

BRYN MAWR

COLLEGE

Information for International Students

Bryn Mawr has a historic legacy and enjoys a prestigious reputation as one of the “Seven Sister Schools.” These colleges were founded to provide women a rigorous education that was unavailable to them as most of the Ivy League institutions did not admit women until the late 1960s. The original “Seven Sisters” consisted of Barnard, Bryn Mawr, Mount Holyoke, Radcliffe, Smith, Vassar, and Wellesley Colleges. All of these institutions are well-known and highly ranked in the U.S.

Students and Faculty

Approximately 25% of the student body is comprised of students who are citizens of a country other than the U.S. or are Americans living overseas. The student to faculty ratio is 8 to 1.

Campus Environment

Bryn Mawr is located just outside the city of Philadelphia—the second largest city on the East Coast. The residential campus neighborhood is a safe setting where students are guaranteed campus housing for four years. In the surrounding communities, students can take advantage of curricular and social activities at Haverford College and Swarthmore College and also at the University of Pennsylvania.

Academic Highlights

Almost one-third of the student body majors in math or science. Bryn Mawr students majoring in these disciplines have the opportunity to earn a master’s degree through a “4+1” program with the University of Pennsylvania’s School of Engineering and Applied Science. The College recently added a new major in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and a minor in Child and Family Studies. The innovative 360° program offers themed clusters of classes with a travel or project component. Recent topics include “Eco-Literacy,” “Mediterranean Crossroads,” and “Contemplative Traditions.”

Careers and Graduate School

International students have attended graduate school at the London School of Economics, Columbia University School of Public Health, Duke University's Program in Environmental Policy, and the University of Pennsylvania School of Engineering. A sample of the careers of recent graduates includes an economics and international studies double major from Brazil who works at Odessa Technologies Inc., a computer science major from China who works at NetApp, an economics major from India who works at CreditSuisse, and a political science major from Ghana who founded the Golden Baobab Literary Prize.

brynmawr.edu/admissions



Frequently Asked Questions

I have an American passport, but live overseas. Am I an international student?

No. If a student has U.S. citizenship or is a U.S. permanent resident, she is not considered an international student. This is because she does not need to apply for a student visa to gain entry into the U.S. In addition, U.S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible for federal financial aid which is not available to international students.

What testing is required for international students?

International students must submit either SAT or ACT scores as part of their application. There are no minimum scores for admission. The middle 50% of our applicants have the following scores in each section of the SAT: Critical Reading: 600–710, Math: 610–760, Writing: 620–720.

Students whose first language is not English must also submit TOEFL or IELTS results. Competitive applicants should have a TOEFL score of at least 100 or an IELTS score of 7 or higher. The TOEFL/IELTS requirement can be waived for students whose only language of instruction for the past four years has been English.

Is financial aid available for international students?

Yes. Bryn Mawr College awards need-based financial aid to international students which includes grants, loans, and campus employment. The College will meet full demonstrated need for all admitted students. There is a great deal of competition for these funds.

Is Bryn Mawr need-blind?

No. Bryn Mawr College is “need-sensitive.” The College is committed to meeting 100% of an admitted student’s demonstrated need. However, for a segment of the applicant pool, a student’s financial need will be taken into consideration in determining her eligibility for admission.

Can I apply for financial aid after I am already enrolled?

No. An international student cannot apply for financial aid at any time after she has been admitted and enrolled at the College. She must declare her intent to apply for financial aid on The Common Application when she applies for admission. If an international student does not request financial aid when applying for admission, she is not eligible to request it at any time in the future while at Bryn Mawr.

