Nowhere but here
This is a place unlike any other. A major research university on a historic campus in the City of New York. Where a renowned curriculum is fueled by an incredibly diverse community. It’s a place for the dreamers. For the changemakers. For the risk-takers. For those who seek to connect deeply and collaborate fully with others who are yearning to learn what’s next and what’s new.
Those who pioneer.
Those who break through.
Those who delight in discovery and the joy of asking, “Why?”
It’s where a groundbreaking Core Curriculum provides an unparalleled foundation for inquiry. Where a belief in Engineering for Humanity guides scientific advances that improve our collective vision. Where the Columbia College Journey connects individuals to society, scholarship to leadership and ideas to action. Forever questing. Forever questioning. Forever curious.
Just like you
This is a place for the curious, and one thing is for certain: wondering and wandering go hand in hand. From your Core seminar to the Senior Design Expo. From volunteering at a youth literacy program to conducting research at Columbia University Irving Medical Center to studying abroad in Berlin. From the George Washington Bridge to Washington Heights to Washington, DC. A Columbia education is a foundation for learning, achieving and becoming that can take you to amazing places. How far will you go? Whose lives will you touch? We can’t wait to find out.
“Engineering is foundational—but engineering thinking alone is not sufficient. Columbia helped me connect my analytic skills to a broader set of cultural, aesthetic and ethical understandings. Effectively tying those together is one of the characteristics that sets Columbia engineers apart.”

SHAWN EDWARDS (SEAS’90)
Chief Technology Officer, Bloomberg

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SHAWN EDWARDS (SEAS’90)
Chief Technology Officer, Bloomberg

“Where will Blue take you?”

ELIF M.
Constanța, Romania

“I had the unbelievable chance to meet and conduct research with Nobel Laureate Joseph Stiglitz. Through his research mentorship, he taught me how to be a scientist. Through his outspokenness on inequity, he taught me how to stand up for what’s right.”

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“I am working in London this summer as a securities analyst at Goldman Sachs. Columbia has taught me quantitative skills and equipped me with a global outlook and appreciation for traveling the world as a means to educate myself and enrich my soul.”

SOPHIE B.
Montreal, Canada

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“In the space of two weeks, I was able to hear Angela Davis speak about prison reform and Mayor Michael Nutter discuss his years of public service. I’ve been able to connect with so many incredible people because of Columbia.”

MARTIN H.
Hockessin, DE

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“In Professor Eugene Wu’s Computer Science Lab, I’m researching how to automatically visualize changing animated or interactive data. I’m running user studies, submitting papers to conferences and doing work that will contribute to the academic community.”

JAKE F.
New York, NY

“Exploring Columbia Blue
@columbiaadmissions
#ColumbiaBlue

In Professor Eugene Wu’s Computer Science Lab, I’m researching how to automatically visualize changing animated or interactive data. I’m running user studies, submitting papers to conferences and doing work that will contribute to the academic community.”

JAKE F.
New York, NY

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JAKE F.
New York, NY
Nowhere but here
In the City of New York,

do you classroom extend up and down Broadway and around the world.
“When you pull into the subway station at 116th and Broadway, the sign says Columbia, the walls are light blue, and you get off and think, ‘This stop is mine.’”

Liz V.
Scarsdale, NY
English and Art History

A HISTORIC RESIDENTIAL CAMPUS

Your corner of the world’s greatest city.

Between Broadway and Amsterdam, from 114th to 120th Streets, Columbia students find a place in which to find themselves. Nestled in the neighborhood of Morningside Heights, bordered by three parks, they discover an intimate campus that they can truly call home — both during their time here and long after they leave.

From brownstones and traditional residence halls to special living communities for students who share common interests, Columbia undergraduates make the most of the largest residential campus in Manhattan. Guaranteed housing for all four years provides ample time and opportunity to pursue passions, forge friendships and coalesce into a community that immediately feels like family — and to build a sense of belonging in the streets just beyond our gates.

