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Hopefully, you won't be asking your high school teachers to write you a letter of recommendation hours before the application deadline. In fact, we recommend locking down your recommenders well in advance. Enlightened College Applicants will get ahead of the game by utilizing our user-friendly list of recommendation requirements at over 400 premier colleges and universities. Also included is whether each institution requires a recommendation from a guidance counselor.\*Data collected from institutional websites. Last updated October 2024/To view additional information, click the + icon to view the name of the institution's name A Guide to What America's Top Schools Can Do for you Buy on Amazon Now How many students are accepted each year for the Medical Sciences Program? Approximately 170-180 students enter the program each year. I have applied to BUSM. Can you access my letters of recommendation in AMCAS? For students who have previously applied to Boston University School of Medicine (BUSM) and will like to have their letters of recommendation transferred to their MAMS application, please add the recommender Gwyneth Offner, use mams@bu.edu as the email, and in the comments provide your AMCAS ID. You will receive an email notification once the transfer is complete, after you submit your application. Can I submit my application if I am still waiting on test scores and letters of recommendation? Yes. Our admissions committee does review partially completed applications, with final decisions being made once letters of recommendation, official GRE/MCAT scores, and transcripts are received. Official: MCAT Score Reporting Applicants can download the MCAT score report directly from the AAMC website. The report can then be uploaded as an additional document on the GMS application portal. Please ensure that the uploaded score report includes your full name, date of birth, and AAMC verification code and ID. What are the payment options for the application fee? The online application fee requires a payment of \$95 paid by credit card. The application fee is waived for Boston University Medical Campus Employees with proof of BU I.D. Do I need to submit official transcripts? Applicants are able to submit their application by uploading unofficial transcripts. Pending acceptance, applicants will then be required to submit official, final transcripts. Please send official transcripts to: Boston University Division of Graduate Medical Sciences L-317 Attn: James Mazarakis 72 E Concord Street Boston, MA 02118 Boston University (BU) is a top private research university in Boston, Massachusetts, offering 10 undergraduate schools and colleges, as well as scholarship programs. International students are required to submit the TOEFL iBT, Duolingo English Test, or an equivalent English-language proficiency. The university requires two types of recommendations from high school counselors and letters of recommendation from teachers or guidance counselors who know the applicant well. To get into Boston University, applicants must meet the university's admissions requirements, which include SAT and ACT scores, letters of recommendation, application essays, and interviews. Two letters of recommendation are required for the Graduate School, but most departments/programs require three letters. Letter of recommendation are not required for master's degree and graduate certificate programs, except for MS in Administrative Studies and MS in General Education. Application requirements include official transcripts from high school or GED, official transcript(s) from each college attended, and two letters of recommendation. The minimum required number of recommendations is three, but up to five can be entered. At least one letter should be from a teacher who has taught the applicant in academic subjects. Boston University requires two letters of recommendation from teachers who have taught the applicant in academic subjects. One letter should come from your college counselor and one from a teacher evaluation from a professional institution. A statement of purpose outlining academic interests and career goals is also required. In summary, Boston University's admissions process is rigorous, with a focus on meeting the university's expectations and ensuring a successful application. Admissions FAQ | Requirements... you need to take or anything else you need to do. You have to have a minimum of three letters of recommendation two of which ...Do you need a letter of recommendation for Boston University? The Graduate School requires two letters of recommendation, with the majority of departments requiring three. For a comprehensive overview of the specific requirements, please refer to the Application Requirements and Deadlines page. How many letters of rec does BU take? Three official letters of recommendation must be submitted via the online recommendation system. Additionally, official GRE General scores must be sent to Boston University by the Educational Testing Service (ETS) using the institution code 3087. Photocopies and facsimiles are not considered for official documents. Can you get into BU without a GPA? The average grade point average (GPA) for admitted students at Boston University is 3.7. On a 4.0 scale, reflecting the highly competitive admissions process. If one assumes a GPA that is consistent with the mean GPA of admitted students, the probability of being accepted by BU is between 56 and 80 percent. If you possess the same GPA, your probability of acceptance is between 41 and 80 percent. Read also: Do Instructors Remain On Campus During The Spring Break? (Image Source: Pixabay.com) What are the requirements for Boston University/Boston University (BU) is a top American university with a GPA of over 6 out of 10 (GPA-3. 