

# Yale.

A Guide for Transfers, Veterans, and Nontraditional Students

# One Yale. Many Pathways.

All Yale undergraduates enroll in the same college, but they take many different pathways. There is no typical Yale College student and no specific set of expectations for anyone seeking to enroll. Academically engaged individuals who are considering the next step in their college education should consider Yale, no matter their pathway to applying.

## **Yale seeks students of all backgrounds.**

Yale's undergraduate community includes students from around the world with an astonishing range of identities, beliefs, aspirations, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Students arrive at Yale from two-year colleges, from the U.S. military, and after long professional careers. Some are raising children; some are running their own businesses. All of them become members of a supportive community that is strengthened by its diversity.

## **Yale supports students' goals.**

With over 80 majors and hundreds of dedicated academic and professional advisers, Yale prepares its graduates to become leaders in any career anywhere in the world. Students receive support from mentors before they arrive on campus until long after graduating. Yale is committed to seeing all students succeed in their classes, extracurricular pursuits, and postgraduate plans.

## **Yale's admissions process is holistic.**

A team of dedicated admissions officers reviews every application through a holistic evaluation process designed to highlight each applicant's unique story, ambitions, and values. The application empowers students to share a comprehensive picture of their academic and personal accomplishments, their lived experiences, and the positive impact they have had on others. No student is admitted according to a formula.

## **Yale is affordable for everyone.**

For most American families, attending Yale is more affordable than attending an in-state public school. Yale's financial aid awards meet 100% of every student's financial need and cover the full cost of attendance without requiring loans. All aid is awarded on the basis of need and in the form of scholarship grants. Yale's policies apply to all undergraduates, regardless of citizenship.

“Yale College is committed to increasing access for U.S. military veterans, students from community colleges, and adult learners. Our transfer and nontraditional students come from every background and walk of life, and they are an essential part of our vibrant and diverse learning community.”

**Pericles Lewis**  
Dean of Yale College

50%

of recent transfer and Eli Whitney students previously attended a two-year college

98%

Yale College graduation rate

122

colleges attended by recent transfer and Eli Whitney students

# Affordable. For everyone.

Yale's financial aid awards meet the full need of all students — without loans.

- Yale's need-blind admissions policies ensure that a student's ability to pay is never a factor in the selection process. An applicant's financial aid status has no impact on the admissions decision.
- Yale's need-based financial aid meets 100% of every student's demonstrated financial need with scholarship grants.
- All financial aid awards are calculated to cover the full cost of attendance, including tuition, housing, meals, travel, and personal expenses.
- Yale subsidizes childcare costs for students with children receiving need-based financial aid.



I am on full financial aid, so I pay nothing to attend Yale.

**Rachel Merrill**

(she/her)

Yale College '24

**Major:** Math



Yale offered me an extremely generous financial aid package. Because of that, I was able to save my G.I. Bill benefits so that I can use them for a graduate program.

**Alec Buffi**

(he/him)

Yale College '24

Air Force veteran

**Major:** Computer Science



**James Glatt** (he/him), father of Lily, is a Navy veteran who entered Yale as a first-year Eli Whitney student.

**\$60,820**

average Yale  
need-based scholarship  
in 2021–2022

**88%**

of the Class of 2021  
graduated with zero  
loan debt

**\$218 million**

estimated annual Yale College financial aid budget

**100%**

financial need met with a  
Yale financial aid award that  
does not include loans

**64%**

of undergraduates  
receive financial  
assistance



# Learning at Yale.

Big ideas, global ventures, and life-changing lessons begin in small spaces at Yale. All undergraduates enroll in a single liberal arts college while immersed in one of the world's great research universities.

Despite its immense scope, Yale maintains a singular dedication to teaching and mentoring. All tenured faculty members in the arts and sciences teach undergraduate courses, and all students work closely with faculty advisers.

Yale's expansive course offerings are just the beginning. Hundreds of labs and research centers, a major medical center, exceptional museum and library collections, and the resources of 14 graduate and professional schools provide opportunities for undergraduates to work directly with leading scholars and practitioners. Students pursue original research with Yale faculty in every department and around the world.

