



Junior Year Post High School Planning

Brookline High School
School Counseling Department



Agenda

6:30-7:15 - Lenny Libenzon

7:15-7:25 - College Affordable

7:30 - 8:15/8:30 - Break out rooms and
Q&A with your child's guidance
counselor

College Counselor: Lenny Libenzon



College-related presentations to parents and students. Work with challenging situations.

Please contact your counselor first.

lenny_libenzon@psbma.org

Career Counselor: Kate Kennedy



Career exploration & information; interviewing; job shadows; supporting students with alternative post grad plans, such as trades

kate_kennedy@psbma.org

<http://bhs.brookline.k12.ma.us/guidance>



Brookline High School

617.713.5000  

HOME ACADEMICS STUDENT LIFE LIBRARY ATHLETICS RESOURCES FOR... PARTNERSHIPS CALENDARS

ASPEN

December Scholarship Letter

12/11/2025

Dear Seniors and Parents/Caretakers,

BHS Scholarships

The Brookline High School Scholarship Committee announces that applications are now available for scholarships to Boston University (2 full-tuition renewable scholarships) and Northeastern University (2 half-tuition renewable scholarships). Applications are available online on the right hand side of the BHS homepage under BHS Scholarship Application and at this link and must be completed ASAP.

To make fair decisions, the Committee requires that families fill out the CSS Profile financial aid form, available at CollegeBoard.com. Please use code #0424 to submit the Profile to the Brookline Scholarship Fund.

Brookline High School Guidance

617-713-5015

617-713-5016

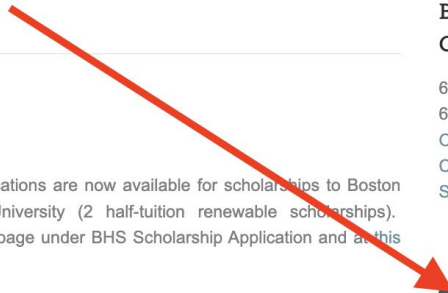
[Our Mission](#)

[Clinical, Counseling & Support](#)

[Staff Directory](#)

[Naviance](#)

[BHS College Documents](#)




Information for Students

Wed. January 14th - Assembly for juniors - Advisory

Junior Seminars - Info sessions for students with their guidance counselor. Starting in February and offered before school in the morning.

Post Secondary Planning Workshops - available to all juniors the mornings of March MCAS.

Counselors will send out more information soon!



BHS College Fair
March 9
6:30 pm
BHS Stem Commons



Class of 2025 outcomes

<u>Outcome</u>	<u>% of students</u>
4 Yr College (incl non-us)	87.00%
2 Year College	2.0%
Employed	2%
Non-U.S. College	5%
Year Off	2%
Military	1%
Other (Prep, etc)	1%

CLASS OF 2024 MOST POPULAR COLLEGES

<u>College</u>	<u>Apply</u>	<u>Accept</u>	<u>Attend</u>
UMass Amherst	296	191	42
Northeastern	185	68	23
UMass Boston	99	78	22
Boston University	155	47	21
McGill	40	21	9
Boston College	73	15	9
Brandeis	50	28	9
Harvard	74	9	8
Simmons	22	19	8
Skidmore	33	17	7
Michigan, Cornell, NYU			6

CLASS OF 2025 MOST POPULAR COLLEGES

<u>College</u>	<u>Apply</u>	<u>Accept</u>	<u>Attend</u>
UMass Amherst	321	207	46
Northeastern	197	90	27
Boston University	173	64	23
University of Massachusetts Boston	81	59	14
Syracuse University	81	45	13
McGill University	40	24	12
University of Michigan	82	23	10
University of Vermont	116	84	9
Wentworth Institute of Technology	17	14	9
Cornell University	63	11	8
Harvard University	71	8	8

Community College & Mass Transfer

<https://www.mass.edu/masstransfer>

Commonwealth Commitment to Students:

- ✓ **Freeze on all tuition & mandatory fees on program entry**
Valid until student successfully completes or leaves Commonwealth Commitment program
- ✓ **A 10% rebate off tuition & mandatory fees**
Payable at the end of every successfully completed semester
- ✓ **Additional MassTransfer Tuition Credit on bachelor's program entry**
- ✓ **Guaranteed admission**
Space permitting in the major and college
- ✓ **Guaranteed transfer of credits**
- ✓ **No application fee or essay**
MassTransfer Application required by deadline

Community College is FREE in Massachusetts






2000+ colleges are test-optional.