40+
RESTAURANTS AND CAFÉS IN MORNINGSIDE HEIGHTS

Full of green spaces, coffee shops, eclectic restaurants and great hangouts, Morningside Heights is a character-rich and culturally diverse environment with a friendly face on every corner — where in no time at all, “I’m here” gives way to “I’m home.” It’s a place where Columbia students become part of something larger, and where the rest of the world is only a short subway ride away.
“Living as a student in New York has given me a greater sense of independence. I’ve grown not only as a student and a critical thinker, but as an adult, as well.”

NKIMA S.
Conyers, GA
Neuroscience and Behavior
A RENOWNED RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

A proud tradition of intellectual exploration.

Columbia has been a place of deep intellectual curiosity and wide-ranging academic inquiry since 1754. Across departments, schools, centers and institutes, Columbians at every level are driven by an abiding passion for discovery and work in the service of improving human understanding and the advancement of our global society.
“Columbia students are highly engaged in the world around them, and the intensity of their opinions makes for great discussion—even in a casual atmosphere like our floor lounge.”

MACKENZIE G.
Great Falls, MT
Sociology and Business Management

17
GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

When students apply to either Columbia College or The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science (Columbia Engineering), they join an intimate community of talented and motivated learners and become integral components of the University ecosystem that thrives around them. Working closely with outstanding faculty who are deeply invested in their learning, students of both schools gain an unparalleled education that serves as a foundation for greatness.

On College Walk, at the heart of campus, students stand in the center of 17 world-renowned graduate and professional schools, and often find themselves amid the same halls and classrooms that have been home to many of the giants of our time.

From the law school of Ruth Bader Ginsburg to the business school of Warren Buffett to the School of Journalism where the Pulitzer Prize was born, Columbia’s graduate institutions are home to a wide range of academic opportunities—many of which are designated specifically for Columbia undergraduates.

Whether through the Core Curriculum that has informed our community’s discourse for a century or in exciting endeavors like the Eric H. Holder Jr. Initiative for Civil and Political Rights, the Columbia Startup Lab or the Zuckerman Mind Brain Behavior Institute, Columbians are called to grapple with timeless questions. They form personal and meaningful relationships with ideas and ideals. Above all, they strive to know—not only for the sake of knowing, but also in an attempt to cast a light on our collective pathway forward.

“I couldn’t have received the Rhodes without the opportunities I had at Columbia to pursue a truly interdisciplinary education.”

ANISH G.
Rhodes Scholar
Mumbai, India
Comparative Literature and Society
NEW YORK CULTURE AND OPPORTUNITIES

An entire universe inside 315 city blocks.

New York is a city that defies description. A place where languages, cultures and ideas combine to create something wholly unique. It’s Wall Street and Silicon Alley. It’s The Met and MoMA. The Brooklyn Bridge and Washington Square Park. SoHo, the Village, TriBeCa, Midtown, Harlem, Chinatown and Little Italy. It’s the 1, the 7, the A and the Q. By ferry. By taxi. By bike share. By cross-town bus. It’s high finance and high fashion. World-class hospitals, world-shaping technology and world-changing ideas. It’s literary, culinary, contemporary and classic. It’s big, bold Broadway stages and a cup of coffee sipped while tucked away in some quiet corner with a book and a friend.

As a Columbia student, you can make the most of New York City’s incredible resources. A city that was itself a technological marvel is now a technology megahub that’s redefining industries and reimagining the future—a living lab where your classroom learning becomes real-world reality. Where you can find your focus, or focus on giving back through a wide range of civic engagement and service-learning opportunities, in Morningside Heights and throughout the five boroughs.

“Canvassing for a campaign in the Bronx, I learned about cultural competency and understanding the ways different cultures express themselves. This is a very important skill—we need to recognize that our diversity is our strength.”

MARK T.
Edinburg, TX
Operations Research

800 LANGUAGES SPOKEN

Most of all, it’s a city of discovery, where virtually every subway stop is alive with more museums, theaters, galleries, restaurants, cafés, clubs and performance venues than you could ask for—and offers you the chance to glimpse into a new world and gain a new perspective on yourself.
"Being surrounded by people both so similar to and so different from myself has only enriched my understanding of myself and the role that I hope to play in the world."

