

C. First-Time, First-Year Admission Fall 2024

C1. First-time, first-year students admissions statistics

	Men	Women	Another Gender	Unknown	Total
Applied	30,456	44,822	3,479	12	78,769
Admitted	3,492	4,975	278	4	8,749
Full-time enrolled	1,267	1,887	113	1	3,268
Part-time enrolled	0	0	0	0	0

C2. Freshman wait-listed students (students who met admission requirements but whose final admission was contingent on space availability)

Do you have a policy of placing students on a wait-list?	Yes
Total freshman applicants placed on wait-list	15339
Total freshman applicants accepting place on wait-list	8996
Total freshman applicants accepted from wait-list	18
Is wait-list ranked?	No
Release wait-list information to school counselors?	No

C3. High school completion requirement

High school diploma is required and GED accepted; home-schooled students should contact the Office of Admissions.

C4. Does your institution require or recommend a general college preparatory program for degree-seeking students?

Required

C5. Distribution of high school units required and/or recommended

	Units Required	Units Recommended
English	4.0	4.0
Mathematics*	3.0	4.0
Science (with labs)	3.0	4.0
Foreign language	2.0	4.0
History/Social Studies**	3.0	4.0
Academic Electives	-	-
Computer Science	-	-
Visual/Performing Arts	-	-
Other	-	-
		-
Total	15.0	20.0

* Mathematics: Pre-calculus required. Calculus recommended for most programs but required for QST, ENG, STEM majors
Social studies includes history.

C6. Do you have an open admissions policy, under which virtually all secondary school graduates or students with GED equivalency diplomas are admitted without regard to academic record, test scores, or other qualifications?

No

C7. Relative importance of each of the following academic non academic factors in your first-time, first-year, degree-seeking (freshman) admissions decisions

	Very Important	Important	Considered	Not Considered
Academic factors				
Rigor of secondary school record	X			
Class rank		X		
Academic GPA	X			
Standardized test scores			X	
Application essay		X		
Recommendations		X		
Non-academic factors				
Interview				X
Extracurricular activities		X		
Talent/ability ¹				X
Character/personal qualities		X		
First generation			X	
Alumni/ae relation				X
Geographical residence			X	
State residency			X	
Religious affiliation/commitment				X
Volunteer work			X	
Work experience			X	
Level of applicant's interest			X	

¹ Artistic talent/ability is very important for College of Fine Arts applicants, otherwise not considered.

C8. Entrance exams

A. Does your institution make use of SAT, ACT, or SAT Subject Test scores in admissions decisions for first-time, first-year, degree-seeking applicants?

Yes

SAT or ACT (no preference)

Considered if Submitted

D. In addition, does your institution use applicants' test scores for academic advising?

Yes

E. Latest date by which SAT or ACT scores must be received for fall-term admission.

January 5

Latest date by which SAT Subject Test scores must be received for fall-term admission.

N/A

F. Test Policy ^a

Boston University has decided to remain test optional for students applying for admission through fall 2028 and spring 2029. Our test optional policy applies to all undergraduate schools and colleges at BU, as well as all scholarship programs. While the admissions process at Boston University has always been holistic and decisions have never been solely based on one single factor, such as an SAT or ACT score, the move to test optional has improved our process by adding considerable weight to the important qualities and characteristics that focus more on you and your academic and personal accomplishments. Applicants will have the ability to indicate whether they would like us to consider their standardized test scores when they apply.

International students will still be required to submit the TOEFL, IELTS, or DuoLingo English Test* as the primary means for evaluating English-language proficiency.

^a Requirements for the TOEFL and IELTS tests are available on our admissions website (www.bu.edu/admissions).

TOEFL and IELTS Tests

The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required of any student for whom English is not the native or first language. Students who are most competitive for admission will have a composite score of at least 90-100 and minimum scores of 20 in each section. The average TOEFL score for students admitted to Boston University is 107. The Board of Admissions looks closely at the score for each section as well as for consistency across all subscores within each single language proficiency test.

IELTS: In lieu of the TOEFL exam, you may submit the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A score of 7 or higher will also satisfy BU's English Language proficiency requirement for all programs. Learn more on the IELTS website.

CFA School of Music Notes: Candidates are required to audition for admission.
Check College of Fine Arts website at www.bu.edu/cfa for audition schedules.
Candidates for the Theory and Composition program must audition and present a portfolio.

CFA School of Theatre Arts Notes: Candidates for the Acting and Theatre Studies Programs must audition for admission. Candidates for the Design, Production and Stage Management Programs must present a portfolio in an interview with the faculty. Check the College of Fine Arts website at www.bu.edu/cfa for audition and portfolio preparation schedules.