For the complete list, go to fairtest.org


Requiring tests: MIT, Georgetown,
most Ivies, Military Academies,
Florida State, Georgia, etc + some
scholarships






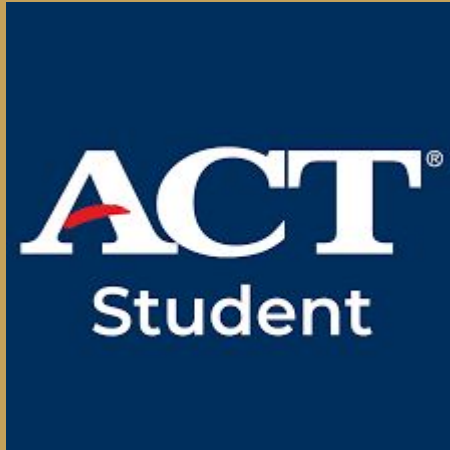
Should I send my test scores?

Many BHS students send scores to some schools, and apply test-optional to others. In general, do not send scores unless they are around the mean for that school






SAT: harder
questions, more
time



ACT: easier
questions, less
time



Test Dates: collegeboard.org & actstudent.org

AP	SAT	ACT
	March	
		April
May	May	
	June	June
		July
	August	

Regular Decision

Apply by January 1 and January 15

Decision by April 1

Choose by May 1st

Check the college website for specific deadlines!

Early Action

Apply by **October 15**, **November 1** and
November 15

Decision by mid-December

Choose by **May 1st**

You can apply to several schools Early Action.

UMass Amherst deadline this year was Nov 05.

Early Decision

Apply by November 1 and November 15

Decision by mid-December

Choose by YOU HAVE TO GO TO THIS SCHOOL

You can apply to only ONE (1) school Early Decision.
Since you have to go if admitted, you might get less financial assistance.

Early Decision 2

Apply if rejected from ED 1 (Dec 15)

Decision by end of January

Choose by **YOU HAVE TO GO TO THIS SCHOOL**

You can apply to only ONE (1) school Early Decision 2. Since you have to go if admitted, you might get less financial assistance.

Colleges are looking for (in order of importance)

- 1) Grades & strength of curriculum
- 2) Scores, if available
- 3) Essays, Recommendations
- 4) Activities
- 5) Financial Resources
- 6) Everything Else

Balanced Senior Year & Transcripts

We send only your final grades for gr 9-11.

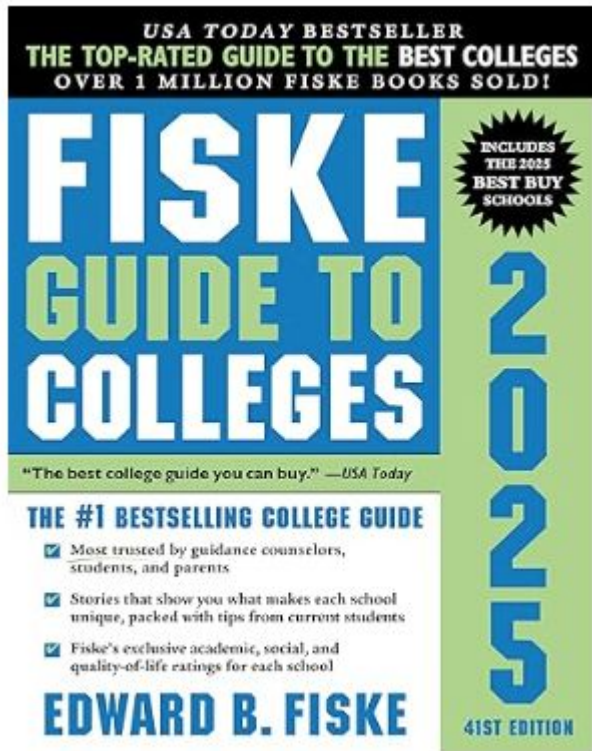
We send 1st and 2nd term senior grades to colleges

It is important to take a balanced load of classes



Fit Dimensions

- Size
- Location
- Academic Interests
- Culture
- Are classes taught by professors?
- Can we afford the college?



