Yale.*

*Make your undergraduate education count.
“Among the many treasures of this university—from the most ancient manuscripts to the most contemporary scientific discoveries—it is our students who are the greatest treasure of all. So today let me reaffirm that we are a research university that proudly and unapologetically focuses on our students. This is who we are and what we aspire to be.”

Peter Salovey, President of Yale University

What Counts at Yale?

Prospective students often ask us, “What counts most in my application?” While we can’t answer that question with any precision—every successful application will be strong for its own reasons—we can give you a sense of what Yale College counts as its defining features, its unparalleled resources, and its core values.

Among Yale’s most defining features is a campus-wide spirit of “both/and,” not “either/or.” Tradition and innovation. Personal achievement and public service. Work and play. Vast resources and intimate connections. Rare combinations like these ensure a balanced and enriching college education at a global university.

We can also provide some numerical counts to help you understand Yale better. For instance, Yale’s roughly 5,800 undergraduates come from more than 80 different countries, making our student body one of the most diverse in the world.

The pages that follow offer more insights into life at Yale—both qualitative and quantitative. Our aim is to help you decide whether these key characteristics appeal to your own vision of a fulfilling undergraduate experience. At the end of the day, that fulfilling experience will be what counts most for you.

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Yale undergraduates experience the intimacy of a liberal arts college in the context of a top-tier research university. This combination is key to what makes Yale College unique. Physically and philosophically, the College is at the heart of the University, which means that our students have ample access to the vast array of resources and ideas available on campus. Such a set-up fosters creativity across disciplines, encourages collaboration between students and faculty, and demands personal initiative to make the most of Yale’s offerings. An extraordinary commitment to undergraduate teaching and mentoring sets Yale apart from other research universities with comparable resources.

In short, Yale’s academic scene combines both the immense scope of a world-class university and the close-knit community of a liberal arts college. Undergraduates face vast campus resources and find clear-cut ways to access them. Classmates are as supportive as they are ambitious, and renowned faculty make time to be dedicated educators.

Research & Innovation

Yale students work together to make a difference in the world, whether at the local, national, or international level. They know meaningful innovation takes both intelligence and interdisciplinary perspective, personal drive and collaborative spirit. Groundbreaking research, urban justice initiatives, regional food movements, award-winning art and music, successful tech start-ups—you name it, Yalies have made it happen.

Ideas Count.

(Academics, Research & Innovation, and Majors & Special Programs)

Yalies Who Innovate: Meet 3 Students Who Have Made a Difference

Megan Perkins ’16
When? Megan helped launch the Rocketry Project Team as a first-year member of the Yale Undergraduate Aerospace Association (YUAA).
How? As YUAA members, Megan and her teammates are funded by The Boeing Company and the Yale School of Engineering and Applied Science.

Matt Czarnecki ’18
What? Verb, a company that combines coffee and a snack into a single caffeinated energy bar.
When? Matt developed the idea at a Yale Launch competition sophomore year. As a senior and Verb CEO, Matt closed a round of nearly $1 million in seed capital.
How? Verb received a $15,000 grant and impactful mentorship through the Tsai CITY Summer Accelerator.

Zahra Baitie ’15
When? Zahra co-founded YAAPD in her sophomore year to increase awareness about issues related to African development and to provide a forum for those interested in Africa.
How? With support from several Yale departments, a board of Yale students annually host the College’s largest Africa-related conference.

6:1 student-to-faculty ratio
70 First-year Seminars in 2017–2018, each open only to fifteen or twenty first-years
74% of courses enroll fewer than 20 students; 30% enroll fewer than 10
250,000+ objects in the Yale University Art Gallery’s permanent collection
2:1 ratio of declared STEM majors to STEM faculty
4 of 4 All 4 of Yale’s Nobel laureates regularly teach or conduct research with undergraduates.