BUNMI F.
Powder Springs, GA
Biomedical Engineering and Hispanic Studies

1,200+
MILES OF BIKE LANES ACROSS NEW YORK CITY

10,000
STREET FOOD VENDORS AND MORE THAN 25,000 RESTAURANTS TO SUIT EVERY APPETITE
In an increasingly interconnected world, cross-cultural understanding and global engagement are more critical than ever. With nearly a dozen global centers, Columbia’s reach is extended to every corner of the world, bringing our undergraduates countless opportunities to experience an exhilarating array of locations and unfamiliar ways of life.

From the Columbia Experience Overseas (CEO) internship program that spans industries and world locales to one of the most active Engineers Without Borders chapters in the nation — and more than 130 study abroad programs spanning six continents and 40 countries — Columbia undergraduates travel pathways that lead from our campus to everywhere else. Along the way, they’ll join field-leading, trail-blazing faculty and the broader Columbia community in research and classwork that advances the principles of mutual respect, greater understanding and common humanity.
A truly global campus.

With one of the largest international populations of any university in the world, Columbia is truly a global campus — and a reflection of the city it calls home. Columbia students explore diverse international works through a series of Global Core courses, and develop important cultural, historical and geographical perspectives by engaging in on-campus programs and events.

Each fall, when prestigious leaders from around the world travel to New York City for United Nations Week, the renowned World Leaders Forum brings them to Columbia for lively debates, intellectual discourse and exploration of important global challenges. Past speakers include Madeleine Albright, Kofi Annan and Shinzō Abe.

The Obama Foundation Scholars Program, with support from Columbia World Projects, brings together young and promising leaders who have demonstrated a commitment to finding solutions to challenges in their communities, regions and countries.

Living and learning in one of the world’s premier international cities, and taking advantage of the many opportunities provided through the Center for Undergraduate Global Engagement, Columbia College and Columbia Engineering students become part of a rich tapestry of profoundly global experiences.
SOME OF OUR DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

From the Broadway stage to the political stage; biotech startups to the Baseball Hall of Fame; Nobel Prize ceremonies, big city newsrooms and the halls of academia—a Columbia education empowers graduates to pursue great things and have a world-changing impact. Where will Columbia Blue take you?

Ruth Bader Ginsburg
United States Supreme Court Justice
LAW’59
Law

Ursula Burns
Former Xerox CEO and CEO of VEON
SEAS’82
Mechanical Engineering

Michael J. Massimino
Professor of engineering and former NASA astronaut
SEAS’84
Industrial Engineering

Kate McKinnon
Actor and comedian known for her work on Saturday Night Live
CC’06
Theater

Kai-Fu Lee
Founder and CEO of Innovation Works and founding president of Google China
CC’83
Computer Science

Judy Joo
Celebrity chef
SEAS’97
Industrial Engineering and Operations Research

Barack Obama
44th President of the United States
CC’03
Political Science and International Relations

Antonia Pantoja
Founder of ASPIRA and Presidential Freedom Medal recipient
SW’54
Social Work

Richard Axel
Nobel Prize–winning molecular biologist
CC’67
Literature

Jenji Kohan
Award-winning television writer and producer
CC’91
English Language and Literature
In the City of New York

