

# Counselor Newsletter



## The Open Curriculum

Brown's rigorous Open Curriculum provides flexibility for students and pushes them to become creative thinkers and entrepreneurial problem solvers by eliminating core requirements outside of the concentration.

[Learn more →](#)

## Class of 2029 First-Year Applicant Overview

**42,774**

Total Applications

**907**

Early Decision Admits

**2,710**

Total Admits

**6%**

Admit Rate

**1,751**

Number of First-Years

## What's new at Brown



**The Thomas J. Watson School of International and Public Affairs** is dedicated to creating policy-focused learning experiences and informed policy research solutions that can change systems and societies for the better. [Visit the Watson School website →](#)



**The Admission Welcome Center** opens this fall in Brown's historic Manning Hall, serving as a launchpad for tours and a home base for visitors and information sessions. [Read more →](#)



**The Ruth J. Simmons Quad** underwent renovations to add a terraced amphitheater, seating areas and landscaping to one of the campus's main green spaces — providing a new location for outdoor classes, performances and social activities. [Read more →](#)



**The Bridge Scholars Program**, a free six-week hybrid summer leadership institute, admitted its second cohort. With a focus on first-generation college students and others with limited college exposure, the program helps students build a strong and supportive community. [Visit the Bridge Scholars website →](#)



**The Lindemann Performing Arts Center** has had a busy second year, hosting 25 courses as well as group rehearsals, student performances, Brown University Orchestra performances and special appearances by renowned artists Jon Batiste, Daveed Diggs, Julien Creuzet, Zlatomir Fung and more. [See what's coming up at The Lindemann →](#)

## Testing in Context

Brown requires the SAT or ACT as part of the application process. Brown evaluates the whole student by considering test scores for each student within the context from which they come. Test scores are but one factor among the many Brown considers when conducting a whole-person review of applicants. The most important consideration in the admission process is a student's high school performance and preparedness, including grades, skills mastery, teacher recommendations and the depth and breadth of their academic learning both in and out of the classroom.

[Learn More →](#)



BROWN

# Financial Aid

We strongly believe that a Brown education should be accessible to all regardless of their economic background. Brown has a need-blind policy for all first-year applicants regardless of citizenship status.

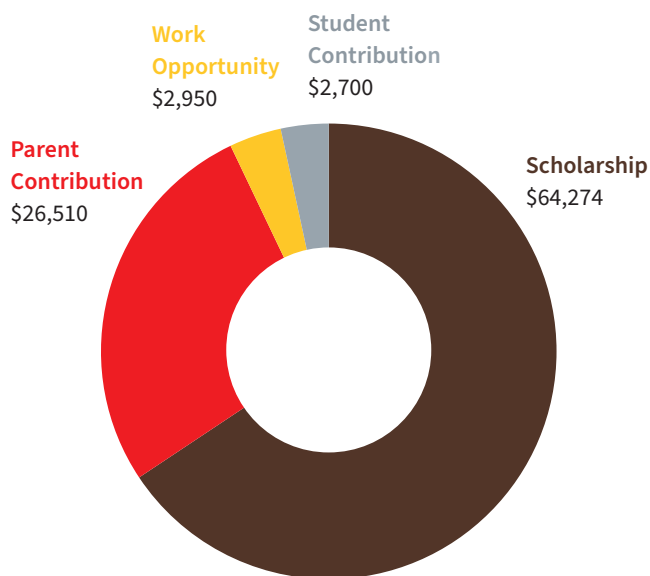
Need-blind admission means that a student's ability to pay for a Brown education is not a factor in the admission decision. The policy's basic premise is that a family's financial need will never be a disadvantage in the admission process. This has allowed us to further open our doors to students who might previously have thought an Ivy League education was out of reach. Brown is committed to maintaining a student body that is strong in intellect, diverse in character and driven to achieve. Any student who possesses these qualities should have the opportunity to study at Brown. The need-blind policy further underscores this commitment.

For more information regarding Brown's financial aid initiatives, please visit [finaid.brown.edu](https://finaid.brown.edu).

Use these calculators to help students and their families determine their family contribution: [brown.edu/go/estimate](https://brown.edu/go/estimate).

## Typical Financial Aid Offer for Scholarship-Eligible First-Years

Class of 2029



**\$229.9M**

Amount of need-based scholarship anticipated for the 2025-26 year

**100%**

of students receiving University Scholarship have NO LOANS in their initial aid offer

**49%**

of the Class of 2029 received need-based scholarship or grant aid

**100%**

of each student's demonstrated financial need is met by Brown

**\$0**

Parent responsibility for most families with less than \$60,000 in annual income

**\$64,274**

The average need-based scholarship and grant award for students in the Class of 2029



# Class of 2029 Profile

## Most Popular Concentrations

Applied Mathematics, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Biology, Computer Science, Economics, Environmental Sciences and Studies, International and Public Affairs, Neuroscience, Political Science, Psychology

## High School Type

55% Public school      11% Parochial school  
34% Private school

**95%** of admitted students were in the top 10% of their graduating class (from schools providing class rank).

## SAT Ranges

For first-year admitted students who submitted SAT scores

	EVIDENCE-BASED READING AND WRITING	MATH
750-800	63.0%	71.7%
700-740	28.7%	17.9%
650-690	5.2%	7.2%
BELOW 650	3.1%	3.2%

The middle 50 percent of admitted students scored between 1480 and 1560 on the Math and Evidence-Based Reading and Writing portions of the SAT.

