Home to a vibrant community of students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

We hope you'll enjoy your time, exploring the campus, learning about our new initiatives (global, MITx, and otherwise), and touring facilities known as much for their architectural design as for their cutting-edge laboratories inside.

MIT stands among the world’s preeminent research universities. Our formal mission is to advance knowledge and educate students in science, technology, and other areas of scholarship that will best serve the nation and the world in the 21st century. We seek to develop in each member of the MIT community the ability and passion to work wisely, creatively, and effectively for the betterment of humankind.

MIT believes in the power of learning-by-doing, the value of working collaboratively, and the importance of continually reassessing the effectiveness of our own teaching strategies. Whenever possible, our courses include hands-on engagement with the subject, and students tackle new material in teams. The latest and most effective techniques and learning technologies are transforming the way many subjects are taught at the Institute.

MIT is coeducational and privately endowed. Its faculty of more than 1,000 is dedicated to helping more than 4,000 undergraduate and 6,000 graduate students pursue their degrees in one of five schools:

- Architecture and Planning
- Engineering
- Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences
- Management
- Science

An MIT education combines rigorous academic study and the excitement of discovery with the support and intellectual stimulation of a diverse campus community. Students come from all 50 states and more than 100 foreign countries; our diversity is reflected in our long roster of ethnically- and culturally-oriented clubs and organizations. Underrepresented minority students will find a lively community here, as well as a range of support services. Likewise, MIT’s unmistakably international atmosphere is welcoming to students from around the globe.

Overall, MIT is a community open to new approaches and ideas, deeply committed to collaboration and unimpressed with social credentials—a place where people take great pleasure in tackling hard problems together. The MIT community exudes a crackling energy—the passion, curiosity, playfulness, creativity, and drive of thousands of bright minds working together on the great problems of the world. As your visit concludes, you may find that you, too, have been infused with the energy and inquisitiveness present in our Institute.

We hope you enjoy your visit.

Sincerely,

The MIT Parents Association

MIT
The Institute is committed to generating, disseminating, and preserving knowledge, and to working with others to bring this knowledge to bear on the world’s great challenges. MIT is dedicated to providing its students with an education that combines rigorous academic study and the excitement of discovery with the support and intellectual stimulation of a diverse campus community. We seek to develop in each member of the MIT community the ability and passion to work wisely, creatively, and effectively for the betterment of humankind.

The Institute admitted its first students in 1865, four years after the approval of its founding charter. The opening marked the culmination of an extended effort by William Barton Rogers, a distinguished natural scientist, to establish a new kind of independent educational institution relevant to an increasingly industrialized America. Rogers stressed the pragmatic and practicable. He believed that professional competence is best fostered by coupling teaching with research and by focusing attention on real-world problems. Toward this end, he pioneered the development of the teaching laboratory.

Today MIT is a world-class educational institution. Teaching and research—with relevance to the practical world as a guiding principle—continue to be its primary purpose. MIT’s five schools and one college encompass numerous academic departments, divisions, and degree-granting programs, as well as interdisciplinary centers, laboratories, and programs whose work cuts across traditional departmental boundaries.

### Mission and Origins

**MISSION STATEMENT**

The mission of MIT is to advance knowledge and educate students in science, technology, and other areas of scholarship that will best serve the nation and the world in the 21st century.

### Mascot: The Beaver

In 1913, a group of MIT alumni came together to brainstorm ideas for a sentimental mascot for the Institute. On January 14, 1914, the group formally presented the beaver mascot to MIT’s President, Richard Maclaurin. This is what Lester Gardner 1897, chairman of the group, reported:

“We first thought of the kangaroo, which, like Tech, goes forward by leaps and bounds and like you, comes from Australia. Then we considered the elephant. He is wise, patient, strong, hard working and like all men who graduate from Tech [MIT], has a good tough hide. But neither of these were American animals. We turned to Mr. Hornaday’s book on the Animals of North America and instantly chose the beaver. As you will see the beaver not only typifies the Tech man but his habits are peculiarly our own. Mr. Hornaday states, “Of all the animals of the world, the beaver is noted for his engineering and mechanical skill and habits of industry. His habits are nocturnal; he does his best work in the dark.”

The beaver has since been named TIM. TIM frequently will appear at important MIT events, posing for pictures and generally providing joy and mirth to all those who see him.

Photograph by Christopher Harting

Photograph by Christopher Harting

Photograph by Christopher Harting
The Brass Rat

MIT's famous class ring is known as the Brass Rat. It was so named because it is made of gold and features a beaver on its bezel.

The students in each class year at MIT formally gather three times. They gather at the start of their undergraduate careers for the freshman picture, at the end for graduation, and halfway through for the unveiling of the class ring.

Every Brass Rat includes elements standard to every ring: a beaver on the bezel, the MIT seal on one shank, and the class year of graduation on the other shank. However, each class's Brass Rat is unique in its design. A student design committee incorporates secret icons and codes special to their class year.

Since 1929, the Brass Rat has been designed by a student committee. The design process begins in freshman year with the highly competitive process of choosing the ring committee, or “RingComm,” of 12 class members. To be appointed to the Ring Committee is a highly sought-after honor. The committee is chosen by the Class President and class government following a selective application and interview process.

In the spring term, the sophomores, brimming with curiosity, come together for a grand event: the Ring Premiere. The unveiling of the ring design is one of the most exciting moments of an MIT student’s college years.