6,500

undergraduate students

6:1

student-to-faculty ratio

80+

majors

2,000+

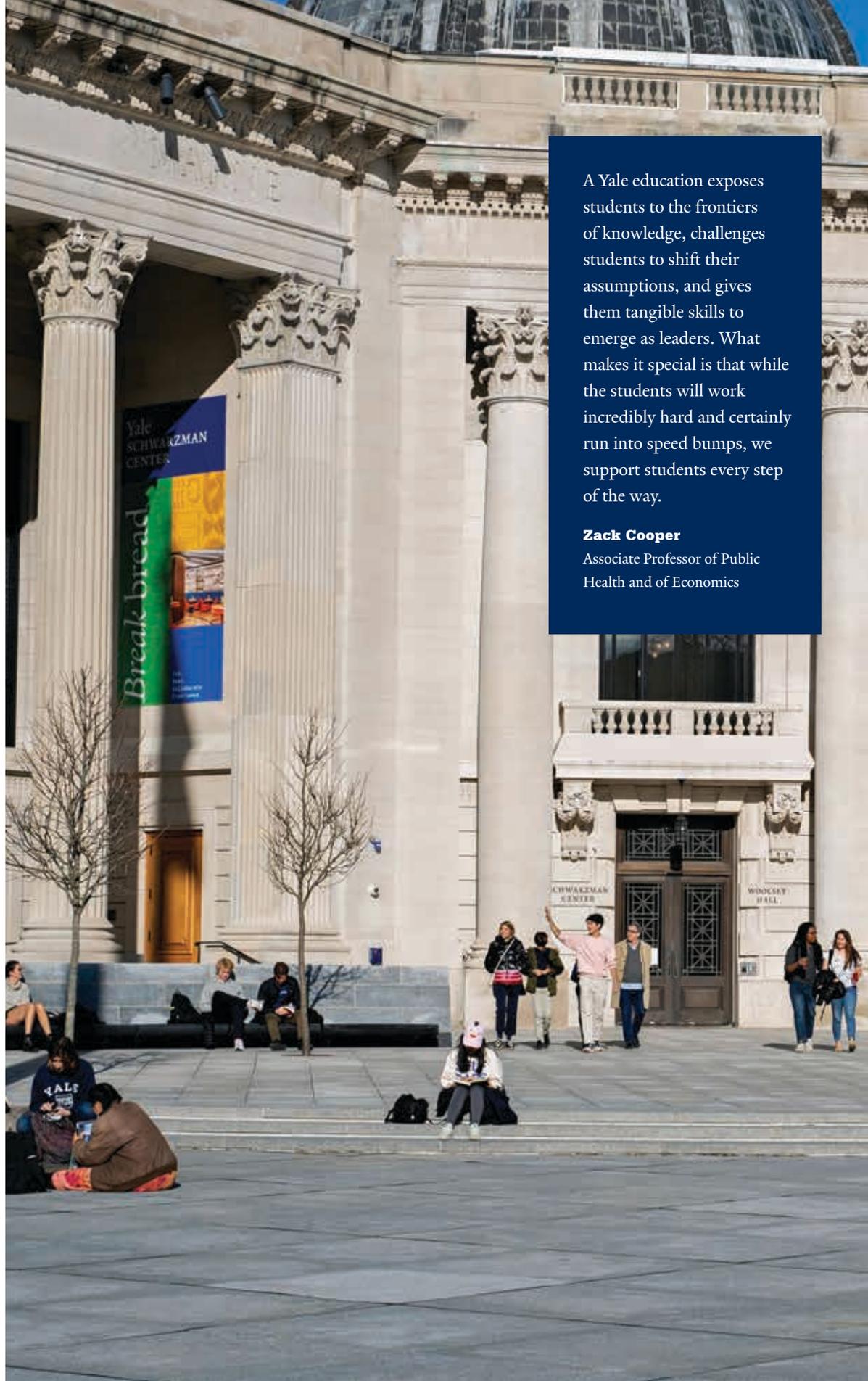
courses offered each year

1,200+

science, math, and engineering labs across the University

71%

of courses enroll fewer than 20 students; 21% enroll fewer than 10



A Yale education exposes students to the frontiers of knowledge, challenges students to shift their assumptions, and gives them tangible skills to emerge as leaders. What makes it special is that while the students will work incredibly hard and certainly run into speed bumps, we support students every step of the way.