ARTS AND LETTERS
Isaac Asimov, author
Emmauel A., Grammy Award-winning classical pianist
Chris Baio, Rostam Batmanglij, Ezra Koenig, Chris Tomson, founding members of indie rock band Vampire Weekend
Béla Bartók, Grammy Award-winning composer
Kathryn Bigelow, film director; first woman to win Best Director Academy Award
Santiago Calatrava, architect
Wendy Carlos, Grammy Award-winning classical composer
Brian Dennehy, Tony Award- and Emmy Award-winning actor
Peter Farrelly, filmmaker
Erik Feig, producer
James Franco, Golden Globe Award-winning actor
Dede Gardner, Oscar- and Emmy Award-winning film producer
Allen Ginsberg, poet
Maggie Gyllenhaal, Golden Globe Award-winning actor
Katori Hall, playwright
Oscar Hammerstein II, lyricist
Lorenz Hart, lyricist
Utada Hikaru, musician
Langston Hughes, poet
Zora Neale Hurston, author
Jim Jarmusch, filmmaker
Jack Kerouac, Beat poet
Tony Kushner, Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright
Ursula K. Le Guin, author
Federico García Lorca, poet
Terrence McNally, Tony Award-winning playwright
Nico Muhly, composer
Sharon Olds, poet
Richard Rodgers, EGOT and Pulitzer Prize-winning composer
Ricardo Scofidio, architect
Upton Sinclair, writer
Jenny Slate, actor
Robert A. M. Stern, architect
Twylla Tharp, choreographer
Christine Wang, architect
ACADEMICS AND THEORISTS
William Theodore de Bary, East Asian literary scholar
Jacques Barzun, historian
Joseph Campbell, scholar of mythology
John Dewey, philosopher; educator
Milion Friedman, economist
Ellen V. Futter, president of the American Museum of Natural History
Jane Jacobs, urban theorist
Edward Kasner, mathematician who coined the term “googol”
Donald Keene, renowned Japanese scholar
Jelena Kovačević, dean of NYU Tandon School of Engineering
Anthony W. Marx, president and CEO of the New York Public Library; former president of Amherst College
Robert C. Merton, Nobel Laureate for Economics
Alvin Roth, 2012 Nobel Laureate for Economics
William Schuman, former president of the Juilliard School of Music; first president of Lincoln Center
Howard Zinn, historian
BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURISM
Armen Avanesians, CEO of Goldman Sachs Asset Management’s Quantitative Investment Strategies team
Warren Buffett, CEO of Berkshire Hathaway
William Campbell, former CEO of Intuit
Philippe Dauman, founder and CEO of Viacom
James P. Gorman, chairman and CEO of Morgan Stanley
Ben Horowitz, co-founder and general partner of Andreessen Horowitz LLC
John Kluge, entrepreneur
Randy Lerner, former Cleveland Browns owner; CEO of MBNA Bank
Jon Oringer, founder and CEO of Shutterstock
Eric Poirier, CEO of Adapex
Louis Rossetto, founder of Wired Magazine
Robert J. Stevens, former chairman, president and CEO of Lockheed Martin
S. Robson Walton, former chairman of Wal-Mart board of directors
MARCIOA AND PUBLISHING
Daniel Alarcón, writer of Roone Arledge Jr., sports broadcasting pioneer; former president and chairman of ABC News
Jennifer Ashton, physician, chief health and medical editor and chief medical correspondent for ABC News and Good Morning America
Robert Bakish, president and CEO of ViacomCBS
Dean Baquet, executive editor of The New York Times Company
Marc Brauchli, cofounder and managing partner of North Base Media and former executive editor of The Washington Post
Rocco Comisso, founder and CEO of Mediamath Communications Corporation
Jamal Dajani, Peabody Award-winning journalist and producer
Poppa Harlow, journalist and anchor with CNN
Sara Just, executive producer and senior vice president of PBS Newshour
Jodi Kantor, Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times journalist and author
Christopher Kimball, chef, editor, publisher and TV personality
Joseph Lelyveld, former executive editor of The New York Times
Anita Lo, celebrity chef and author
Andrés Martinez, former editorial page editor of The Los Angeles Times
Janice Min, former chief creative officer and co-president of entertainment group, Guggenheim Media
The Hollywood Reporter-Billboard Media Group
Joseph Pulitzer, publisher
Claire Shipman, journalist, The New York Times best-selling author and public speaker
George Stephanopoulos, chief anchor and chief political correspondent for ABC News
Elizabeth Trotta, former NY Bureau chief of The Washington Times; contributor for Fox News
POLITICS AND ADVOCACY
Bella Abzug, congresswoman and leader of the Women’s Movement
Shirley Chisholm, first African American woman elected to Congress
Eric Garcetti, mayor of Los Angeles
Neil Gorsuch, associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States
Alan Greenspan, former chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
Judd Gregg, former senator and governor of New Hampshire
Alexander Hamilton, Founding Father of the United States
Eric Holder Jr., former Attorney General of the United States
Stephen Jay Gould, paleontologist and evolutionary biologist
Herman Hollerith, pioneer; former director of the New York State Thruway Authority
Peter DiMaggio, lead engineer for construction on US Embassies in Moscow, Berlin and Baghdad
Anita Hill, former Justice Department investigator
Marcellus Wiley, retired NFL player