Following the premiere, sophomores happily line up in MIT’s Lobby 10 to view and purchase their very own Brass Rat. In a typical year, 90 percent of all students will purchase the ring. The year ends with a delivery event, where every sophomore finally receives the Brass Rat.

The Brass Rat is also a part of MIT graduation tradition. At Commencement, MIT students wait not to move their tassels from one side to the other, but rather for the moment when they flip the ring around. While still an undergraduate, students wear the Brass Rat such that the MIT seal and motto and the Boston skyline is viewed, reminding you that you’re still a student. Upon graduation, the ring is flipped around so that the graduating year along with the MIT skyline is seen, showing that you have entered the real world and have the perspective to look back at your time at MIT.

MIT legend says that the ring is one of the most recognized rings in the world, facilitating alumni connections everywhere from job interviews to the supermarket.

Hacks

MIT has a long tradition of “hacks,” clever and elegant pranks showcasing the playful and inventive spirit of MIT. Hacks are performed by hackers, MIT students who safely and stealthily execute the pranks according to an informal code of ethics. These ethics, loosely stated, assert that hacks must do no damage to property or any person, must be safe, and must provide joy or amusement to those who experience the hack.

Some of the most famous hacks include:

Police Car on the Dome

On the final day of classes in May 1994, the city of Boston awoke to see an MIT Campus Police cruiser on top of the Great Dome. The car came complete with flashing lights and a cruiser number, π.

In actuality, the police car was the shell of a Chevrolet Cavalier attached to a multi-piece wooden frame, all carefully assembled on the roof over the course of one night. Perhaps as a nod to the very limited parking around campus, the car had been issued a parking violation reading “no permit for this location.”

The police car hack received television and newspaper coverage around the world, as far away as Korea and Israel.

The Great Droid

On the first day of final exam week in 1999 (two days before the much anticipated release of Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace), the Great Dome was transformed into R2-D2.

MIT legend says that the ring is one of the most recognized rings in the world, facilitating alumni connections everywhere from job interviews to the supermarket.
Using colored fabric panels decorated with paint and burlap, the hackers carefully recreated Artoo’s equipment. For the hologram projector, hackers used a tent protruding from the side of the dome, painted in metallic colors.

The hackers left detailed schematics and disassembly instructions for the Hack Removal Team assigned to inspect the hackers’ work on the dome. The instructions were addressed to the “Imperial Drones,” and signed “Rebel Scum.”

The Harvard-Yale Game

The annual football game between Yale and Harvard Universities has been a frequent target of MIT hackers. The most memorable of these hacks took place at the 1982 meeting of the two Ivy League universities.

During a timeout after a touchdown in the first quarter, an enormous weather balloon emerged from underneath the turf at the 46-yard line. The balloon had MIT printed on it in large letters, and eventually exploded in a burst of powder.

An ingenious deployment mechanism had been designed by the MIT hackers and buried beneath the field prior to the game. A remote trigger allowed the deployment of the hack to occur during a break in play.

While some Harvard-Yale hacks have been foiled before deployment, such as in 1948 and 1978, other attempts have met with great success, such as in 1990.

In the second half of the game that year, a rocket erupted from the sod at the goal line, shooting over the goal post an 8 1/2 by 3 1/2 foot banner with the letters “MIT” on both sides. The mechanism was activated by about 480 feet of wire that ran underneath the field and connected to two metal bleachers of the stadium. The rocket was set off just as Yale prepared to kick a field goal.

The next day the Boston Herald ran the headline “MIT 1-Harvard-Yale 0; Tech Pranksters Steal the Show.”

The Caltech Cannon

In the spring of 2006, a 130-year-old, 1.7-ton cannon was moved from the California Institute of Technology by the MIT hacker “moving company,” Howe and Ser Moving Co. The cannon reappeared on MIT’s campus on the morning of the first day of MIT’s annual Campus Preview Weekend (CPW), adorned with a 24-karat gold plated brass rat.

In the early morning of March 28, Howe and Ser arrived at Caltech to remove the cannon. They were confronted by Caltech security, but after presenting a fabricated work order, the movers were allowed to proceed. The cannon was then carefully shipped 3,000 miles across the country, appearing just in time for 900 prospective MIT students to see it at CPW.

At the end of the weekend, Caltech students arrived on campus to attempt to secretly reclaim the cannon. However, their attempt at a stealthy recovery failed. MIT students, who had detected the Caltech students’ mission, greeted them with a barbecue party in honor of their retaking of the cannon.

The hack attracted international press attention.

Navigating MIT

Numbers, Numbers, Numbers

Sometimes it seems like MIT people only speak in numbers. You’ll hear sentences like, “I have 6.001 in 10-250 at 2:30, then my Course 9 UROP in Building 46.” This is part of MIT-speak. Here’s a primer.

Each of MIT’s majors—known as Courses, with a capital C—is known by a number, sometimes given in Roman numerals. These numbers are in approximate order of the founding of MIT’s course in that area. For example, Courses 1 through 5 represent MIT’s original five majors:

- Course 1: Civil and Environmental Engineering (founded as Civil and Topographical Engineering);
- Course 2: Mechanical Engineering;
- Course 3: Materials Science and Engineering (founded as Geology and Mining; Geology is now a part of Course 12, Earth, Atmospheric and Planetary Sciences);
- Course 4: Architecture (founded as Building and Architecture); and
- Course 5: Chemistry (founded as Practical Chemistry).