Naviance

Log in as Guest
Guest Password: bhs



Colleges

🔍 Type a college name

MORE COLLEGE SEARCH OPTIONS

Find Your Fit

- 🔍 SuperMatch®
- College Match
- Scattergrams
- Advanced College Search
- College Lookup

Show less

BHS College Visits

Sept - November

During the school day

[BHS Calendars](#)

bhs.brookline.k12.ma.us/calendars.html

College Visits	
SEPTEMBER Mon 21 04:00PM	University of Massachusetts-Lowell 📍 Virtual Visit (Link available at visit time)
SEPTEMBER Mon 21 04:40PM	University of Massachusetts-Amherst 📍 Virtual Visit (Link available at visit time)
SEPTEMBER Mon 21 05:20PM	University of Southern Maine 📍 Not Specified
SEPTEMBER Mon 21 06:00PM	University of Tampa 📍 Virtual Visit (Link available at visit time)
SEPTEMBER Mon 21 06:40PM	Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University-Daytona Beach 📍 Virtual Visit (Link available at visit time)
SEPTEMBER Mon 21 07:20PM	Bryn Mawr College 📍 Virtual Visit (Link available at visit time)

Apply to 8-10 Colleges

SAFETY



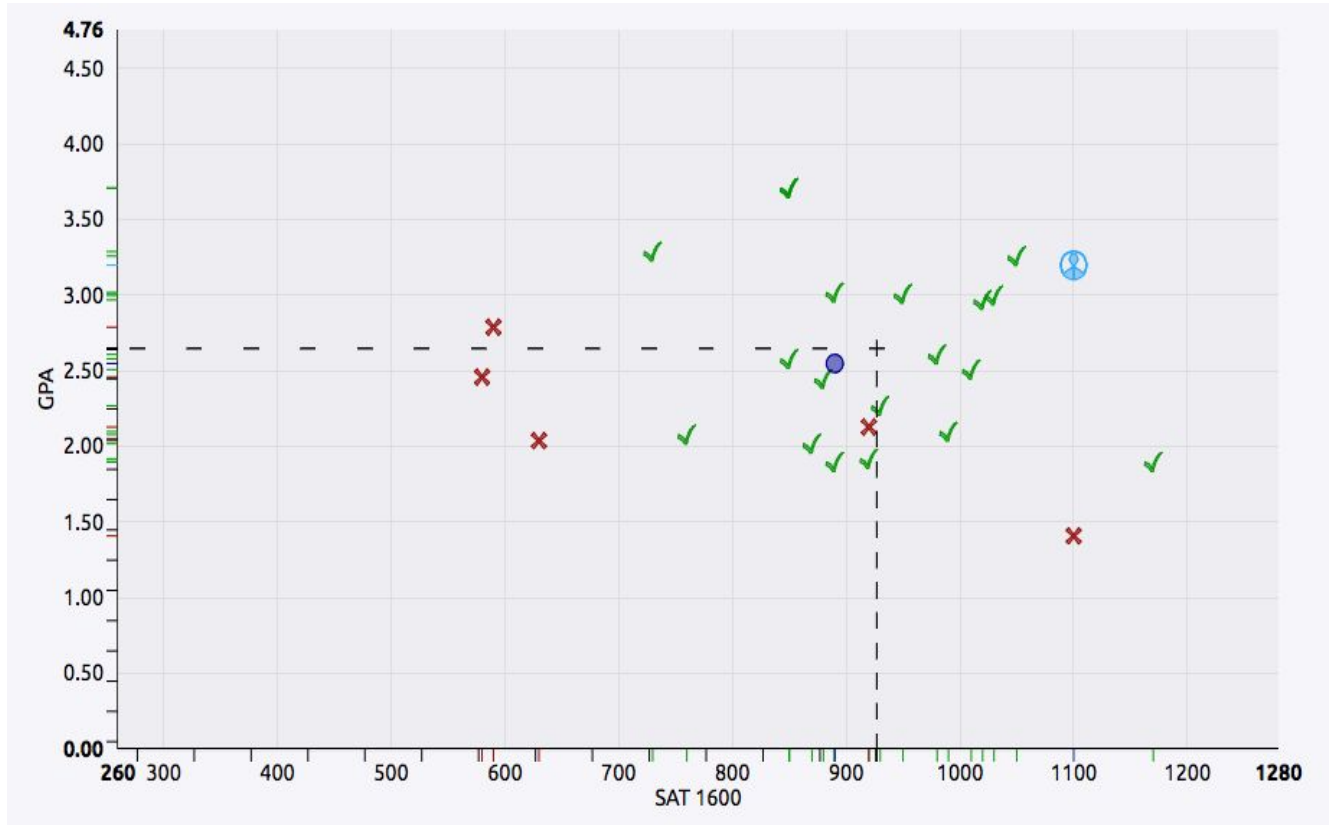
MATCH



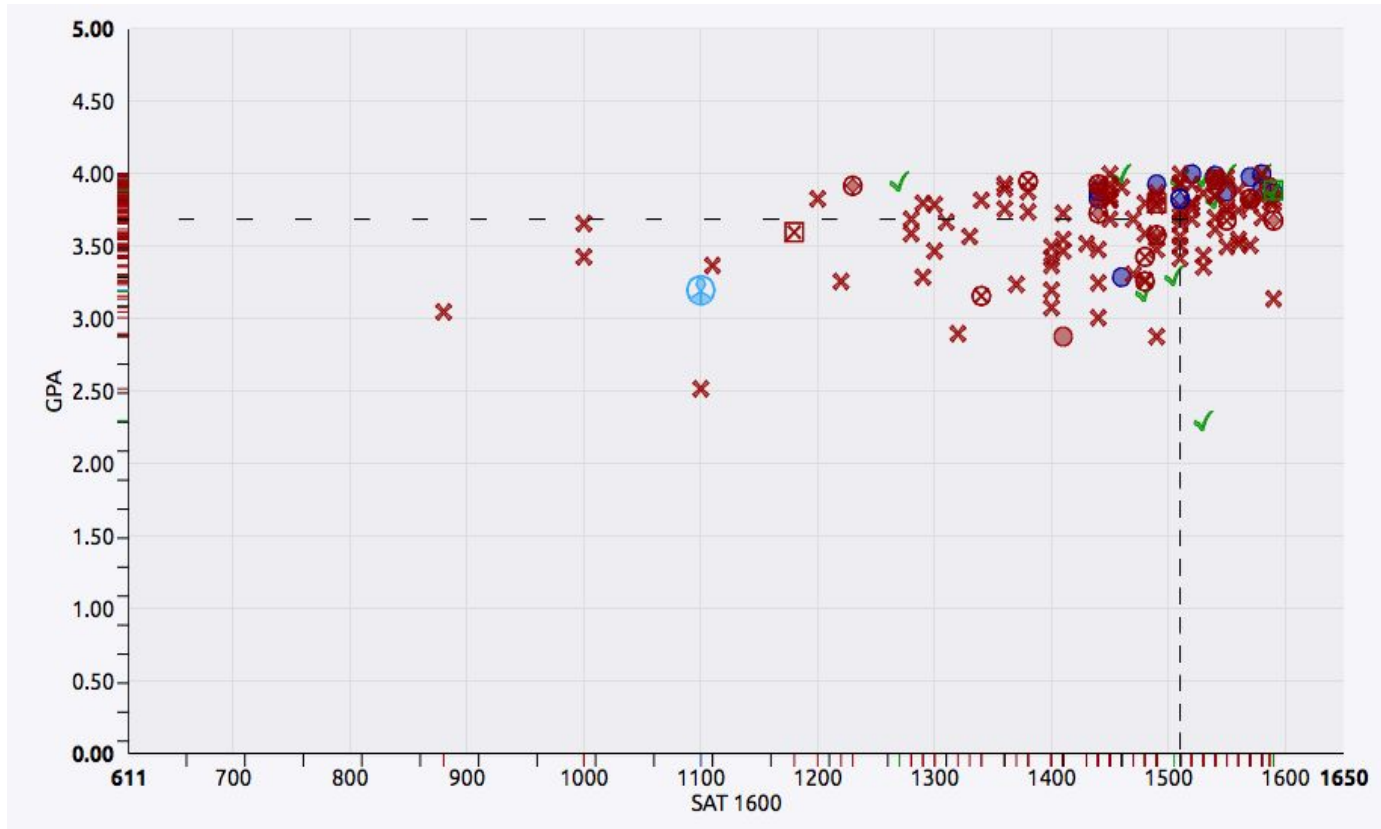
REACH



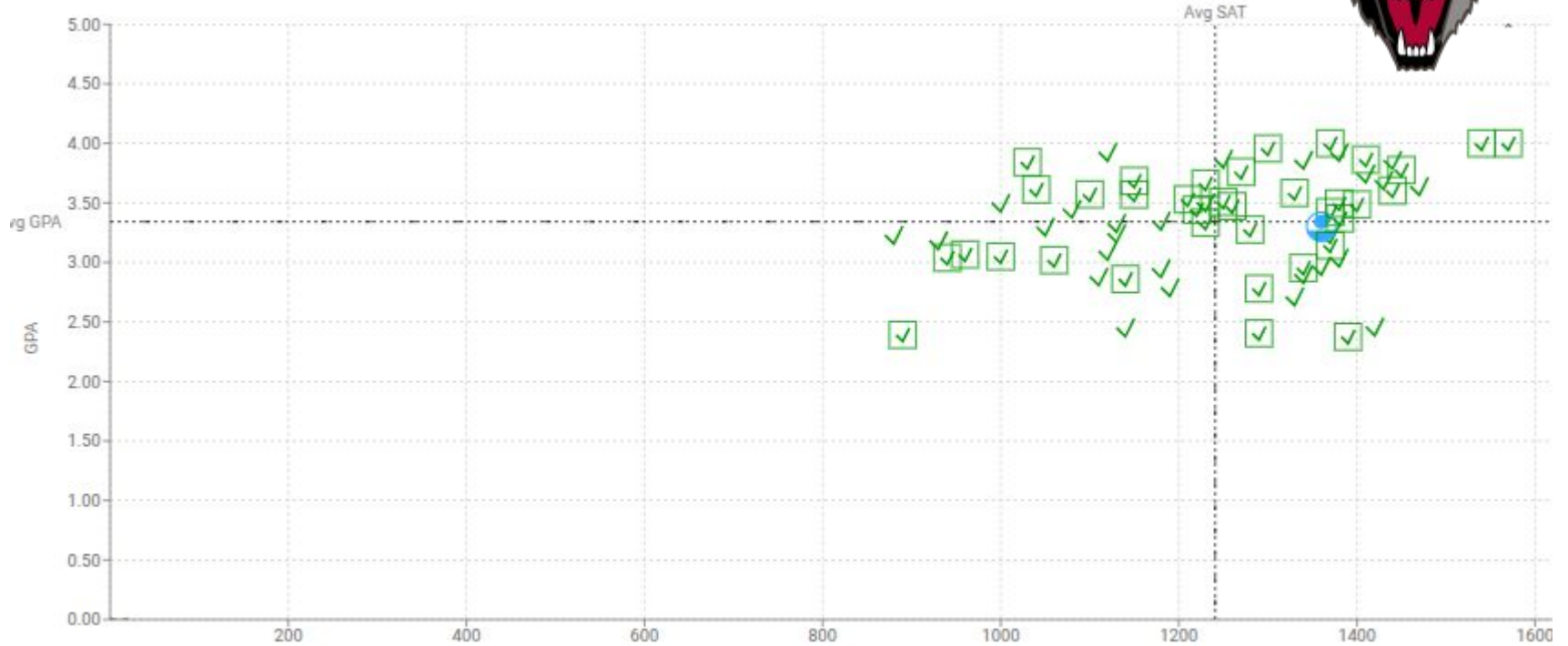
Naviance Graph: Safety, Match or Reach?