Eugene H. Trinh, biochemist and first Chinese-Vietnamese American astronaut in space
George Yancopoulos, founder, president and chief scientific officer, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

SPORTS
Lou Gehrig, National Baseball Hall of Famer
Vitas Gerulaitis, tennis champion
Sandy Koufax, National Baseball Hall of Famer
Katie Melli, Olympic bronze-medal swimmer
William Milligan Sloane, founder of US Olympic Committee
Nzinga Prescod, Olympic fencer
Erin Smart, Olympic fencer
Cristina Teuscher, Olympic gold-medal swimmer

100+
PULITZER PRIZE WINNERS
5
FOUNDING FATHERS OF THE UNITED STATES
34
PRESIDENTS AND PRIME MINISTERS
84
COLUMBIA NOBEL Laureates
Veronica M.

MAJOR
Computer Engineering

FAVORITE SPOT ON CAMPUS
JJ’s—one of our dining halls. It’s where I go after a long day to relax with my friends.

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT NYC
There’s always something new to discover. I never get tired of the city.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES
Proud Colors; Society for Hispanic Professional Engineers

MEMORABLE FACULTY MOMENT
My professor noticed I was frustrated in Calculus II. Rather than waiting for me to ask for help, he took the initiative to reach out first. I didn’t expect that from a busy faculty member—it made me feel incredibly supported.

REFLECTIONS
There are so many ways to learn in New York. At The Met, I’ve seen art related to the indigenous peoples of Colombia, which gives me a chance to connect with my culture and something I’ve learned in class.

HOMETOWN
Patterson, New Jersey
Cayo G.

**Major**
Biology

**Favorite Spot on Campus**
I’d say NoCo (Northwest Corner Building). I work in a lab on the 12th floor, and from there you can see all of downtown Manhattan — the World Trade Center, the Chrysler Building, everything. It’s pretty amazing.

**What I Love About NYC**
I think you get a feeling of solidarity in New York. I’m a medical interpreter at a free clinic hosted by the medical school in Harlem, on 125th Street. A lot of patients only speak Spanish, and I’m there with them to make sure that they get everything that they need.

**Clubs and Activities**
NSOP Orientation leader; Undergraduate Rooming Committee; biology research

**Favorite Columbia Tradition**
There’s always a good turnout for Homecoming games. One year, we won in overtime against Penn, and we rushed the field. Iconic moment.

**Reflections**
Columbia feels very much like a home base, a very close-knit community. A lot of people I met my first year are the same people in my group now, so that speaks to the group environment and how close you get.

**Hometown**
San Jose, California

Get more of the insider’s view
[YouTube](https://youtube.com/columbiaadmissions)
Nowhere but here
does a 100-year-old Core Curriculum inspire thousands of new points of view.
Columbia College
A renowned liberal arts college within a world-class research university in the great city of New York, Columbia College is home to a vibrant community of undergraduates, an endless array of engaging ideas and a sweeping sense of possibility. It’s a place of big-picture questions, high hopes and ideals, and chances to imagine—and be part of—something greater.
COLUMBIA COLLEGE

Where a lifelong journey of inquiry and impact begins.

From its unparalleled Core Curriculum, exceptional research facilities and extensive global programming to its small class sizes and intimate learning environments, the educational experience of Columbia College is marked by countless opportunities for personal and intellectual growth. Guided by renowned faculty who are dedicated to the craft of teaching and mentorship, students explore new horizons of knowledge, understanding and impact.