## ACT Ranges (composite)

For first-year admitted students who submitted ACT scores

35-36	58.1%
32-34	33.1%
29-31	5.7%
BELOW 29	3.1%

The middle 50 percent of admitted students scored between 34 and 35 on the ACT.

The Class of 2029 includes students from 49 states as well as Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico.

## Brown|RISD Dual Degree Program

The Brown|RISD Dual Degree Program draws on the complementary strengths of Brown University and the Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) to provide students with a range of opportunities to develop and integrate academic and artistic work. Students may receive a bachelor of arts (A.B.) degree from Brown and a bachelor of fine arts (BFA) degree from RISD. For more information, [visit risd.brown.edu](https://visit.risd.brown.edu)

**748**

applicants

**15**

enrolled

## Program in Liberal Medical Education (PLME)

Brown's Program in Liberal Medical Education (PLME) offers a unique opportunity to join undergraduate and professional studies in medicine in an eight-year program. By combining the College's Open Curriculum with The Warren Alpert Medical School's competency-based curriculum, the PLME encourages students of medicine to pursue their interests in the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences in depth even as they prepare for their careers as physicians. For more information, [visit brown.edu/go/plme](https://visit.brown.edu/go/plme).

**4,128**

applicants

**52**

enrolled





# Applying to Brown

## Note to Counselors

1. **Early Decision:** We are a single-choice, binding Early Decision program. Students admitted Early Decision to Brown are committed to attend and must withdraw all Regular Decision applications as well as any pending applications to non-binding early programs.
2. **Video Introduction (optional):** The video introduction provides students an opportunity to tell us more about themselves beyond their application. Sharing a brief video (no more than 90 seconds long) is a helpful way for students to show us who they are and why they are interested in attending Brown.
3. **Alumni Engagement:** While we do not offer alumni interviews, we will offer opportunities for applicants to interact with alumni, both in person and virtually, throughout the year. The Office of College Admission will notify applicants of those events as they arise.
4. **Course Selection:** Selecting courses is an individual process, and we cannot advise on a student's specific schedule. However, we encourage students to take the most challenging curriculum available to them in five major subject areas (English, science, math, social science/history, world language). Students should challenge themselves academically, and we are fully aware that every curriculum is different.
5. **Fee Waiver:** As part of our commitment to make a Brown University education accessible to students from all income backgrounds, Brown is making automatic application fee waivers available to more students. Brown will automatically waive the application fee for any student who is enrolled in or eligible for the Federal Free or Reduced Price Lunch program (FRPL), as well as students who are enrolled in federal, state or local programs that aid students from low-income families (e.g., TRIO Programs). Additionally, Brown will automatically waive the application fee for any student who belongs to a community-based organization or college access organization that promotes educational opportunity for low-income students. Brown will continue to honor fee waiver request forms from the College Board, NACAC and school counselors.
6. **Slate.org:** This free platform strengthens communication among undergraduate admission offices, school counselors, community based organizations (CBOs) and students during the college search and application process. School counselors and CBO counselors can upload materials directly for applicants in addition to tracking their application status and decisions. We encourage you to create a Slate.org account if you do not already have one.

## Important Dates

### EARLY DECISION

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| → <b>November 1</b><br>Early Decision<br>application deadline | → <b>Mid-December</b><br>Early Decision letters<br>available online |
|---|---|

### REGULAR DECISION

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| → <b>January 5</b><br>Regular Decision<br>application deadline    | → <b>May 1</b><br>Commitment deadline<br>for Regular Decision<br>candidates |
| → <b>March 26</b><br>Regular Decision letters<br>available online |   |

## Applying to Special Programs

Students applying to the Brown|RISD Dual Degree Program or PLME must select the appropriate degree option when completing our member page in the Common Application. Students admitted to the Brown|RISD program will be notified during Regular Decision regardless of the round in which they apply.

Students interested in the PLME may apply during Early Decision or Regular Decision.



## Contact

### Office of College Admission

401-863-2378 | [admission@brown.edu](mailto:admission@brown.edu) | [admission.brown.edu](http://admission.brown.edu)

### Financial Aid Office

401-863-2721 | [financial\\_aid@brown.edu](mailto:financial_aid@brown.edu) | [financialaid.brown.edu](http://financialaid.brown.edu)



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