800+ science, math, and engineering labs at Yale College and the graduate and professional schools
24/7 hours the Center for Engineering Innovation and Design is open for student use

More than 40% of Yale College students graduating with a STEM major are women

60+ Creative and Performing Arts Grants (ranging from $500-$2,200) are awarded to student playwrights, dancers, writers, musicians, and filmmakers each term

200+ Summer fellowships for undergraduate science and engineering students each year

$15,000 each through the Tsai Center for Innovative Thinking’s Summer Accelerator

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Yale undergraduates explore a wide range of academic subjects and disciplines. Instead of taking a set of core classes, students choose from over 2,000 courses to fulfill a broad set of distributional requirements in arts and humanities, science, social science, quantitative reasoning, writing, and foreign language. Students typically declare a major at the end of sophomore year, and in the senior year most will produce capstone work in their major in close collaboration with a faculty mentor. This style of education develops the critical, creative, and communicative skills necessary for fulfilling careers and effective leadership.

In addition to the 80+ majors available to undergraduates, Yale offers supplementary programs designed to give students specialized knowledge across a variety of areas. Ranging from first-year seminars in the sciences or humanities to multidisciplinary courses in education, energy, or global health to tracks in pre-medicine and pre-law, these special programs offer more than extra coursework; they connect students with experts in the field, provide invaluable pre-professional advising, and often generate internship and fellowship opportunities.

**Majors & Special Programs**

**Special Programs for First-Years**

**First-Year Seminars**
Small classes plus big-time faculty.
Each seminar = 18 or fewer first-years + 1 distinguished professor.
A total of 70 seminars, spanning 28 disciplines.

**Directed Studies**
Selective, interdisciplinary study of Western civilization from classical antiquity to the twentieth century.
Roughly 125 first-years selected.
3 yearlong courses in philosophy, literature, and political thought.

**First-Year Summer Research Fellowship**
Dedicated science and engineering research fellowships for first-years.
Supports 100+ science and engineering first-years each year.
Stipends of up to $4,300 for 10 weeks of research.

**STARS (Science, Technology, and Research Scholars)**
Program combining research, coursework, and mentorship for students historically underrepresented in the sciences.
100+ students each year.

**80+ majors**

**2,000+ courses offered each year**

**44 languages offered to undergraduates from Akkadian to isiZulu**

**3+3**

Each semester begins with 2 weeks of a “shopping period” that allows students to visit and choose courses before submitting their final schedule.

There is no core curriculum at Yale, but students fulfill distributional requirements by taking courses in three study areas (the humanities and arts, the sciences, and the social sciences) and three skill areas (writing, quantitative reasoning, and foreign language).

**Majors in Yale College**

- Astronomy
- Astrophysics
- Chemistry
- Classical Civilization Classics:
  - Greek, Latin, or Greek & Latin
- Cognitive Science
- Computer Science
- Computer Science & Mathematics
- Computer Science & Psychology
- Computing & the Arts
- East Asian Languages & Literatures: Chinese or Japanese
- East Asian Studies
- Ecology & Evolutionary Biology
- 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
- Geology & Geophysics
- Geology & Natural Resources
- German Studies
- Global Affairs
- Greek, Ancient & Modern History
- History
- History of Art
- History of Science, Medicine, & Public Health
- Humanities
- Italian
- Judaic Studies
- Latin American Studies
- Linguistics
- Literature, Comparative Literature & Comparative Cultures
- Mathematics
- Mathematics & Philosophy
- Modern Middle East Studies
- Molecular Biophysics & Biochemistry
- Molecular, Cellular, & Developmental Biology
- Music
- Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations
- Neuroscience
- Philosophy
- Physics
- Physics & Geosciences
- Physics & Philosophy
- Political Science
- Portuguese
- Psychology
- Religious Studies
- Russian
- Russian & East European Studies
- Sociology
- South Asian Studies*
- Spanish
- Special Divisional Major
- Statistics & Data Science
- Theater Studies
- Women’s, Gender, & Sexuality Studies

*May be taken only as a second major.

**Education Studies**

Students from a range of majors interested in educational practice, policy, and research.
Requires 3 courses + 1 senior capstone seminar + 1 field experience.
Convenes 1 monthly public forum on education for the Yale-New Haven community.

**Energy Studies**

Selective, interdisciplinary cohort of scholars interested in energy-related fields.
Requires 3 core courses + 3 elective courses + 1 senior capstone project.

**Global Health Studies**

An exploration of global health issues across the natural sciences, social sciences, and humanities.
100+ Global Health courses available.