6/4) and a SAT/ACT score of 60 for Verbal and 80 for Quantitative. With over 34, 000 students, 17 schools, and over 300 programs of study, BU has risen to 42 according to the ranking. The university offers courses in various fields, including research and faculty, extracurriculars, admission requirements, tuition fees, job openings, application deadline, key takeaways, and FAQs. The university's ranking has risen to 42, making it a hub for culture, art, and history. The university's admission requirements include a GPA of over 6 out of 10 for Verbal and 80 for Quantitative. The application deadline is also mentioned, along with key takeaways and FAQs. (Image Source: Pixabay.com) Does Boston College require letters of recommendation? The School Report and Counselor Recommendation Form are required for applicants to submit to Boston College. The school form, along with a letter of recommendation from the college counselor and an official transcript, is accepted. Two teacher evaluations are also required, with the recommendation of teachers in one of the five main academic subject areas (English, Social Studies, Science, Math, or Foreign Language). The Mid-Year Grade Report is required as soon as it is available by the counselor or designated school official. The application fee of \$80 or application fee waiver request must be submitted with the Common Application. Due to the high volume of applications, it is recommended to submit the fee online. If unable to submit the fee online, a check or money order can be sent. (Image Source: Pixabay.com) Can I get into MIT without a letter of recommendation? MIT requires two letters of recommendation from science or math teachers, and two letters of recommendation from humanities, languages, or social sciences. It is important to choose teachers who know you well as both a student and a person. The letters must be submitted online and include additional information from your guidance counselor. MIT may not require an interview for all applicants, but if chosen, you will be notified by email to schedule a time and day to meet with your interviewer. If you are not interviewed, it does not mean you will not be accepted to MIT. Interviews are not conducted on campus, but at a location in your area where you and the MIT representative agree to meet. It is crucial to choose teachers who know you well as both a student and a person. How can I increase my chances of getting into BU? The school is highly selective, requiring a high SAT/ACT score and GPA to gain a chance at admission. To achieve the 75th percentile, a 1480 SAT or 34 ACT score, and a 3. 88 GPA or higher, applicants should aim for the 75th percentile. If your GPA is lower, a higher SAT/ACT score is required. To impress the school with the rest of their application, applicants should also impress them with their SAT/ACT scores. Applying with a score below 1480 SAT or 34 ACT will have a small chance of getting in, as there are many students with high SAT/ACT scores and strong applications. Read also: Is Publishing Required To Apply For A PhD? (Image Source: Pixabay.com) Is a 3. 7 GPA good for Boston University/Boston University's average unweighted GPA is 3. 7, with the middle 50 range being between 3. 5 and 4. 0. A 3. 6 GPA falls within this range, indicating a chance of admission. However, BU's holistic admissions process considers factors like test scores, extracurriculars, leadership roles, essays, and letters of recommendation. If you feel confident about other aspects of your application, your 3. 6 GPA may not hinder you. If you have time before submitting your application, try to raise your GPA as much as possible to increase your chances. Focus on showcasing your passions through extracurricular activities and writing a strong personal statement that highlights your unique qualities. An "ideal" GPA may not be a determining factor in your application. Is Boston University difficult to get into? Boston University's acceptance rate of 18. 7% is challenging, but for many students, it's not out of reach. To get in, focus on GPA, course rigor, and the timeliness of test dates, to best represent an applicant. Recommendations are formal, confidential letters provided to a graduate school or other academic-based program, while references are used by employers to confirm an applicant's eligibility. Boston University requires two letters of recommendation from teachers or guidance counselors who know the applicant well. Many schools also require SAT and ACT scores, as well as letters of recommendation, application essays, and interviews. An applicant's high school class rank is considered important and letters of recommendation are considered important for admissions officials at Boston University. Two letters of recommendation are required for the Graduate School, but most departments/programs require three letters. If a recommender declines your request, you should request one academic letter of recommendation. In addition to these requirements, applicants must submit official transcripts from high school or GED, official transcript(s) from each college attended, and two letters of recommendation. The minimum required number of recommendations is three, though you can enter up to five recommenders. Undergraduate admissions at Boston University require two letters of recommendation from teachers or guidance. Letters of recommendation are not required for master's degree and graduate certificate programs, except for the MS in Administrative Studies and MS. Many schools also require SAT and ACT scores, as well as letters of recommendation, application essays, and interviews. BU will look closely at essays, extracurriculars, letters of recommendation, and other aspects of your child's application when making admissions decisions. Elements of a strong recommendation letter Get perspective on what should be included in a high quality letter of recommendation Then, go to ...What is the acceptance rate for undergraduates at Boston University? The school is highly selective, requiring students to meet GPA and SAT/ACT requirements to pass their first round of filters. Failure to meet these requirements results in a nearly zero chance of admission. To impress the school, students must also meet extracurriculars, essays, and letters of recommendation. Read also: How to