MIT has a long tradition of “hacks,” clever and elegant pranks showcasing the playful and inventive spirit of MIT.
Each class—or course, with a lowercase c—in each department also is designated by a number. Hence, the introductory calculus class in Mathematics (Course 18) is known as 18.01. Similarly, an advanced astrophysics course in the Physics department (Course 8) is called 8.971.

In addition, every building on campus is designated by a number. MIT’s Great Dome sits atop Building 10. The I.M. Pei-designed Chemistry laboratory is Building 18. Certainly, the buildings also have names—Building 10 is the Maclaurin Building, and Building 18 is the Dreyfus Building—but usually the number is enough. Some buildings, including the dorms, are more frequently referred to by their proper names.

All of the campus rooms have numbers, as well, and these follow a straightforward naming scheme: 26-100 is in Building 26, on the first floor, room 100.

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**Wireless Coverage**

Many spots on the MIT Campus have been set up for wireless coverage. You should be able to connect to the MIT GUEST wireless network easily and quickly. Your device should be able to “see” the network as one of the open wireless options and connect instantly.

**MIT IS&T Help Desk:** (617) 253-1101

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**MIT’s Mobile App**

From an interactive live campus map to an up-to-the-minute shuttle schedule, MIT offers a helpful mobile app you can download on your phone or mobile device for free. Go to [m.mit.edu](http://m.mit.edu).

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**What to Do on Campus**

**The MIT Information Center**

Enter the doors at 77 Massachusetts Avenue, and immediately on your right (room 7-121) is your source for maps, directions, and answers to everything MIT. The Information Center also organizes the campus tours.

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**Campus Tours**

MIT’s campus vision is to create infrastructure that fosters the cross-fertilization of ideas, with architecture that reinforces the vital, forward-thinking spirit of the community it serves. Such modern masters as Alvar Aalto (Baker House), Eero Saarinen (MIT Chapel, Kresge Auditorium), I.M. Pei (Wiesner Building, Green Building, Dreyfus Building, Landau Building), Steven Holl (Simmons Hall), and Frank Gehry (The Ray & Maria Stata Center) have all designed buildings for MIT.

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**Organized Tours**

Campus tours depart from the lobby of Building 7, located at 77 Massachusetts Avenue. The student-led tours last 75-90 minutes and cover some of the most popular areas of the campus, including the Stratton Student Center, the Zesiger Athletic Center, Kresge Auditorium, the MIT Chapel, the Infinite Corridor, and the Stata Center. There is no charge and no reservation needed for parties of seven or fewer.

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Holidays and Institute events affect the tour schedule periodically throughout the year. Please check the MIT Events Calendar ([events.mit.edu](http://events.mit.edu)) for summer tour departure locations and holidays when tours may not be offered. Contact the Information Center for questions about campus tours Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–5 p.m. by calling (617) 253-4795.
Self-guided Tours

Tour the campus on your own using the self-guided walking tour on the MIT Mobile App, or stop by the Information Center, room 7-121, for a campus map.

Campus Art

Public Art Collection

We invite you to take a walk around MIT’s public art collection, which includes works from Alexander Calder, Pablo Picasso, Henry Moore, Louise Nevelson, Jacques Lipchitz, Matthew Ritchie, and Frank Stella. View the public art collection map at listart.mit.edu/public-art-map, or make arrangements for a group tour by calling Mark Linga at (617) 452-3586.

List Visual Arts Center

The List Visual Arts Center is at 20 Ames Street (Building E15), atrium level. It houses a collection of contemporary art in all media, in addition to managing the Artists-in-Residence and Percent-for-Art programs. Hours and directions are available on the List website: listart.mit.edu. Admission to all exhibitions is free and open to the general public during regular gallery hours. These tours are led by curatorial and education staff. To make arrangements for a tour, contact Mark Linga at (617) 452-3586.

The galleries and Bartos Theatre (20 Ames Street, lower level) are wheelchair accessible. Other assistive accommodations (listening devices, ASL interpretation) may be arranged two weeks in advance by calling (617) 253-4400. The Massachusetts Relay Service number (for calls originating within Massachusetts) is (800) 439-2370 (TTY).

MIT Museum

The MIT Museum is located at 265 Massachusetts Avenue, Building N52. In addition to the world’s largest collection of holography, the museum features Kismet and other MIT robots, the interactive sculpture of Arthur Ganson, and “Doc” Edgerton’s famous stop-motion photography, as well as programs and activities for all ages. Hours and visitors’ tips are available at the museum’s website, web.mit.edu/museum, as are the hours of the Compton Gallery in Bldg. 10 and the Hart Nautical Gallery in Bldg. 5. All facilities at the Museum and its galleries are wheelchair accessible, and sign language interpretation and disability assistance are available through Visitors’ Services by calling (617) 253-5927.

MIT Events Calendar

On the MIT Events Calendar (events.mit.edu), you can find lectures, performances, and other events throughout the year. Departments are not required to submit information to the calendar; if you are looking for the location of an event that is not listed, please call the department directly.

Photograph by Christopher Harting
Academics

Majors & Minors

MIT is organized into academic departments, or Courses, which are often referred to by their Course numbers or acronyms. These academic departments offer various undergraduate degrees and minors.

When students apply to MIT, they apply to the entire university, not to a specific major or school. All first year students begin MIT with undeclared majors. During freshman year, MIT provides academic fairs, lectures, seminars, and other programs to help students determine which major will best suit them. At the conclusion of the first year, students are free to choose from any of MIT’s majors, without any additional requirements or admissions procedures.