**Human Rights**

Interdisciplinary study of conceptual, analytical, and practical aspects of human rights, coordinated by the Schell Center for International Human Rights at Yale Law School.
Requires 1 gateway course + 4 elective courses + 1 capstone seminar.
Every Minute Counts.
(Extracurricular Activities, Global Pursuits, and Campus Communities)

In his early career as a research psychologist, Yale’s President Peter Salovey, along with colleague John D. Mayer, developed the concept of emotional intelligence: just as people have a wide range of intellectual abilities, they also have a wide range of measurable emotional skills that affect their thinking and action.

At Yale, this idea shapes how we define success and educate our students to become contributors and leaders in society. You may have heard people contrast emotional intelligence with cognitive intelligence as alternative ways to measure human potential.

But Yale is a place of “both/and,” not “either/or.” Ours is a community where intellectually rigorous scholars are also emotionally intelligent citizens.

Because of this, every minute at Yale is a learning opportunity. Our students’ educations are never limited to the classroom, lab, or studio. In fact, they are not even limited to campus, or the city of New Haven. Yalies experience their education all over the world, through extracurricular pursuits, through study, service, and internships abroad, and through meaningful relationships with peers, faculty, mentors, and alumni.

International Experience
In 2003, former University President Richard C. Levin announced that “being an educational leader in this century requires our students to experience other countries as well as study them.” Today, a Yale education includes traveling the world in order to better understand and contribute to it. At least once during their four years, most students pursue one of the many Yale-sponsored opportunities across the globe, whether a semester of coursework abroad, a summer internship or research fellowship, or an outreach or service trip.
Residential Colleges
Yale's residential college system guarantees students both a strong sense of community and broad diversity from day one of their undergraduate careers. Before arriving on campus, each student is randomly assigned to one of fourteen residential colleges — smaller living communities that combine the intimate feel of a small college with the diversity of a larger student body. The colleges serve as microcosms of Yale's population as a whole, maximizing student exposure to the variety of backgrounds, identities, interests, and beliefs represented on campus.

Each residential college includes dormitory suites, a dining hall, community spaces, a gym, and a library. Although the specific layout of every college is unique, each is built around its own central courtyard where students are likely to run into friends, faculty fellows, or the Dean and the Head of College. The Dean of a residential college acts as an academic adviser to all students in the college. The Head of College is responsible for the physical well-being and safety of the students who live there, as well as for fostering and shaping the college's academic, intellectual, social, athletic, and artistic life. Undergraduates remain affiliated with the same residential college for all four years of study, and alumni still claim that their college is the best long after graduation.

New Haven
As Yale's hometown for more than 300 years, New Haven promises undergraduates a diverse and vibrant community. The Yale campus sits in the center of downtown New Haven, providing students immediate access to one of America's most exciting small cities. Former President Richard C. Levin perfectly described New Haven as "large enough to be interesting, but small enough to be friendly."

Culture, ideas, and industry thrive across the city's world-class museums, nationally recognized theaters, leading educational initiatives, top architecture firms, and buzzing biotechnology hubs. Students enjoy strolling through New Haven's historic Little Italy, browsing the local farmers' markets, swimming or boating in the Long Island Sound, and biking or running to spectacular views atop East Rock Park. Two city-blocks' worth of grassy space in the center of town form the New Haven Green, a picturesque testament to New Haven's strong communities. The Green is dotted with historic churches and lined with shops, restaurants, boutiques, New Haven's City Hall and Public Library, and campus buildings — a cityscape that represents the close relationship forged between Yale and New Haven for more than three centuries. Located between New York City and Boston, New Haven combines a superb college town experience with easy travel to two major metropolitan centers.
Yale’s combination of broad interdisciplinary study with depth of knowledge in a chosen major ensures that graduates are professionally prepared in a way that transcends expertise in a given field. No matter their major, our students gain the critical thinking skills, the creativity, the communicative capacity, and the flexibility necessary to succeed in any career, anywhere in the world.

But Yale does not simply prepare its graduates to succeed. A Yale education encourages students to develop a meaningful definition of success. Our students value both personal accomplishment and public service. They combine an entrepreneurial spirit with social responsibility, and they link individual advancement to social progress.