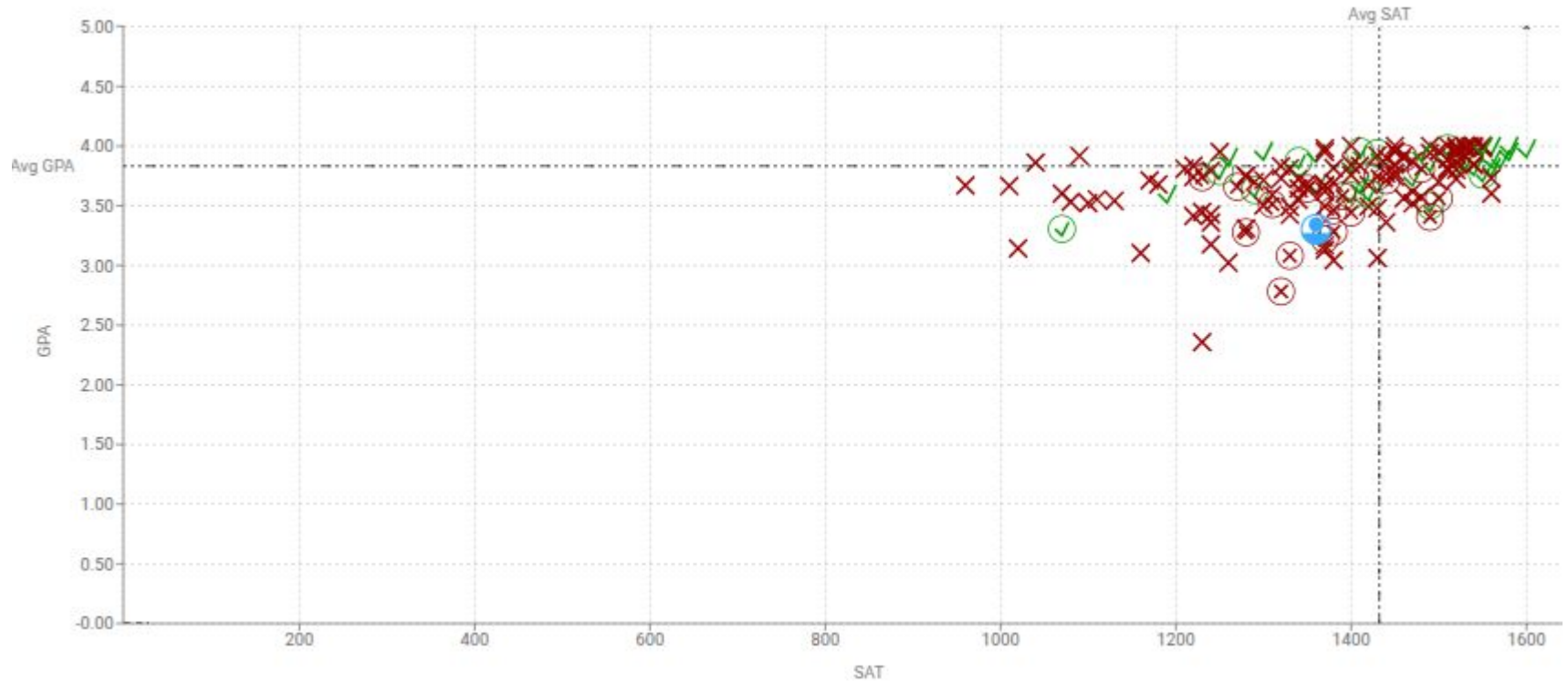
Naviance Graph: Safety, Match or Reach?



University of Maine



New York University



UMass Amherst Most Competitive Programs

Amherst

- Computer Science
- Engineering (mechanical*)
- School of Management BBA majors
- Nursing
- Psychology/Bio/Kinesiology

UMass Amherst update

Admission Decisions by College/School

	Applications	Admits	Admit Rate
Computer Science & Informatics	4,990	2,179	44%
Education	994	640	64%
Engineering	7,104	4,329	61%
Humanities & Fine Arts	3,794	2,795	74%
Isenberg School Management	10,492	4,028	38%
Natural Sciences	13,551	8,782	65%
Nursing	2,699	313	12%
Public Health & Health Sciences	2,648	1,930	73%
Social & Behavioral Sciences	5,974	4,542	76%
Total First-Year Students	53,039	30,107	57%

GPA

Unofficial BHS GPA (for grade 10) has been updated on Naviance (Go to About Me:: Profile)

Note that most admission offices calculate their own GPA


BHS reports unweighted GPA only

BHS does not rank students


Teacher Recommendations

Ask if the teacher will “write a good recommendation”

Do not ask more than 2 teachers for a recommendation



Post Graduation
Options for students
with LD
March 24, 6:30 pm



“Please be private about your scores, GPAs, and the colleges you are eligible for.. The College Process is an independent, personal journey and not a peer-judged contest!” (BHS Parent)

Connection with Counselors & brief Q&A - 7:30pm - 8:30pm

All breakout sessions end at 8:30

- **Auditorium** - Kathy Whelan & Ellen Herz, Alexia Thomas
- **MLK Room (1st floor, near atrium):** Alex Young and Kate Kennedy
- **SWS Room 403:** Dan Bresman
- **Black Box Room 323:** Clifton Jones, Lenny Libenzon, Kara Lopez

Welcome To College Affordable

A nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization built to help families reduce the cost of college, minimize debt and increase higher education choices.