**Zack Cooper**

Associate Professor of Public Health and of Economics

**Majors in Yale College**

- African American Studies
- African Studies
- American Studies
- Anthropology
- Applied Mathematics
- Applied Physics
- Archaeological Studies
- Architecture
- Art
- Astronomy
- Astrophysics
- Biology: Ecology & Evolutionary
- Biology: Molecular, Cellular, & Developmental
- Chemistry
- Classical Civilization
- Classics
- Cognitive Science
- Comparative Literature
- Computer Science
- Computer Science & Economics
- Computer Science & Mathematics
- Computer Science & Psychology
- Computing & the Arts
- Computing & Linguistics
- Earth & Planetary Sciences
- East Asian Languages & Literatures
- East Asian Studies
- Economics
- Economics & Mathematics
- Electrical Engineering & Computer Science
- Engineering: Biomedical, Chemical, Electrical, Environmental, or Mechanical
- Engineering Sciences: Chemical, Electrical, Environmental, or Mechanical
- English
- Environmental Studies
- Ethics, Politics, & Economics
- Ethnicity, Race, & Migration
- Film & Media Studies
- French
- German Studies
- Global Affairs
- Greek, Ancient & Modern History
- History of Art
- History of Science, Medicine, & Public Health
- Humanities
- Italian Studies
- Judaic Studies
- Latin American Studies
- Linguistics
- Mathematics
- Mathematics & Philosophy
- Mathematics & Physics
- Modern Middle East Studies
- Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry
- Music
- Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations
- Neuroscience
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Physics & Geosciences
- Physics & Philosophy
- Political Science
- Portuguese
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Russian
- Russian, East European, & Eurasian Studies
- Sociology
- South Asian Studies\*
- Spanish
- Special Divisional Major
- Statistics & Data Science
- Theater & Performance Studies
- Urban Studies
- Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies

\* as a second major only

# First-Year, Transfer, and Eli Whitney Students.

Yale's most valuable resource is not its libraries or its laboratories, but its student body – a community with a remarkable range of experiences and aspirations, talents and abilities, backgrounds and identities. Diversity is an essential component of a Yale education.

Yale College offers three admissions programs tailored to prospective students from different stages in their education and life experiences. Regardless of their admissions pathways, all Yale College students have access to the same undergraduate courses, the same majors, and the same expansive range of research opportunities, international experiences, and student activities. All three programs lead to a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science Degree.

## Transfer Program

Yale enrolls a small number of transfer students every fall. Students are eligible to apply as transfer applicants if they have the equivalent of between one and two years' worth of full-time college credits. The number of transfer students accepted from two-year colleges is increasing. Like those who entered as first-years, transfer students pursue their studies full time and may live in undergraduate housing. They are assigned Transfer Peer Advisers who are transfer students themselves. Transfer students contribute in meaningful ways to Yale's community, take advantage of Yale's resources, and bring different perspectives to campus.

# Yale

## First-year Admission

The vast majority of Yale's students enter as first-years. They hail from all 50 states. 13% are international students. 20% are Pell Grant recipients. Most first-year students come to Yale directly from high school. If you are still in high school and are taking college classes concurrently, you would apply as a first-year student, and would not be considered a transfer student.

## Eli Whitney Students Program

The Eli Whitney Students Program is designed specifically for nontraditional students wishing to pursue a traditional in-person Yale education. Individuals who completed high school at least five years ago and have not yet received their bachelor's degrees are eligible to apply to the Eli Whitney Students Program. The average age of Eli Whitney students is 30, ranging from mid-twenties to early sixties. They include veterans, artists, community activists, parents, and entrepreneurs. This is a more flexible pathway, allowing adult learners to take classes full or part time. Their Yale advisers have experience guiding adult students who may have different needs from other undergraduates. Eli Whitney students live off-campus or in graduate housing.



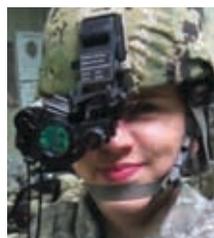
## Veterans Community at Yale.

The United States Military and Yale have had close ties since the Revolutionary War. Yale welcomes inquiries and applications from veterans and is committed to increasing the number of student veterans on campus.