Obtain an Economics Master's Degree? How many letters of recommendation do you need for Boston College? Two-Week Non-Credit applicants must submit two letters of recommendation and an official transcript for two weeks. Is BU harder than Harvard? Harvard University is considered more difficult to get into based on its acceptance rate, but it is not a good indicator of whether Boston College (BC) is a better school or more difficult to get into. Both schools aim to fill their incoming classes with a variety of students with different strengths and backgrounds. On the other hand, Boston University (BU) is easier to get into based on its acceptance rate. To determine your likelihood of acceptance at either school, use a college admissions predictor. Is BU or Northeastern better? Boston University (BU) and Northeastern University (NEU) are two top-tier US universities. BU, established in 1839, is a private research university with over 37, 000 students from 50 states and 140 countries. It offers over 300 programs across disciplines and is known for its eminent faculty, research prowess, and campus life. BU also offers internships, while NEU has a culture of co-op that operates on a higher level. NEU, founded in 1898, is known for its innovation in teaching and research, with 13 campuses across the US, Canada, and the UK. Both universities are located less than 5 miles away from each other. (Image Source: Pixabay.com) How many letters of recommendation do you need for Harvard undergraduate? Harvard requires two letters of recommendation from teachers and one from your school counselor. The counselor recommendation is likely the same since most students have the same counselor throughout their four years of high school. To get into Harvard or another Ivy League school, your letter of recommendation must be outstanding, even if your grades, test scores, and other achievements are stellar. The Dean of admissions and financial aid, William R. Fitzsimmons, emphasizes the importance of recommendation letters in the admissions decision. Admissions committees read these recommendations with great care, often commenting on them in writing on "read sheets" in each application. Therefore, it is crucial to have strong recommendations from teachers and counselors to ensure a strong application for Harvard. How many letters of recommendation do you need for Boston University? Three official letters of recommendation should be submitted through the online recommendation system, and official GRE General scores should be sent to BU by ETS using institution code 3087. Photocopies and facsimiles are not considered official. Is BU or BC harder to get into? Boston University (BU) is easier to get into based on acceptance rate alone, but it is not a good indicator of whether Boston College (BC) is a better school or more difficult to get into. Both schools aim to fill their incoming classes with a variety of students with different strengths and backgrounds, so acceptance rate alone is not a good indicator. To determine your likelihood of acceptance at either school, use a college admissions predictor. (Image Source: Pixabay.com) Should I submit 3 or 4 letters of recommendation? Graduate schools typically require two to three letters of recommendation from individuals who can vouch for your personality, career background, and academic prowess as part of the application process. Admissions FAQ | Requirements You have to have a minimum of three letters of recommendation two of which have to be from science professors now here also. (Image Source: Pixabay.com) You must complete and submit the Common Application to be considered for undergraduate admission to Boston University. The Board of Admissions conducts a rigorous and holistic review of each application. To ensure the most comprehensive review of your application for admission, applicants must also submit the following credentials in addition to the Common Application: First-year applicants must submit all of the following credentials to Boston University. After you have read the instructions below, if you have questions, please email us at admissions@bu.edu. To be submitted by your teachers and guidance counselors HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT Official copies of your secondary school transcripts for all grading periods completed at the time of application. If you are enrolled in an international curriculum with national exams, submit these results as well. GUIDANCE COUNSELOR RECOMMENDATION AND SCHOOL REPORT FORM You'll find the Guidance Counselor Recommendation Form and School Report Form on the Common Application website. TEACHER EVALUATION The Teacher Evaluation form is available on the Common Application website. COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY TRANSCRIPT(S) If you're applying to BU as a first-year undergraduate student and have completed college or university coursework, you must submit official transcripts from these courses. If you've enrolled at a college or university as a candidate in a degree program, you must apply to Boston University as a transfer student. If you're not sure of your status at the school you attend, please contact the registrar's office at that institution. SENIOR YEAR GRADES Early Decision applicants: All Early Decision applicants are expected to submit first marking period grades, which may be first quarter or first trimester grades, as soon as they are available. Please seek your guidance counselor to submit an updated transcript or progress report through one of the methods outlined below. Early Decision 2 and Regular Decision Applicants If you are on a semester schedule, please have your counselor send your first marking period or first quarter grades if available. Your counselor must also submit full first semester grades once they are available. They may use the Mid-Year Report Form through the Common Application. If you are on a trimester schedule, please have your counselor submit your first trimester grades once they are available. They can use the Mid-Year Report Form through the