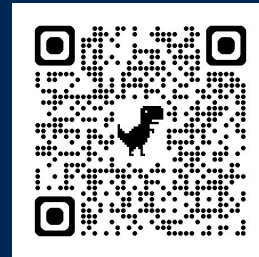
Our Goal

To help families navigate every aspect of this often evolving and challenging piece of the puzzle.



New?

Register Here!



www.collegeaffordable.org/brookline

Introducing Our Team



Brian Gardiner

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR



Lynette O'Leary

DIRECTOR OF
FINANCIAL AID



Pamela Martinetti

ASSOCIATE
DIRECTOR OF
FINANCIAL AID

Hola!



Alison Garcia

ASSOCIATE
DIRECTOR OF
FINANCIAL AID

Hola!



Michelle DeRose

FINANCIAL AID
COUNSELOR

Program Highlights

- Supported over 2,000 students across MA and RI during the 2024-2025 school year
- 35 Active Programs, supported students from >70 communities
- 20% Higher FAFSA Completion rates*
- Additional gift-aid from appeals averaged \$20K, resulting in an additional \$1.9 Million for CA-supported students
- Average scholarship/grant offer received by CA-supported students is 3X higher than the national average**

*MA High Schools in which public data was available/shared

**NCAN/Sallie Mae Data 24-25 vs. 25-26 CA offers was available/shared

Important Details

- Confidential!
- We do not share your information.
- We do not sell your information.
- We understand unique family circumstances.
- Support is available when the non-custodial parent also needs to provide information.
- No cost or fee
 - Sponsored through different organizations and funding sources.



Timeline & PROCESS

EXPLORE OPTIONS

Search for college options that meet your financial goals.



COMPLETE APPLICATIONS

The FAFSA & CSS Profile release on October 1st. Complete your aid applications before the deadlines at each college - your earliest deadline becomes the benchmark.

REVIEW OFFERS & APPEAL

Engage College Affordable to provide financial aid letters and review strategies to appeal for more assistance.

SUMMER BEFORE SENIOR YEAR

Create FSA ID for student & parent; begin to collect documents needed to complete the forms. Being prepared makes it that much quicker.

MONITOR COLLEGE PORTALS

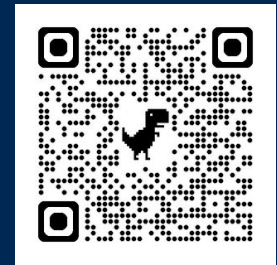
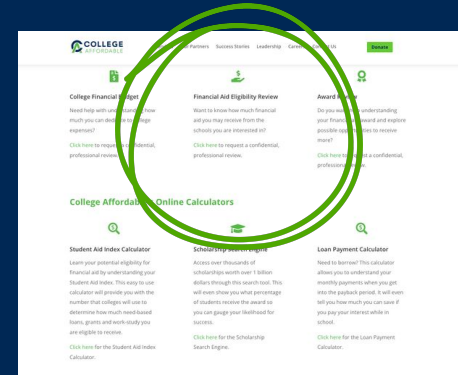
After college applications are submitted, monitor portals for additional requests and to make sure all aid application requirements are received.

STAY CONNECTED

College Affordable is here to support you with the financial aid process each year in college. Renewal applications are typically due in January each year.

Resources For Your Family

- Unlimited email, phone, and text support
- Schedule a meeting virtually with a member of our team.
- Resources available to you through your school's dedicated web page:
 - Calculators: Student Aid Index, Loan Payment Calculator, Scholarship
 - Personalized Reviews: Budget and **Financial Aid Eligibility Assessments**, Award Letter Review





Contact Us

Call or Text: 781-343-1941

Find your Landing Page

<https://collegeaffordable.org/our-programs/>

FinancialAid@CollegeAffordable.org

www.collegeaffordable.org



Gap Year Fair Promotional Video (1 min)



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