



2025-2026

# UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA, PA

## FOUR SCHOOLS, ONE UNIVERSITY

### GET TO KNOW PENN

A place that's known for firsts. For greats. For sparking revolutionary ideas. For Ivy League tradition and Philly spirit. And for nurturing innovative thinkers who see that the way things are isn't the way things have to be.

Penn is home to four undergraduate schools: the College of Arts and Sciences, Penn Engineering, the School of Nursing, and The Wharton School. Regardless of school or major, all Penn undergraduates are able to investigate and understand our world through Penn's liberal arts and sciences foundation.

When applying to Penn, applicants are asked to choose one of the four undergraduate schools or coordinated dual-degree, accelerated, or specialized programs that will serve as home base throughout their academic journey.

**90+**  
UNDERGRADUATE  
MAJORS

**800**  
MAJOR & MINOR  
COMBINATIONS

**8:1**  
STUDENT TO  
FACULTY RATIO

#### COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES



The right home for learners who:

- Have a curiosity in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences
- Want to apply classroom knowledge to the real world

In applicants to the College of Arts & Sciences, we would like to see:

- Demonstrated ability to apply classroom knowledge practically
- Strong preparation in a balanced and advanced college preparatory curriculum

#### PENN ENGINEERING



The right home for learners who:

- Want to innovate, design, and practically apply scientific discoveries
- Have a sense of purpose in pursuing an engineering education

In applicants to the School of Engineering and Applied Science, we would like to see:

- Expressed reasons for pursuing an engineering education and an understanding of what is expected in an engineering program
- Strong preparation in physics and mathematics, particularly calculus

#### COORDINATED DUAL-DEGREE, ACCELERATED, AND SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

Penn offers unique opportunities to pursue intensive integrated study across multiple schools. Applicants should articulate a strong understanding of the interdisciplinary nature of the intended program.

##### VIPER: Roy and Diana Vagelos Integrated Program in Energy Research

College of Arts and Sciences and Penn Engineering

##### Huntsman: Huntsman Program in International Studies And Business

College of Arts and Sciences and The Wharton School

##### LSM: Roy and Diana Vagelos Program in Life Sciences and Management

College of Arts and Sciences and The Wharton School

#### SCHOOL OF NURSING



The right home for learners who:

- Are passionate about patient care
- Have desire to explore issues in healthcare through hands-on practice and research

In applicants to the School of Nursing, we would like to see:

- Commitment to patient care and the future of healthcare delivery
- Strong preparation in the sciences, particularly in chemistry and biology

#### THE WHARTON SCHOOL



The right home for learners who:

- Have an interest in leveraging business to fuel positive change that advances the world's economic and social wellbeing
- Have demonstrated leadership and collaboration

In applicants to the Wharton School, we would like to see:

- Demonstrated leadership
- Strong preparation in mathematics, including exposure to calculus in high school

##### M&T: Jerome Fisher Program in Management and Technology

Penn Engineering and The Wharton School

##### DMD: Digital Media Design

Penn Engineering

##### NHCM: Nursing and Healthcare Management

School of Nursing and The Wharton School

## PENN CLASS OF 2029

Penn evaluates all applications holistically, considering qualitative factors alongside measures of academic preparation.

**72,544 APPLICANTS**

EARLY DECISION: 9,503

REGULAR DECISION: 63,041

## INCOMING STUDENT PROFILE

### STUDENT GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION

Members of the incoming class of 2029 hail from 49 states plus military APO, Guam, DC, Puerto Rico, Northern Marianas, USVI, as well as 90+ countries from Argentina to Zimbabwe<sup>1</sup>.

In the seventeenth year of our partnership, 259 incoming first-year students were affiliated with QuestBridge, a national program that aims to increase undergraduate enrollment of high-achieving, limited-income students at top universities. Additionally, 545 incoming students were affiliated with community-based organizations.

### FAST FACTS ON THE CLASS OF 2028

**21%** FIRST GENERATION  
**15%** INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS<sup>1</sup>  
**23%** PELL GRANT ELIGIBLE<sup>2</sup>  
**57%** STUDENTS OF COLOR<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>by Home Address, not filtered by citizenship

<sup>2</sup>Number based on currently available data and subject to change

<sup>3</sup>US Citizen/Permanent Residents

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

NOVEMBER

1

EARLY  
DECISION

JANUARY

5

REGULAR  
DECISION

MARCH

15

TRANSFER  
DECISION

Apply through the **Common Application** or the **Coalition Application**.