Countless Career Possibilities.
(What Comes After Yale)

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Financial Aid and Admissions.
(Affording and Applying to Yale)

Financial Aid
Yale admits students for their academic and personal promise without regard to their ability to pay. Budgeting $145 million per year for undergraduate financial aid, the University meets 100% of every undergraduate’s demonstrated financial need with an aid package that does not require any student to take out loans. In fact, Yale is one of the most affordable colleges in the country—significantly less costly than attending a top public university for many students, even in-state residents. Because of this extraordinary commitment to accessibility, our student body comprises the world’s most talented young minds from every socioeconomic background.

The total cost of attendance at Yale for 2018–2019 is $73,180, which includes tuition ($53,430), room ($9,000), board ($7,000), and books and personal expenses ($3,750). Total cost of attendance is used to calculate a student’s need-based financial aid award.

To estimate your Yale cost in three minutes, use our Quick Cost Estimator at admissions.yale.edu/estimate-your-cost.

Admissions
Each year, Yale receives applications from many thousands of highly qualified candidates and can admit only a small percentage of these students. Given the extraordinary nature of our applicant pool, our committee cannot rely on a special formula to make admissions decisions. Academics are of primary importance, but beyond excellent grades, standardized test scores, and teacher recommendations we are also interested in the personal qualities and talents that candidates offer. We therefore take a holistic approach and use our best judgment to build a class of future leaders and difference-makers from all backgrounds, all over the world.

So what does this mean for you? It means that you decide what counts most in your application. It means that we are relying on you to express your ideas and your values, to let us know what you feel proud of, to tell us who matters to you and why, and to help us imagine what type of person you might become over the next several years. Be reflective—not just about your own past experiences, but about the ways in which those experiences have shaped how you view the world around you, and how you envision your place in it.

You will also need to fulfill our admissions requirements by the specified deadlines. Review the information on the right and visit admissions.yale.edu for a more complete explanation of the application process.

Financial Aid Snapshot for the Class of 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annual Income Range</th>
<th>Median Net Cost</th>
<th>Median Scholarship</th>
<th>Percentage Who Qualified for Aid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Less than $65,000</td>
<td>$4,450</td>
<td>$70,686</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$65,000–$100,000</td>
<td>$6,488</td>
<td>$64,402</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$100,000–$150,000</td>
<td>$15,352</td>
<td>$54,249</td>
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<tr>
<td>$150,000–$200,000</td>
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<td>$39,275</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$200,000–$250,000</td>
<td>$43,015</td>
<td>$25,427</td>
<td>64%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater than $250,000*</td>
<td>$50,957</td>
<td>$16,979</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Most who qualify have multiple children in college.

$0
parent contribution for households with less than $65,000 in annual income and typical assets

85%
of the class of 2016 graduated with zero loan debt

$49,250
average Yale need-based scholarship in 2017–2018

$12,000
median net cost for students receiving financial aid in 2017–2018

$145 million
estimated Yale College financial aid budget

64%
of undergraduates receive some financial assistance

50+
years
since Yale began practicing need-blind admissions

$12.50
minimum hourly wage for on-campus jobs

Requirements for applying
- One of the following: The Coalition Application with Yale-Specific Questions, The Common Application with Yale-Specific Questions, The Questbridge National College Match Application
- $80 Application Fee or Fee Waiver
- Two teacher recommendations
- School Report (includes Transcript and Counselor Recommendation)
- Standardized test results, including either the ACT or the SAT
- Mid-Year Report (due when first semester or trimester senior grades become available at your school)

Deadlines for applying

Single-choice early action*

Application: November 1
Financial Aid Forms: November 1

Regular decision

Application: January 2
Financial Aid Forms: March 1

* Under Yale’s Single-Choice Early Action program, students receive an admissions decision by mid-December. If admitted, they need not reply to the offer until May 1 and may apply to other schools for Regular Decision. “Single Choice” means that students who apply early to Yale may not simultaneously apply for Early Action or Early Decision at any other school. There are a few exceptions to this policy that applicants can review online at admissions.yale.edu/scea.