

AIA FACT SHEET

BATES COLLEGE

What are the graduation requirements?

Bates has an intentionally open curriculum that allows students to explore their interests and our wide course offerings. The below requirements ensure that students are engaging in the breadth of knowledge and skills a liberal arts education offers:

Major + 1: Students must complete one major AND another area of study, whether that be a GEC, minor, or another major. Bates offers 37 majors, 25 minors, and 75+ GECs. General education concentrations (GECs) consist of four courses that are structured around an organizing principle—we often describe GECs as “interdisciplinary mini-minors.”

5 Modes of Inquiry: Students must complete five courses with distinct approaches to scholarly inquiry. Each course offered at Bates satisfies one or more of these modes, and students may satisfy up to 2 modes through coursework in their major. Find more information on the modes of inquiry at www.bates.edu/orientation/general-education

3 Writing-Attentive Courses: Students must complete a First Year Seminar (W1), a course on writing in their field of study (W2), and either a senior thesis or capstone project in their senior year (W3).

Are there research opportunities?

At Bates, every student is a scholar, and we expect our students to develop the skills and background they need to undertake ambitious research projects. All faculty members are actively engaged in research or producing work at the forefront of their academic fields, and students can join them as early as their first year. A few research highlights:

- Bates offers grants for students conducting research during the academic year and summer.
- Hundreds of students present their work during the annual Mount David Summit.
- Students engage in 1-on-1 original research in their fields with a faculty member during their senior thesis.

Are there opportunities to study abroad?

As an institution that is committed to multifaceted and cross-cultural learning, Bates offers many opportunities for students to pursue off-campus study. A few highlights:

- Over 60% of students abroad at least once over their four years, and financial aid travels with them!
- Bates approves 200+ opportunities for study abroad. Last year, students traveled to 47 countries in 108 unique programs and universities.
- Bates offers at least one Fall Semester Abroad every year, during which students travel and learn with fellow Bates students and faculty members.
- Students have multiple opportunities to study abroad during the Short Term. Past courses have studied Shakespeare in London, film in Budapest, and evolution in the Galapagos Islands.

Can I get an internship?

The Bates Purposeful Work Initiative doesn't just help students find internships, it helps students find the internships that are right for them. Purposeful Work is about helping students discover the joy and power that arise from aligning who they are with what they do. Purposeful Work has curricular and co-curricular aspects, and takes a four-year, developmental approach to working with students. Some key opportunities and figures:

- Purposeful Work Infusion courses connect content to meaning, purpose, and potential work or careers. These courses often include guest speakers, readings on work opportunities, class discussion, and self-reflective writing assignments.
- During the Short Term, students may take Practitioner-Taught Courses that explore more practical and applied areas of study. Last year students could learn about business in the arts from a professional dancer and consultant, environmental advocacy from the former deputy director of the Main State Planning Office, and much more.
- The Job Shadow Program allows students to shadow alumni up to three times per year.
- The Purposeful Work Unplugged series brings notable alumni, faculty, staff, and other community members for dynamic Q&A conversations about their career trajectories.
- **Bates provides over \$1 million in funding every year for internships, research opportunities, and civic engagement.**
- **98% of Bates graduates are settled in a job, graduate school, fellowship, or internship within six months of graduation.**

What is there to do at Bates?

What isn't there to do at Bates?

- 100+ clubs and student organizations open to **everyone**.
- 100+ performance arts classes in rotation.
- 40 NESCAC varsity and club teams, 7 intra-mural teams.
- Hundreds of opportunities to explore the great outdoors of Maine through the Outing Club. Go to the beach, ski a mountain, or take a hike!
- Transportation to key community engagement spots throughout Lewiston-Auburn.
- Dozens of restaurants and a monthly art walk just ten minutes from campus.
- Concerts, dances, late night pancakes, laser tag in the library, and much, much more.

Tell me about admission.

Bates practices holistic admission, meaning the admission committee looks at applicants as a whole person and within the context of their unique circumstances. Information about application options, deadlines, and requirements can be found at bates.edu/admission/apply.

While we encourage our volunteers to familiarize themselves with our website, they don't need to be admission experts. Encourage students to reach out to their regional representative or the admission office!

What about financial aid?

Bates is proud to say that we are committed to meeting 100% of our students' demonstrated financial need. Last year the average financial aid award for students was \$43,555. The average student debt is \$12,500—less than half the national average.