and Speciality.
- Carney's
 - The primary dining hall on campus
 - Full Service
- CoRo Cafe and Market
 - Half cafe, half market
 - Specialty and Coffee
- Eagle's Nest
 - Made to order bowls
 - Breakfast and lunch
- Hillside Cafe
 - Full-service Starbucks, with freshly made deli and panini sandwiches
 - Breakfast and Lunch
- Legal Grounds
 - Coffee and specialty
- The Loft @ Addie's
 - Breakfast and Lunch
- Lower Live
 - Primary dining hall
 - Full service
- Lyons Hall
 - The basement of Lyons Hall
 - Breakfast and lunch
- Stuart Dining Hall
 - Primary dining hall

- Full service
- BC Bakery
 - In-House bakery on Middle Campus behind Eagle's Nest
- Concessions
 - Concessions offered at all home games for football, hockey, and basketball teams.
- Counseling services are available.
- Student Involvement Fair highlights many clubs and organizations at BC
 - 318 Clubs and organizations
 - No Greek Life
- **Sports and Recreation**
 - 31 intercollegiate D1 teams
 - Club sports
 - 44 intramural sports programs
 - Recreation center provides
 - Virtual group fitness
 - Small group training
 - Personal training
 - Fitness outreach
 - Prep course
 - Healthy You
- There are multiple arts programs to participate in or watch. These are constantly being changed throughout the year.

Opportunities

- **Study Abroad**
 - 200+ programs on six continents for all majors
 - 50% of BC undergraduates go abroad
 - Semester, full year, and summer programs
- **Scholarships**
 - Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship

- Recognizes a BC Junior who demonstrates superior academic achievement, extracurricular leadership, community service, and involvement with African American issues both on and off-campus.
 - Saint Oscar A. Romero Scholarship
 - Recognizes a BC Junior who demonstrates superior academic achievement, extracurricular leadership, community service, and involvement with Hispanic/Latino issues both on and off-campus.
 - The Amanda V. Houston Traveling Fellowship
 - The purpose of this award is to prepare BC students for leadership by enriching their personal and educational development through travel
 - Benigno and Corazon Aquino Scholarship
 - Recognizes a BC Junior who demonstrates superior academic achievement, extracurricular leadership, community service, and involvement with Asian American issues both on and off-campus.
 - Over 500 more scholarships highlighted on Boston College's website
- Honors Programs
 - There are honors programs for almost every school and program within Boston College, with their own specific requirements depending on the program.
 - Some honors programs have been discontinued, such as the Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences Honors Program

Location and the surrounding area:

- Chestnut Hill, MA
- Upper-class suburban area
- Public transportation available via the Green Line, C line, and D line
- Grocery Stores
 - Wegmans
 - 200 Boylston Street
 - Star Market
 - 1 Boylston Street
- Lots of retail
- Good focus on healthy living

References

Home - Boston College. (n.d.). Retrieved April 09, 2021, from <https://www.bc.edu/content/bc-web.html>

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