- Application fees are automatically waived for candidates serving or who have served in the U.S. military.
- Veterans of the U.S. military may choose to use their military education benefits, including their Post-9/11 G.I. Bill and Yellow Ribbon benefits, or apply for Yale's generous need-based financial aid.
- The Yale Undergraduate Veterans Society fosters community among our student veterans.
- Yale was an inaugural member of Service to School's Vetlink program. Service to School offers free college search advice to veterans.
- The Warrior Scholar Project is a nonprofit organization that was started by Yale students over a decade ago and has now expanded to over 20 college campuses. It provides free academic bootcamps to prepare veterans for college.



**James Glatt** Navy veteran and Yale College Class of '25



**Hillary Browning**  
(she/her)

**Entered Yale:** as an Eli Whitney student

**Major:** Political Science, Yale College '20

**Previous College:** Central Texas College, Killeen, TX

**High School:** New Braunfels High School, New Braunfels, TX

**Professional Experience:** Navy Journalist and Service to School Program Associate

I joined the Navy upon graduation from high school in part to prove to my family that I am military material. I had always wanted to attend college but had no desire to go into debt to afford higher education. I served on the USS Eisenhower and had deployments to Japan and Afghanistan. When my daughter Lily was born, I took advantage of the option for Eli Whitney students to take classes on a part time basis. I graduated from Yale College in 2020 and worked for Service to School while raising my two young daughters. I am now attending Yale Law School.

**Fun Fact:** Married to James Glatt, an Eli Whitney student. We will both be graduating from Yale in 2025: James from Yale College and I from Yale Law School.

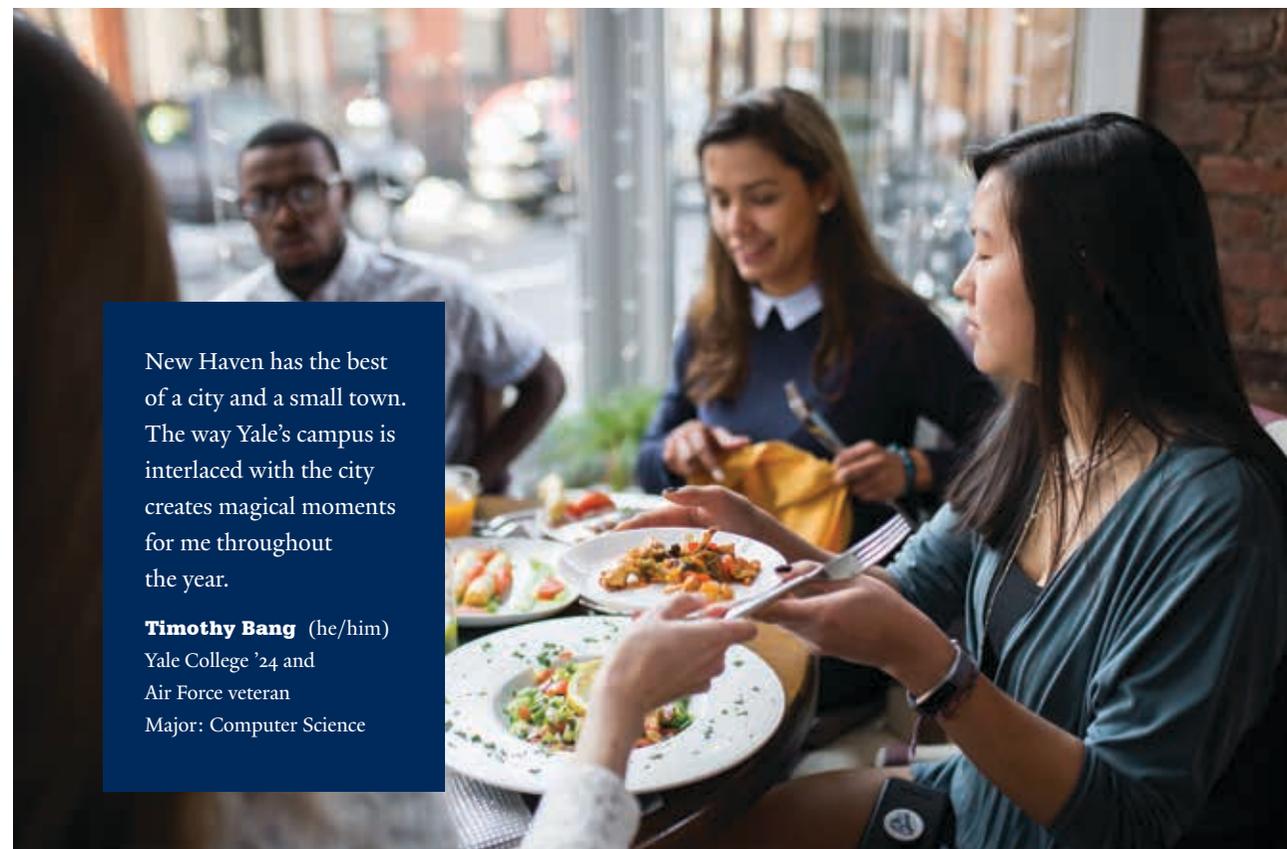
## Living in New Haven.