Common Application. If you have already graduated from high school/secondary school, please have your final grades and proof of graduation sent to BU. The documents listed above should be submitted by your teacher or guidance counselor as follows: Through a vendor such as Common Application, Docufile, SCOIR, or Naviance Via email to schforms@bu.edu By postal mail to: Boston University Admissions 881 Commonwealth Avenue, 6th Floor Boston, MA 02215 Standardized Tests Submission of an SAT or ACT test score is not required to complete your application. While the SAT or ACT is no longer an application requirement, standardized test scores may be submitted with your application if you feel they are reflective of your academic ability. Boston University accepts self-reported standardized test scores on your application. You may submit your official test scores via College Board or ACT, or through the self-report form on the MyBU Applicant Portal. Please note: If you submit self-reported standardized test scores, an official score report from the testing agency will be required before enrolling at Boston University. If there are discrepancies between these application types, like Regular Decision, Early Decision, Early Action, and rolling admissions. Of these options, Boston University offers only Early Decision, Early Decision II, and Regular Decision. Early Decision and Early Decision II are binding application options — if you are admitted ED or ED II, you must enroll. Early Action is also an early application, but it is non-binding, which means that you can enroll somewhere else. Regular Decision is generally the most competitive admissions round because most students apply RD and there are fewer spots left in the class after early round admissions. RD is non-binding. While Boston University does not offer rolling admissions, it's important to know what it is. Rolling admissions is when universities accept applications throughout a prolonged period, from September through May — typically until they fill all the spaces in the class. While this is a more flexible option, students are advised to apply as early as possible. Waitlisted Applications If you apply to Boston University Regular Decision, you will receive one of three possible decisions: accepted, denied, or waitlisted. The waitlist is made up of strong students that the university wanted to admit but did not have the space for. If you are waitlisted, you may want to consider enrolling at another school — waitlist admission rates are typically very low at top schools. Of the 15,033 students that Boston University placed on the waitlist in fall 2023, only 34 students were accepted. Deferrals If you apply to Boston University Early Decision or Early Decision II, you may receive a deferral admission decision. This means your application will be reevaluated within the Regular Decision applicant pool. So, what should you do if you've been deferred? Students who receive a deferral decision from Boston University are advised to submit their mid-year grades. How Hard Is It to Get into Boston University: Early Prep Boston University is one of the top universities in the Boston area and one of the country's top research universities. It is a popular choice on many students' school lists and receives a high volume of applications every year. To stand out from the pack, start preparing early. Students can improve their chances of admission by doing their research and tailoring their applications accordingly. Build Your Profile Boston University is excited about academically rigorous students who have interdisciplinary interests and passions. So, what does Boston University look for? Though Boston University employs the holistic admission review process, which considers several diverse aspects of a student's application, academic rigor and performance carries the most weight. Boston University will evaluate how a student's academic and extracurricular profile matches their interests and goals. Because BU has so many major options and allows students the flexibility to take on double majors and even dual degrees, Boston University values applicants with multiple and diverse interests. In addition to academic interests, Boston University looks for multitasked and involved students who have made significant contributions to their high schools. Applicants should highlight their involvement in their applications and thread connections to how their interests make them a good fit at BU. Boston University appreciates depth and consistency in extracurricular activities. Rather than list as many activities as possible, applicants should highlight the activities they are the most committed and passionate about. Visit the Campus and a Class Visiting campus is the best way to really find out if Boston University is the right fit for you. Located in the heart of Boston's Commonwealth Avenue, Boston University blends with the city itself. It's important to plan your visit well in advance so you can register for an official campus visit through the Boston University Office of Undergraduate Admissions. The visit includes an information session with an admissions officer and a current student along with a student-led campus tour. This allows visitors a chance to see a large section of campus and get a feel for student life. Tours of individual schools and colleges are also available. Can't make it to campus? BU also offers virtual tours. Connect with a Student There's no better way to learn about a college than speaking directly with a current student. Boston University Admissions has an excellent team of student workers tasked with supporting the admissions office and connecting with prospective and admitted students. You can connect with a student by reaching out to the admissions office via email or phone. If you have specific questions about a major or about the student experience, they will connect you with a student with similar interests. Learn About Any Student Experiences There's nothing like hearing directly from students about their experiences. You can ask questions