Students must declare their majors prior to their junior year, though most students do so by the end of freshman year. Data on how many students choose each major is available from the Registrar’s Office. Approximately 15 percent of our students choose to double-major; they may also choose up to two minors.

SCHOOLS, DEPARTMENTS, DIVISIONS, SECTIONS, AND PROGRAMS

School of Architecture and Planning
  Architecture (Course 4)
  Media Arts and Sciences (MAS)
  Urban Studies and Planning (Course 11)

School of Engineering
  Aeronautics and Astronautics (Course 16)
  Biological Engineering (Course 20)
  Chemical Engineering (Course 10)
  Civil and Environmental Engineering (Course 1)
  Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (Course 6)
  Engineering Systems Division (ESD)
  Materials Science and Engineering (Course 3)
  Mechanical Engineering (Course 2)
  Nuclear Science and Engineering (Course 22)

School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences
  Anthropology (Course 21A)
  Comparative Media Studies/Writing (CMS/Course 21W)
  Economics (Course 14)
  Foreign Languages and Literatures (Course 21F)
  History (Course 21H)
  Humanities (Course 21)
  Linguistics and Philosophy (Course 24)
  Literature (Course 21L)
  Music and Theater Arts (Course 21M)
  Political Science (Course 17)
  Science, Technology, and Society (STS)

Sloan School of Management
  Management (Course 15)

School of Science
  Biology (Course 7)
  Brain and Cognitive Sciences (Course 9)
  Chemistry (Course 5)
  Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences (Course 12)
  Mathematics (Course 18)
  Physics (Course 8)

Whitaker College of Health Sciences and Technology
  Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology (HST)

MIT-WHOI Joint Program in Oceanography and Applied Ocean Science and Engineering

Degrees Offered at MIT
  Bachelor of Science (SB)
  Master of Architecture (MArch)
  Master of Business Administration (MBA)
  Master in City Planning (MCP)
  Master of Engineering (MEng)
  Master of Finance (MFin)
  Master of Science (SM)
  Engineer (each degree designates the field in which it is awarded)
  Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
  Doctor of Science (ScD)
Resources for Academic Success
If students are having trouble in class, they can check out MIT’s Center for Academic Excellence website: mit.edu/uaap/learning. This helps students with general academic and time management questions. Each department offers tutoring that is unique to the department. If the students are struggling academically they should talk with their advisor first. The OME offers the TSR Tutorial Services Room as well: ome.mit.edu/programs-services/ome-tutorial-services-room. All students find out their advisor’s name in July each year.

For more information or questions, contact The Office of Undergraduate Advising and Academic Programing call (617) 253-6771, or email uaap-www@mit.edu.

2014–2015 Enrollment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAJOR</th>
<th>2ND MAJOR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Architecture and Planning</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>2,447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>784</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*MIT students do not enroll in an academic department until the start of their sophomore year, and may defer decision on a course of study until the end of that year.
Women have attended MIT since 1871. In fall 2014, 2,055 women were enrolled as undergraduates (46 percent) and 2,171 as graduate students (32 percent).

US minority groups were represented by 2,317 undergraduates (51 percent) and 1,379 graduate students (20 percent).

In 2014–2015, MIT students came from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, three territories, and 116 foreign countries.

There are 3,220 international students enrolled in degree programs at MIT—436 undergraduates and 2,784 graduate students—for the current academic year. Additionally, there are 405 exchange, visiting, and special students on campus.

During academic year 2013–2014, MIT hosted 2,305 international scholars from 90 countries, who engaged in teaching and research in 70 different departments, laboratories, and centers.

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND SCHOLARS BY REGION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>STUDENTS*</th>
<th>SCHOLARS*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oceania</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Percentages are rounded.

Creative Commons: burnto  |  http://bit.ly/2oQJN
MIT employs about 11,000 individuals on campus. In addition to faculty, there are research, library, and administrative staff, as well as many others who—directly or indirectly—support the teaching and research goals of the Institute.

MIT students are given the ability to work closely with MIT’s outstanding faculty at every turn. Students do research in the labs of their faculty mentors. All upperclassmen choose a faculty advisor who assists them with course selection each semester as well as with graduate school applications, job searches, and even non-academic topics. On the home front, each dormitory has a live-in Housemaster, usually a senior tenured faculty member, who is available as a source of advice and free food for his or her residential community. Students also sit on Institute committees and decide MIT educational and social policies with faculty members.

With rare exceptions, every class at MIT is taught by a professor—and in most departments the majority of professors teach undergraduates every year. Professors schedule office hours when they will be regularly available to discuss class matters with students. Professors are happy to meet with students outside scheduled office hours, and a quick email is usually all that is required to schedule a meeting.

MIT is a small world; the potential for connections between a student and faculty members is limited only by his or her willingness to approach them. The faculty at MIT consists of many of the most respected researchers in the world. Luckily for MIT undergraduates, they are also committed to educating and mentoring the next generation of superstars.

The student-faculty ratio is 8:1. As of October 2013, the Institute’s total teaching staff includes:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty and Staff</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professors</td>
<td>662</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate professors</td>
<td>190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assistant professors</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior lecturers, lecturers, and professors emeriti</td>
<td>617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instructors (including technical instructors)</td>
<td>155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professors of the practice and adjunct faculty</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There are 1,021 faculty members (professors of all ranks), including 224 women.