New Haven is large enough to have a lively city atmosphere and small enough that students can make personal connections with their new home.

Lovingly known by locals as the "Greatest Small City in America," New Haven offers acclaimed museums, restaurants, theaters, and concert venues immediately surrounding campus. The city is best explored on foot or bicycle. Scenic beaches, hiking trails, and historic landmarks are all within city limits. With both New York City and Boston within easy reach, New Haven combines a superb college town experience with immediate access to the unrivaled opportunities of the northeast corridor.

Students entering Yale as first-year or transfer students typically live on campus in one of 14 residential colleges. The Head of College, Dean and other Resident Fellows form an integrated system for advising and support within the residential college community. They host activities, speakers and events for students in their colleges.

Eli Whitney students live off campus, often within walking distance of their classes. Eli Whitney students rent their own apartments or share with Yale students. They may also apply for graduate housing. Though Eli Whitney students do not live in the residential colleges, they are each affiliated with a residential college and may participate in college activities. Eli Whitney students are supported by the residential college advising system and college resources.



New Haven has the best of a city and a small town. The way Yale's campus is interlaced with the city creates magical moments for me throughout the year.

**Timothy Bang** (he/him)  
Yale College '24 and  
Air Force veteran  
Major: Computer Science

# “How I got to Yale.”

## As a first-year student:



**Chance Flanigen**  
(he/him)

**Intended major:** English

**Professional Experience:** Corporal in the United States Marine Corps

I joined the Marine Corps the summer after graduating high school and served four years as a Special Operations Capability Specialist (SOCS) in the Marine Raider community. The military provided me with an exceptional foundation to pursue academia, and I realized transitioning to life as a student would provide a challenge comparable to the military. While on active duty, Service to School advised me on my college search, and I participated in the Warrior-Scholar Project. Through the vast network of veterans in academia, I was able to realize my potential in the classroom, and I decided Yale closely aligned with my interests and goals. The Yale community offers a unique academic and social experience. I entered Yale as a first-year student and plan on exploring the humanities and social sciences.

**Fun Fact:**

In my free time, I enjoy surfing and mountain biking.

## As a transfer student:



**Akua Aduse-Poku Agyemang** (she/her)

**Major:** Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry and History of Science, Medicine & Public Health

**Previous College:** Lorain County Community College, Elyria, OH

**Extracurricular Experience:** Phi Theta Kappa Phi Pi Chapter President; Microbiology HIV research group; paid pharmacy technician; Coca-Cola Academic Team Gold Scholar

Though universities within Ohio readily accept transfer students, I have found that many of these institutions fall short of my expectations for higher education. A proper, life-changing education expands beyond the classroom; it encompasses not only the passion for academic excellence, but also balances such endeavors with the social and emotional evolution and maturation of a student. This is why I am drawn to Yale. Yale is an institution that is not only dedicated to providing its students a world-class education and challenging them to become better thinkers, but also values the strength in diversity.