directly and get honest responses based on firsthand experience. You can also connect with students during a campus visit. Besides the students you will meet during the information session and your campus tour, you can chat with students around campus. Students are proud to be Terriers, and they want to talk about it. How Do You Actually Get into Boston University: The Application Boston University uses the Common Application. The earlier you begin to prepare your application, the more strategic you can be about the process and position yourself as the strongest possible candidate. Remember that the admissions process is made up of both hard and soft factors, all of which come together in the holistic review process by which colleges make their admissions decisions. GPA Requirements Most colleges don't have official minimum GPA requirements, including Boston University. However, the most recent Common Data Set shows that the average high school GPA of students admitted for fall 2023 was 3.89 — in fact, 100% of enrolled students in the class of 2027 had between a 3.5 and 4.0 GPA. If you want to attend Boston University, your GPA should fall within this range. SAT and ACT Scores Boston University is test-optional for students applying for the 2025-26 academic year. However, submitting a strong test score can only benefit you. Of the students who submitted test scores for fall 2023 admission, the middle 50% scored 1410-1500 on the SAT and 32-24 on the ACT. It's worth noting that BU superscores both the SAT and ACT. Personal Statement The personal statement is one of the most important soft factors of the application process. Choose one of the seven Common App essay prompts and think of it as an opportunity to introduce yourself to the admissions committee and tell them something that isn't elsewhere in your application. Admissions officers appreciate authenticity, so focus on writing in your own voice. Essays Most universities require at least one essay supplement in addition to the Common Application personal statement. Boston University requires one additional supplement for all applicants, regardless of the school or college they choose. The prompt is: What about being a student at Boston University most excites you? This supplement is an opportunity for you to express your interest in Boston University (BU) and to share your perspective on the university's offerings. You can choose to write an essay or a video response. Letters of Recommendation Boston University requires two letters of recommendation, one from your college counselor and one teacher evaluation from a core academic subject. Applicants often submit two teacher evaluations, although only one is required. College counselors are also required to submit a school profile with academic and demographic information about your high school. Admission Interviews BU does not offer evaluative interviews. Instead, students are invited to submit a 60-90 second video supplement through Glimpse. This is entirely optional and will not impact your application if you do not submit one. However, this is another opportunity to share more about yourself with the admissions committee. Please note that if you are applying to the College of Fine Arts, there are additional portfolio, audition, and/or interview requirements. Contribution to the Boston University Community Boston University students make valuable contributions to the school community through their wide variety of interests and expertise. As an applicant, you should showcase your academic and extracurricular interests in your application. Ultimately, BU seeks to put together a well-rounded and diverse class of students. The admissions committee considers each applicant's soft factors in several ways, including how those factors will contribute to the campus community. This is part of why it's important to be specific in the Boston University supplement. Tell admissions officers what excites you about BU and how you plan to contribute to the campus community as a student. Class Profile BU prides itself on enrolling a diverse student body. You can learn more about student demographics by checking out the most recent class profile. Here are some basic statistics for the class of 2027: Don't forget to review the Boston University class profile for the class of 2026 as you are learning more about the school. Every school includes slightly different information in their class profile, but most highlight that year's acceptance rate, class size, and demographics. This information can help you get a sense of the college and assess your chances of admission. How your application stacks up against their most recent class profile can give you a good idea of where Boston University falls on your balanced school list. What Makes Boston University Unique? Boston University offers a variety of programs in a variety of fields. Set along either side of the multi-block Commonwealth Avenue in Boston's Allston and Fenway neighborhoods, it's one of the best fit for you. Does the Boston University track demonstrated interest? Yes, BU tracks demonstrated interest. How many students are at Boston University? Total enrollment at Boston University is approximately 37,500 students. Undergraduates make up nearly 18,000 of that number. Admission Consulting Because admission to Boston University is so competitive, students can maximize their chances by working with a college admissions counselor. An experienced counselor can assist students through every phase of college prep and their application, ensuring they build a competitive profile for college admissions and submit an application that showcases their best qualities. All IvyWise college admissions counselors have served on admissions committees at some of the top colleges and universities in the U.S., so they know what colleges are looking for and how to help you stand out. Take the first step toward becoming a BU Terrier by scheduling an Initial Consultation. Get Started What are your chances of acceptance?+ add school Unweighted GPA: 3.7 Low accuracy (4 of 18 factors)