Minority group representation among faculty includes American Indian or Alaskan Native, Black, Hispanic, and Asian.

Photograph by Christopher Brown
During 2013–2014, 247 employers recruited in MIT Global Education and Career Development (GECD). Computer technology companies, consulting, financial services, engineering, and energy were the top five industries participating in on-campus recruiting and accounted for 63 percent of total recruiters.

Twenty-one percent of 2014 bachelor’s degree graduates found jobs through various networking venues, including MIT faculty and administrators, GECD contacts, and professional conferences; Fifteen percent had internships that led to a full-time job offer; Sixteen percent found jobs through a career fair; Seventy-nine percent of all graduating seniors completed internships while at MIT.

Fifty-seven percent of MIT undergraduates took jobs after graduation; 32 percent went on to graduate school. The top graduate school destinations were MIT, Harvard, Stanford, University of California at Berkeley, New York University, Northwestern, Boston University, Cornell, Princeton, Carnegie Mellon, and University of Chicago.


Average Salaries Earned by MIT Graduates Entering Industry Positions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree/Position</th>
<th>Average Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor’s degree</td>
<td>$74,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of science</td>
<td>$84,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of engineering</td>
<td>$90,505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of business administration</td>
<td>$128,807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD entering postdoctoral positions</td>
<td>$65,343</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PhD entering other positions</td>
<td>$110,296</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Find more information from MIT Global Education and Career Development online: gecd.mit.edu.
Learning Communities

At MIT there are four Learning Communities that offer alternative pathways through the freshman year (Concourse, Experimental Study Group (ESG), Media Arts and Sciences (MAS), and Terrascope).

Each Learning Community offers unique programs that allow freshmen the opportunity to study and socialize as part of a smaller community while still taking advantage of the intellectual and cultural diversity of the Institute as a whole. To find out more visit wiki.mitadmissions.org/Freshman_Learning_Communities.

Concourse
Concourse is a challenging academic community with an intellectually rich curriculum in which the General Institute Requirements (GIRs) including physics, math, and humanities are taught in a small learning environment with an emphasis on integration of the curriculum across disciplines. Concourse accepts 60 freshmen each year, which allows for a high level of personal contact and faculty support. Concourse students have use of our private commons room where ideas and people come together for study, informal discussions, class tutorials, and weekly Friday lunches.

Experimental Study Group
ESG offers instruction to first-year students in the GIRs (biology, chemistry, math, physics, and writing) through small, interactive classes and seminars. Instruction takes place in a community setting that includes a kitchen, lounge and classrooms. Ten MIT staff and faculty members serve as the program’s instructors, assisted by 25 student teaching assistants. Academics are supplemented by a variety of community activities, including weekly luncheons, evening study sessions, and weekend trips.

Media Arts and Sciences
The MAS program emphasizes research and the intersection of technology with communication and expression. Freshmen attend lectures in the GIRs and also attend MAS-led recitation or tutorial sections in chemistry and physics. Students are encouraged to participate in the MAS Freshman Advising Seminars and must take two MAS subjects. During spring semester students participate in an Undergraduate Research Opportunities Project (UROP) at the Media Lab.

Terrascope
Terrascope students take charge of their learning as they work together to develop answers to compelling—and challenging—problems with global implications. Past topics have included water scarcity, health of our oceans, disappearing species, world hunger, and what to do about rising levels of atmospheric carbon. Those who enroll take all their GIRs but add an additional Terrascope subject in fall and can opt for one or two subjects in spring. An optional field trip to a location of relevance to the year’s study is offered annually during spring break.

Each Learning Community offers unique programs that allow freshmen the opportunity to study and socialize as part of a smaller community.
MIT’s Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation, also known as DAPER, offers opportunities for sports instruction and participation at all levels.

Athletics
At MIT, exceptional students apply to athletics the same passion, drive, and work ethic as they do in academics to reach their complete potential. Intensity and commitment to excellence fill the rosters of MIT’s 33 intercollegiate sports, the largest NCAA Division III program in the nation. MIT finished a program record eighth in the Division III Learfield Sports Directors’ Cup standings for 2014–15, which rank the nation’s best overall athletics programs. MIT student-athletes have earned at least 20 All-America honors every season since 2001 and set a school record with 95 All-America accolades in 2013–14. MIT also features one of the nation’s most expansive club sports programs with over 900 participants and more than 30 teams.

Physical Education
Physical Education provides students with the instruction and skills necessary to lead healthy, active lifestyles and is a critical component of the educational mission at MIT. Courses are designed for undergraduate students, regardless of skill and experience, and range from traditional programs such as introduction to tennis and beginning golf, to outdoor experiences like backpacking, snowboarding, and other innovative academic and sport partnerships.

Recreation
MIT Recreational Sports offers a variety of programs to balance the intense academic curriculum by providing fitness, wellness, and stress relief opportunities. The Zesiger and Alumni Pool/Wang Fitness Centers offer three fitness floors, a 50-meter lap pool, two instructional pools, two group exercise studios, and a cycling studio. The main complex also contains an ice arena, an indoor track, six sports courts, squash courts, a massage suite, saunas, and an indoor golf range.

Housing
Eligibility
MIT students are eligible for eight consecutive semesters of on-campus housing. Students have the option to remain on campus for all eight semesters, living in their initial building or choosing another. If they wish, students can experience a new living group each year. At the end of each year, students will be given information about confirming or canceling their on-campus housing.