**Fun Fact:** Akua serves as a Head Transfer Peer Adviser.

## As an Eli Whitney student:



**Rudy Cordero**  
(he/him)

**Major:** Computer Science

**Previous College:** Harold Washington College, Chicago, IL

**Professional Experience:** Operations and Logistics Manager

I attended college right out of high school, but family responsibilities forced me to leave early. After working in project management for 7 years, I enrolled at a local two-year college part time before joining the Yale community. Among other social groups, I serve as co-President of Yale’s Eli Whitney Students Society, a fellow for Yale’s Effective Altruism Society, and as a coach for ONEXYS, Yale’s summer math program for incoming students. My goal is to be a more conscious member of society and someone who is socially and environmentally aware. I want to use Yale’s resources to positively impact my local community, the nation and people on a global scale.

**Fun Fact:** I was born in Taxco, Guerrero – a small mountain town near Mexico City.

# Outcomes: Post-Yale Destinations.

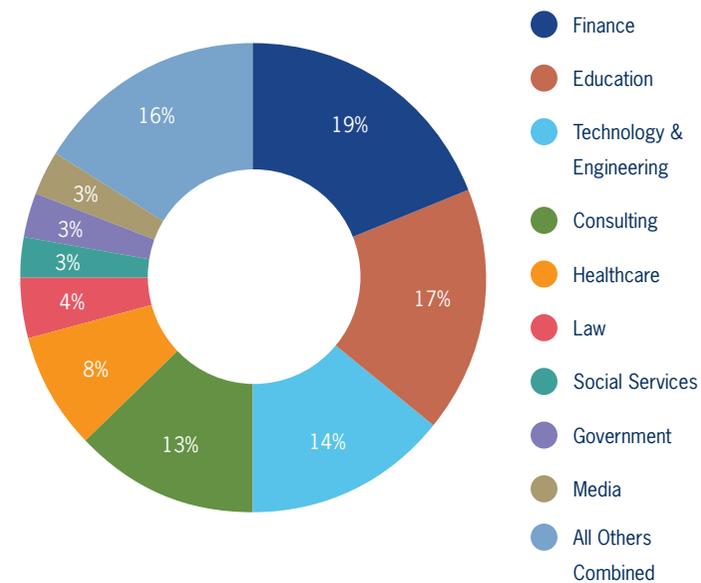
Yale inspires the students who inspire the world. Yale graduates are equipped with the critical thinking, problem solving, and communication skills necessary to thrive in a position of leadership in any field and career anywhere in the world.

- 97% of the most recent graduating class were employed or in graduate school within six months of graduation.
- Nearly three quarters of all Yale College students attend graduate or professional school within five years of graduating.
- The top five industries for Yale College graduates were financial services, education, technology, consulting, and healthcare.

## Top employers of recent graduates include:

- Goldman Sachs Group
- Bain & Company
- Meta Platforms, Inc.
- Bank of America Merrill Lynch
- Boston Consulting Group
- JPMorgan Chase & Co.
- McKinsey & Company
- McMaster-Carr
- Morgan Stanley
- Citadel
- Credit Suisse Group
- Barclays PLC
- Citigroup, Inc
- Epic Systems Corporation
- Blackstone Group
- Clarion Healthcare Consulting
- Google LLC
- Microsoft Corporation

## Top 10 Industries of Recent Graduates



I am determined to make the most of the remainder of my undergraduate education and hope to emerge as an astute Yale graduate equipped with the knowledge and drive to make a positive impact on the community and world around me.

**Akua Aduse-Poku Agyemang**

Transfer student from Lorain County Community College

# Applying to Yale.

## Prospective students may apply through the First-Year, Transfer, or Eli Whitney Students Program.

U.S. military veterans are eligible to apply through any admissions program. Many veterans find that the Eli Whitney Students Program is the best fit because it is designed for adult students. All U.S. military veterans receive an automatic application fee waiver when applying to Yale College.

**The first-year application** is for current high school students or recent graduates who have not completed the equivalent of at least one year of full-time undergraduate coursework. Students admitted through the first-year program enroll full-time and complete their bachelor's degree in four years.

**The transfer application** is for current or recent college students who will have completed the equivalent of one or two years of full-time undergraduate coursework before enrolling at Yale. Students admitted through the transfer program enroll full-time and complete their bachelor's degree in two or three years at Yale.