## VISIT OPPORTUNITIES

Penn's campus in Philadelphia is open for visits! We also provide many ways for you and your students to engage with Penn online—from live virtual information sessions and application workshops to virtual tours, student-led panels, and on-demand videos.

To learn more about ways to engage with Penn, please visit: [admissions.upenn.edu/visit](https://admissions.upenn.edu/visit)

## FINANCIAL AID

Penn meets 100% of demonstrated need with no-loan financial aid! As part of Penn's Quaker Commitment, students with family incomes up to \$200,000 are guaranteed financial aid packages that cover at least the cost of tuition. Families with incomes of \$75,000 or under receive aid that covers tuition, fees, housing, and dining, as well as additional resources to ensure equal access to opportunities on campus! The average financial aid package for a first-year student in 2023-2024 was \$69,990: that's more than the cost of tuition.

Penn is a need-blind institution for students that are citizens or permanent residents of the United States, Canada, and Mexico. That means that financial need will not be considered when making admissions decisions. When financial circumstance warrants, applicants are encouraged to contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions to request an application fee waiver.

For more information, please visit the financial aid website: [srfp.upenn.edu](https://srfp.upenn.edu)

## APPLYING TO COLLEGE 101

As counselors, you know as well as we do that applying to college is a big deal. It's a decision that will have an impact on each student's life, their family's lives, and their future.

We also know applying to college can be overwhelming. Students are processing a lot of information. They're asking important questions. They're learning new terms.

At Penn, we believe higher education can benefit everyone, and we want to help every student along their college admissions journey. Together with our friends at Heights Philadelphia, we've designed a course for all high school students across the nation who are interested in pursuing a college education.

Applying to College 101 is designed to give students access to resources, tools, and insider tips to help them pave their own pathway to college. In it, we walk students through the different components of college applications, how to approach them, and how to evaluate different schools to determine if they're the right fit.

This course is free on the Coursera platform and has no time limit or grades. Students are welcome to complete the entire course or explore one specific module. We hope you will share it with those students who would benefit from guidance on their college application journey. It exists to support them, and by extension you.

Learn more at: [admissions.upenn.edu/applying-to-college-101](https://admissions.upenn.edu/applying-to-college-101)

## STANDARDIZED TESTING

Penn applicants are required to submit the SAT or ACT for the 2025-26 application cycle. Applicants who face hardship in meeting this requirement can submit a waiver directly through the application instead. This applies to both first-year and transfer applicants.

For more information on testing, please visit: [admissions.upenn.edu/testing](https://admissions.upenn.edu/testing)

## WHAT WE LOOK FOR IN LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

This year, we will only be requiring two letters of recommendation: one from a counselor or other school official, and one from a teacher. Letters of Recommendation help us better understand a student's context and what sets them apart from their peers. The best letters of recommendation provide additional information, as opposed to repeating points we can learn from other parts of the application. We look for the following when reading letters of recommendation:

- How a student engages with their classmates, educators, and learning environment
- Any special family or personal circumstances the student has been navigating we should be aware of
- Specific examples and anecdotes that demonstrate a student's involvement, impact, strengths, and unique qualities
- Context on available opportunities, programs, or challenges specific to your school or the student
- What environment a student thrives in, and what personal qualities they may bring to our campus

### OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

3535 Market Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104  
(215) 898-7507 • [info@admissions.upenn.edu](mailto:info@admissions.upenn.edu)



CONTACT OUR  
ADMISSIONS  
TEAM BY REGION

@PREVIEWINGPENN

The University of Pennsylvania values diversity and seeks talented students, faculty, and staff from diverse backgrounds. The University of Pennsylvania does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, creed, national or ethnic origin, citizenship status, age, disability, veteran status, or any other legally protected class status in the administration of its admissions, financial aid, educational, or athletic programs, or other University-administered programs or in its employment practices. Questions or complaints regarding this policy should be directed to the Executive Director of the Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Programs, Sansom Place East, 3600 Chestnut Street, Suite 228, Philadelphia, PA 19104-6106; or (215) 898-6993 (Voice) or (215) 898-7803 (TDD).

Clery Act information is available from the Division of Public Safety at (215) 898-7515, or at [publicsafety.upenn.edu/clery/annual-security-fire-safety-report](https://publicsafety.upenn.edu/clery/annual-security-fire-safety-report). **This information is accurate as of August 2025.**