Students who move off campus, or to an FSILG (fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups), can request to move back on campus, but their return to campus can only be satisfied through a waitlist. Students who travel abroad as part of an approved program away, and were in enrolled in on-campus housing when they left, are guaranteed housing upon their return.
Switching
There are two ways students may switch residence halls once the academic year has begun: (1) openings in the undergraduate housing waitlist, or (2) a switch lottery. In the first option, students fill out a Building-to-Building Switch Form and indicate their preferred building(s). During the term, moves are offered as space becomes available. The second option is the Spring and Fall Housing Switch Lotteries. These are binding lotteries held for on-campus students only that allow them to obtain a housing switch for the upcoming academic semester.

Room-to-room switches within buildings are handled within the residence halls. Students should consult House Managers, Housemasters, and Room Assignment Chairs to proceed with a room switch in the same building.

Housing During Institute Breaks
Students at MIT are permitted to stay on campus for both winter break (known as the Independent Activities Period or IAP) and summer break.

IAP housing is simply an extension of a student’s fall assignment. Students who will be graduating or leaving housing after the fall semester must vacate by December 20, unless they are taking a class during IAP. Students remaining in on-campus housing during the spring semester do not need to leave and are not billed for housing during IAP.

Students may sign up for summer housing at an additional cost. Summer housing begins on the Saturday after final exams.

For more information about undergraduate housing at MIT, please visit housing.mit.edu.

MIT has one of the most unique dining programs in the nation. Designed to meet the needs of a growing and diverse campus, this program offers members of the MIT community their choice of retail venues, convenience stores, food trucks, pubs, and house dining halls.

Retail Dining
MIT has over 20 local and independent retail dining offerings across campus, serving breakfast, lunch, dinner, and everything in between. Options include Mexican, Italian, American, Middle Eastern, Indian, and Asian cuisines.

MIT Dining partners with Aramark and Chartwells. These companies offer valuable diversity to campus dining at MIT, along with their culinary expertise and experience. MIT Dining is also committed to supporting local businesses, and has partnered with many local eateries to provide a variety of choices to meet the needs of MIT’s diverse community.

House Dining Meal Plan Program and House Dining Halls
In partnership with Bon Appétit, MIT Dining offers an all-you-care-to-eat House Dining Meal Plan program in its five house dining rooms, located in Baker House, Maseeh Hall, McCormick Hall, Next House, and Simmons Hall. These halls provide a comfortable dining atmosphere for students and the MIT community to enjoy meals that are made to order using only the highest quality and freshest ingredients available. All MIT community members are invited to dine in these halls, even without a meal plan, as each hall also accepts cash and TechCASH.

For more information about MIT Dining, visit dining.mit.edu.
What kind of medical care is available to students on campus? MIT’s health care facility, MIT Medical, is one of the most comprehensive campus health centers in the country. In addition to primary and urgent care, MIT Medical offers care in many specialty areas and has on-site pharmacy, laboratory, and radiology services.

MIT Medical’s walk-in Urgent Care Service is open 7 a.m.–11 p.m. seven days a week, and students can call (617) 253-4481 24 hours a day to reach a clinician who can help assess the situation and give suggestions about what to do next. In emergencies, MIT’s ambulance service can transport students to a local emergency room.

What kind of mental health services does MIT provide to students? MIT Medical’s Mental Health and Counseling Service provides evaluations, treatment (psychotherapy and psychopharmacology), referrals, urgent care, and consultations. We can help with everything from anxiety and depression to typical college-life adjustment issues like homesickness or stress. Students may be seen by appointment or during walk-in hours every afternoon. Clinicians are on call and available 24/7.

What health insurance plans are available to MIT students? MIT offers two student health plans: the basic MIT Student Medical Plan and the MIT Student Extended Insurance Plan. The basic plan covers most services provided at MIT Medical, including primary care, urgent care, mental health, and many medical specialties. The cost is included in tuition. The extended plan, available for an additional fee, provides coverage for inpatient hospitalization, inpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment, surgical procedures, emergency room services, prescription drugs, and more. To meet state requirements for comprehensive health coverage, all students are automatically enrolled in (and billed for) the extended plan unless they actively waive it (medweb.mit.edu/waive) and can prove they have other qualifying health insurance.

My student is covered by my health plan. Why should I get the MIT Student Extended Insurance Plan? Coverage by a parent’s plan does not always guarantee reliable care for students outside the plan’s local area. Often, out-of-state insurers will not approve coverage for students to receive recommended care from Cambridge-area providers. To avoid these gaps in care, about 70 percent of MIT students purchase the extended coverage, which is specifically designed to coordinate with the care provided on campus through the basic student plan.

I still have questions or concerns; who can I call? More information is available on the MIT Medical website at medweb.mit.edu. To discuss specific health concerns, contact Howard Heller, M.D., M.P.H., Chief of Medicine, at (617) 253-1615 or helh@med.mit.edu. Alan Siegel, Ed.D., chief of MIT’s Mental Health and Counseling, is happy to answer questions at (617) 253-4374 or sieg@med.mit.edu. For questions about insurance coverage, contact the MIT Health Plans Office at (617) 253-4371 or stuplan@med.mit.edu.
The MIT Police provide safety and emergency medical services to the MIT community 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Laptop and Bicycle Theft
As an urban campus, theft is the most frequent campus crime. Backpacks, laptops/tablets, and other small electronic items are the most frequently stolen items on the MIT campus. We encourage your student to not leave items unattended, regardless of how safe an area looks. We need students’ help to reduce crimes of opportunity.