**The Eli Whitney Students Program (EWSP)** is for individuals who have been out of high school for five or more years and do not hold a bachelor's degree. Students admitted through the EWSP may transfer

up to two years' worth of completed undergraduate coursework and may enroll part-time or full-time.

### What Yale Looks For

All applications are reviewed and decisions are made by an Admissions Committee composed of admissions officers, faculty, and college leaders. Academic strength is the Committee's first consideration, but no one thing alone determines who is admitted. All pieces of the application work together to showcase each student's mix of qualities and character.

When reviewing transcripts, the Committee puts more weight on an applicant's recent academic record and leadership experience in the workforce, community, and military. While many Yale students demonstrated consistently strong academic performance, many successful transfer and Eli Whitney students also had weaker profiles early in their academic career before earning stronger grades more recently.

In selecting applicants, the Committee aims to gather a variety of unique and promising individuals to form a supportive community that is strengthened by its diversity. Yale is especially interested in candidates who have had a positive and lasting impact on others and who will enrich their communities in college and beyond. Two questions guide the Committee: Who is likely to make the most of Yale's resources? And who will contribute most significantly to the Yale community?

### Learn more at [admissions.yale.edu](https://admissions.yale.edu):

- Detailed application instructions, deadlines, and eligibility requirements for each admissions program
- Helpful advice for putting together a compelling application
- Insights from admissions officers on the selection committee process – Check out Inside the Yale Admissions Podcast – Episode 16: Transfer and Nontraditional Students.

“We emphasize to all prospective and current students that the mission of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions and Financial Aid is to ensure that cost is never a barrier between any undergraduate student and their education.”

**Jeremiah Quinlan**

Dean of Undergraduate Admissions & Financial Aid

# Frequently Asked Questions.

### What are the application deadlines?

The application deadline for the transfer program and the Eli Whitney Students Program is March 1. For first-year admission, the Single-Choice Early Action deadline is November 1, and the Regular Decision deadline is January 2.

### Is there a separate application process for veterans?

No. Veterans and military service members complete the same application as all other applicants, either the Common Application or the Coalition Application.

### Do you offer an application fee waiver?

Yes. Yale will waive the application fee if it would constitute a significant financial burden for the applicant. As part of our commitment to assisting veterans, Yale automatically grants requests from members of the U.S. Armed Forces and veterans.

### Does Yale participate in the Yellow Ribbon Program for military veterans?

Yes. A Yale education is especially affordable for veterans who may choose to apply for Yale's generous need-based

financial aid or use their Post-9/11 G.I. Bill and Yellow Ribbon benefits.

### Is financial aid available for international students and students who are undocumented or have received Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) status?

Yes. Regardless of citizenship or immigration status, Yale's financial aid packages meet 100% of demonstrated financial need without loans.

### Is there a minimum GPA requirement?

No. Yale does not have a minimum required GPA, but admission to Yale is extremely selective. The admissions committee expects applicants to present strong recent academic credentials.

### How do I indicate an interest in a particular major when I apply?

Choose your intended major based on your academic interests with the peace of mind knowing that you will have time to explore majors and finalize your choice after you enroll.

### I have not taken classes in a long time, can I still apply to Yale?

Yes. Most students who apply after an extended break from conventional education are a good fit



for the Eli Whitney Students Program. Even though you have been away from school, we expect to see completed pieces of your application required of all applicants including transcripts and evaluations from professors or supplemental recommenders.

### Do you accept students from community colleges?

Yes. Yale admits many students who have attended or graduated from community colleges.

### Is there a minimum number of semesters that I must complete at Yale to graduate?

Yes. Transfer students must complete an equivalent of two years of college credit at Yale.

### Can I request a preliminary credit evaluation?

No. Given the volume of applications, Yale is

not able to prepare preliminary credit evaluations for prospective students or applicants. A transfer credit report will be provided to all admitted transfer and Eli Whitney students at the time of admission.

### Can I apply to Yale to pursue a second bachelor's degree?

No. Yale does not award second bachelor's degrees, even for those students wishing to pursue a different field of study from their current degree.

### I applied to Yale before and was not offered admission or did not decide to attend. Do I need to submit a new application?

Yes. Students applying to Yale must submit a new application. Students may apply to Yale College no more than three times.



**[admissions.yale.edu](https://admissions.yale.edu)**

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