CFA School of Visual Arts Notes: Candidates are required to submit a portfolio.
Check College of Fine Arts website at www.bu.edu/cfa for instructions.

G. Please indicate which tests your institution uses for placement (all schools/programs)

SAT	Yes
ACT	Yes
SAT Subject tests	N/A
AP	Yes
CLEP	No
Institutional Exam	No

C9. Percent and number of first-time, first-year (freshman) students enrolled in Fall 2024 who submitted national standardized (SAT/ACT) test scores.

	% Submitting	Number		Percentiles		
				25th	50th	75th
SAT I	33%	1083	SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	690	720	750
			SAT Math	730	760	780
ACT	10%	330	SAT Composite	1430	1470	1510
			ACT Composite	32	33	34
			ACT English	33	35	35
			ACT Math	29	32	35
			ACT Writing	-	-	-
			ACT Reading	33	35	36
			ACT Science	31	33	35

Percent of first-time, first-year (freshman) students with scores in each range

SAT I Distribution	Evidence-Based Reading & Writing	Math	SAT Composite	
700-800	66%	79%	1400-1600	79%
600-699	32%	19%	1200-1399	19%
500-599	2%	2%	1000-1199	2%
400-499	0%	0%	800-999	0%
300-399	0%	0%	600-799	0%
200-299	0%	0%	400-599	0%

ACT Distribution	Composite	English	Math	Reading	Science	Writing
30-36	85%	88%	65%	92%	72%	-
24-29	9%	11%	33%	7%	17%	-
18-23	6%	1%	2%	1%	2%	-
12-17	0%	0%	0%	0%	9%	-
6-11	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	-
below 6	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	-

C10. Percent of all degree-seeking, first-time, first-year (freshman) students who had high school class rank within each of the following ranges

Top 10%	92%
Top 25%	100%
Top 50%	100%
Bottom 50%	0%
Bottom 25%	0%

C11. Percent of all enrolled, degree-seeking, first-time, first-year (freshman) students who had high school grade-point averages within each of the following ranges (using 4.0 scale)

4.00	41%
3.75 - 3.99	37%
3.50 - 3.74	22%
3.25 - 3.49	0%
3.00 - 3.24	0%
2.50 - 2.99	0%
2.00 - 2.49	-
1.00 - 1.99	-
Below 1.00	-

C12. Average high school GPA of all degree-seeking, first-time, first-year (freshman) students who submitted GPA

3.9

Percent of total freshman submitting high school GPA	100.0%
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C13. Application fee

Is there an application fee?	Yes
Amount of application fee	\$80
Can it be waived for applicants with financial need?	Yes *

* Students should speak with high school guidance counselors to request the submission of a fee waiver.

C14. Application closing date

Does your institution have an application closing date?	Yes
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January 5 for fall admissions

December 1 for Trustee Scholar, Presidential Scholar, and Thomas M. Menino Scholar programs.

C15. Are first-time, first-year students accepted for terms other than the fall?

Yes, in most programs

C16. Notification to applicants of admission decision sent

By April 1

C17. Reply policy for admitted applicants

Must reply by May 1.

Deadline for housing deposit: Enrollment deposit due May 1 (no separate housing deposit)

Amount of housing deposit: Enrollment deposit - \$650

Refundable if student does not enroll? No

C18. Deferred admission

Does your institution allow students to postpone enrollment after admission?

Yes, Deferred admission is allowed with a maximum postponement of one year (freshmen only).

C19. Early admission of high school students

Does your institution allow high school students to enroll as full-time, first-time (freshman) students one year or more before high school graduation?

No

C20. No longer on the Common Data Set

C21. Early Decision

Does your institution offer an early decision plan for first-time, first-year (freshman) applicants for fall enrollment?	Yes
First or only early decision plan closing date	November 1
First or only early decision plan notification date	December 15
Other early decision plan closing date	January 5
Other early decision plan notification date	February 15
Number of early decision applications received by your institution	6854
Number of applicants admitted under early decision plan	1936

Details about early decision plan

Only available for high school seniors applying for September admission. If admitted, students must send in the required enrollment deposit by January 9 for Early Decision and by February 15 for Early Decision 2. Applicants must withdraw applications to other colleges and universities. A statement of understanding, acknowledging the binding nature of this program must be signed by student, counselor, and parent/guardian.

C22. Early Action

Do you have a nonbinding early action plan whereby students are notified of an admission decision well in advance of the regular notification date but do not have to commit to attending your college?

No