Sadly, bicycle theft is another frequent campus crime. We encourage all cyclists to safeguard their bicycle by using a heavy-duty locking device and securing their bicycle through both wheels and around the frame to an immovable object.

MIT Police offers laptop and bicycle registration.

MIT Police and Campus Safety

Photograph by Christopher Brown

The MIT Police know that good policing is as much about education as it is enforcement. Therefore, we work closely with our community to increase awareness about the risk of campus crime and to generate a sense of responsibility within every individual to take reasonable steps to reduce that risk. In addition we provide information on how to prevent identity theft.

Please call the MIT Police at (617) 253-1212 with any questions. In case of an emergency on campus, students can utilize one of the many blue light emergency telephones located across the campus.

MIT Alert
MIT Alert, the Institute’s emergency notification program, provides information and advisories to the MIT community via a number of communication methods including email, text messaging, and voicemails. MIT parents can sign up for MIT Alert using the Extended Community option at emergency.mit.net/mitalert.

Campus Safety
We encourage our students to take advantage of the many crime prevention seminars offered by the MIT Police Crime Prevention Unit. Many seminars deal with the topic of being “Streetwise and Safe.” An investment of one hour will help reduce the chances of criminal victimization.

The Parents Association is a volunteer-driven organization that connects the parents of current students to campus news, events, and each other. Parents are encouraged to explore the many opportunities provided by the association that will allow them to deepen their connections to MIT.

All parents of current MIT undergraduates are a part of the association but should provide their contact information to fully benefit from their membership. To do this, use the form on the Parents Association website: parents.mit.edu.

Communications and Information
Parents receive many communications throughout the academic year, including Parents e-newsletters and invitations to events held on campus and in their regions. Parents who need information that only another MIT parent can provide are encouraged to contact a volunteer near them—called a Parent Connector—by using the Parent Directory on the Parents Association website.

Activities and Events
Events and activities for the MIT community are held regionally and on campus. Events include Summer Send-Off activities for incoming students, Parent Orientation, and Family Weekend. Parents are invited to return to campus each fall for MIT Family Weekend. It’s a great time to experience MIT when classes and activities are in full swing.
Parents are also invited to participate in local MIT alumni club programs. Learn about the alumni club closest to home and other MIT local connections by visiting PlanetMIT, a global community atlas: [alum.mit.edu/maps/planetmit.dyn](http://alum.mit.edu/maps/planetmit.dyn). This interactive map shows how students, parents, alumni, and volunteers are distributed around the world. Red pins indicate areas where there is an official MIT presence, such as an alumni club or Enterprise Forum chapter.

Volunteer Opportunities
Parents who wish to volunteer can become a Parent Connector. Parent Connectors across the globe act as ambassadors on behalf of MIT and the Parents Association, sharing their knowledge and enthusiasm with current and prospective parents. These individuals contribute significantly to the MIT community, welcoming freshmen parents, participating in campus events, and attending regional events hosted by MIT and MIT clubs. Parent Connectors help connect parents to the Institute and one another.

Parents Leadership Circle
The Parents Leadership Circle (PLC) plays a valuable role in MIT’s success by providing leadership-level annual support, and through gifts of time and talent. PLC members serve as a conduit between the Institute and the parent community to support institutional priorities and increase parent engagement and visibility. The PLC is comprised of parent leaders who are committed to the mission of MIT. They represent diverse geographic locations and student class years.

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**TOP FIVE REASONS TO JOIN THE MIT PARENTS ASSOCIATION**

1. **PARENT NEWS!** — By registering to join the online community, not only will you be included on important communications for the MIT Administration and Alumni Association, but also you will receive the monthly Parent e-Newsletters! This is a great opportunity to stay in-the-know while your student is at MIT.

2. **REGISTER FOR EVENTS** — In order to register for events with the MIT Parents Association, especially Family Weekend, you will need to log in!

3. **P2P DIRECTORY** — The Parent-to-Parent Directory is a special behind-log-in feature offered to parents that allows you to search for other parents in your area, and contact Parent Connectors with questions that require advice from someone with first-hand experience.

4. **RESOURCES PAGE** — The MIT Parents Association’s online community provides an entire page of resources you may need as a parent at MIT.

5. **VIRTUAL ORIENTATIONS** — Each August prior to Orientation, virtual orientations are hosted in the MIT Parents Association’s online community.

Did we mention it’s free? Visit [parents.mit.edu](http://parents.mit.edu) to get connected.
MIT runs on a “4-1-4” calendar: there are two four-month terms per academic year, separated by the month-long Independent Activities Period (IAP) in January.

The fall term runs from September through December, the spring term from February through May. During term-time, each month includes at least one three-day weekend—a chance to relax, travel, or catch up on work.

### ACADEMIC YEAR 2015–2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 7</td>
<td>Labor Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 8</td>
<td>Registration Day–Fall Term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 9</td>
<td>First day of classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12</td>
<td>Columbus Day–Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 23–24</td>
<td>Family Weekend</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 11</td>
<td>Veterans Day–Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 26, 27</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Vacation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 14–18</td>
<td>Final Exams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 19</td>
<td>Winter Vacation begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 4</td>
<td>IAP begins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 18</td>
<td>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day–Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 1</td>
<td>Registration Day–Spring Term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2</td>
<td>First day of classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 15</td>
<td>Presidents Day–Holiday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 16</td>
<td>Monday schedule of classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 21–25</td>
<td>Spring Vacation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 18–19</td>
<td>Patriots Day–Vacation</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 16–20</td>
<td>Final Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 3</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 6</td>
<td>Summer Session begins</td>
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### ACADEMIC YEAR 2016–2017

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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>September 5</td>
<td>Labor Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 6</td>
<td>Registration Day–Fall Term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 7</td>
<td>First day of classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 10, 11</td>
<td>Columbus Day–Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 11</td>
<td>Veterans Day–Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 24, 25</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Vacation</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 14</td>
<td>Last day of classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 16, 19–22</td>
<td>Final Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 9</td>
<td>IAP begins</td>
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<tr>
<td>January 16</td>
<td>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day–Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>February 3</td>
<td>IAP ends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 6</td>
<td>Registration Day–Spring Term</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 7</td>
<td>First day of classes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 20</td>
<td>Presidents Day–Holiday</td>
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<td>March 27–31</td>
<td>Spring Vacation</td>
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<td>April 17, 18</td>
<td>Patriots Day–Vacation</td>
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<td>May 18</td>
<td>Last day of classes</td>
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<tr>
<td>May 22–26</td>
<td>Final Exams</td>
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<tr>
<td>June 9</td>
<td>Commencement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 12–August 22</td>
<td>Summer Session (incl. Exam Period)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contact Information

Important Phone Numbers and Websites

Parents Association
(617) 253-8183
mykidis@mit.edu
parents.mit.edu

Accounts Payable
(617) 253-2750
vpf.mit.edu/ap

Admissions
(617) 253-3400
mitadmissions.org

Alumni Association
(617) 253-8200
alum.mit.edu

Campus Police
(617) 253-1212
mit-police@mit.edu
police.mit.edu

Card Services
(617) 253-3475
web.mit.edu/semo/card

Dining
(617) 253-2706
dining.mit.edu

Housing
(617) 253-2404
housing.mit.edu

MIT Medical
(617) 253-4481
medweb.mit.edu

MIT Mental Health & Counseling
(617) 253-2916
(Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–7 p.m.)
(617) 253-4481 (Nights/Weekends)
medweb.mit.edu/mentalhealth

MIT Together
together.mit.edu

Registrar’s Office
(617) 253-4784
web.mit.edu/registrar/records/index.html

Residential Life
(617) 253-4280
studentlife.mit.edu/reslifeanddining

Student Resources Website
resources.mit.edu

Student Support Services
(617) 253-4861
web.mit.edu/uaap/s3

TechCASH
(617) 253-0364
technical.mit.edu
MIT Area Resources
For more area resources visit www.universityparent.com/mit

Places to Stay

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotel/Tenant Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Website/Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>463 Beacon Street Guest House</td>
<td>463 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02115</td>
<td>(617) 536-1302, 463beacon.com</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hyatt Regency Cambridge</td>
<td>575 Memorial Dr., Cambridge, MA 02139</td>
<td>(617) 492-1234, <a href="http://www.cambridge.hyatt.com">www.cambridge.hyatt.com</a></td>
<td>Please see ad on p. 9.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Sonesta Hotel</td>
<td>40 Edwin Land Blvd., Cambridge, MA 02142</td>
<td>(617) 806-4200, sonesta.com/boston</td>
<td>Please see ad on p. 15.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Midtown Hotel</td>
<td>220 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115</td>
<td>(617) 262-1000, <a href="http://www.midxtownhotel.com">www.midxtownhotel.com</a></td>
<td>Please see ad on p. 31.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>XV Beacon Hotel</td>
<td>15 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02108</td>
<td>(617) 670-1500, <a href="http://www.xvbeacon.com">www.xvbeacon.com</a></td>
<td>Please see ad on p. 27.</td>
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Additional Services

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Service Provider</th>
<th>Address/Business Details</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Website/Email</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MIT Federal Credit Union</td>
<td>MIT Student Center, Bldg. W20, Cambridge, MA 02139</td>
<td>(617) 253-2845, <a href="http://www.mitfcu.org">www.mitfcu.org</a></td>
<td>Please see ad on inside back cover.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metropolitan Moving &amp; Storage</td>
<td>134 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, MA 02139</td>
<td>(617) 547-8180, <a href="http://www.metstorage.com">www.metstorage.com</a></td>
<td>Please see ad on p. 38 and 39.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UniversityParent’s Guide to</td>
<td>MIT Student Center, Bldg. W20, Cambridge, MA 02139</td>
<td>(617) 253-2845, <a href="http://www.mitfcu.org">www.mitfcu.org</a></td>
<td>Supporting your Student’s Freshman Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Park</td>
<td>23 Sidney St., Cambridge, MA 02139</td>
<td>(866) 799-3171, <a href="http://www.universityparkliving.com">www.universityparkliving.com</a></td>
<td>Please see ad on p. 43.</td>
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Where to Shop

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Store Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MIT Press Bookstore</td>
<td>292 Main St., Cambridge, MA 02142</td>
<td>(617) 253-5249, web.mit.edu/bookstore/www</td>
<td>Please see ad on p. 12.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UniversityParent College Laundry Bag</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/b00k0ustye">www.amazon.com/gp/product/b00k0ustye</a></td>
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What to See & Do

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</thead>
</table>

For advertising inquiries, please contact UniversityParent at (866) 721-1357 or email: ads@universityparent.com