12+
CONSERVATORY-CALIBER ARTS MAJORS AND PROGRAMS

260+
YEARS OF TRADITION, EXPLORATION AND EXCELLENCE
Our students select from more than 100 majors and concentrations—including a range of interdisciplinary options and joint programs, as well as hundreds of academic and research opportunities through the University’s affiliated graduate schools, centers and institutes. They acquire a broad base of knowledge, achieve mastery of their chosen discipline and complete a thesis or significant research project.

Engaging closely with a community of peers and faculty mentors inside and outside the classroom, students make the most of integrated academic, pre-professional, career and residential advising. Through the Odyssey Mentoring Program, they connect with the greater Columbia community, establishing a sounding board of alumni counselors for advice and networking. Through the Core Curriculum, they encounter challenging ideas that encourage them to be not only critical thinkers who are ready to question and debate, but also active citizens who are engaged in their communities.

Through it all, Columbia College students discover what they’re capable of achieving. Mindful, inquisitive and driven to better themselves and the world around them, they embrace a mindset of reflection and continual growth. They pursue their passions with vigor, purpose and an eye toward a better future.

“I came to Columbia because I fell in love with the way that a traditional liberal arts education mixed with the contemporary and STEM fields.”

TRISTAN D.
Craig, AK
Architecture and French

49,000+
COLUMBIA COLLEGE ALUMNI NETWORK

Learn more about Columbia college.columbia.edu
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German Literature and Cultural History
Hellenic Studies
Hispanic Studies
History
History and Theory of Architecture
Human Rights
Information Science
Italian
Jazz Studies
Jewish Studies
Latin American and Caribbean Studies
Linguistics
Mathematics
Mathematics–Statistics
Medieval and Renaissance Studies
Middle East, South Asian and African Studies
Music
Neuroscience and Behavior
Philosophy
Physics
Political Science
Political Science–Statistics
Portuguese Studies
Psychology
Regional Studies
Religion
Russian Language and Culture
Russian Literature
Russian Literature and Culture
Slavic Literature and Culture
Slavic Studies
Sociology
Statistics
Sustainable Development
Urban Studies
Urban Teaching
Visual Arts
Women’s and Gender Studies
Yiddish
THE CORE CURRICULUM

For 100 years, the Core Curriculum has been the defining element of a Columbia education. It’s a communal learning experience that cultivates community-wide discourse and deliberate contemplation around classic works, contemporary issues and humanity’s most enduring questions.

“In the Prado Museum in Spain, I saw a painting we had discussed in Art Hum: Goya’s Third of May. I remembered the history of the painting from class, but was also reminded of how battles are represented in The Iliad from Lit Hum. The Core keeps you thinking.”

SONYA X.
Dallas, TX and Shanghai, China
Economics and East Asian Studies
Academically expansive and personally transformative, the Core transcends disciplines, introducing cornerstone ideas and theories from across literature, philosophy, history, science and the arts. In most Core classes, students engage with primary works that contain some of the most significant thoughts, images and sounds by thinkers and artists from Homer to Toni Morrison, from Plato to Patricia Williams, from Puccini to Andy Warhol, from the authors of Gregorian Chants to Kaija Saariaho. By exploring together what these works mean to them as individuals, students grapple with what it means to be human, in all of its joys and challenges.

Taught from a common syllabus in small, discussion-style seminars, the Core cultivates an intentional consciousness and willingness to explore new ideas, values and beliefs. It’s a learning environment where students are challenged to engage meaningfully with friends and classmates who hold different opinions. They form an intimate intellectual community that spans disciplines and interests and fosters deep, enduring friendships. Together, they learn to adapt and respond to new information and revelations that can—and often do—alter and expand their worldview.

Through these encounters, students develop intellectual tools and habits of mind they’ll use long after they leave college, solving multidimensional problems and finding profound answers to questions that may at times seem unanswerable. They’ll carry these lessons with them into the world, where they will join a greater conversation that binds Columbia’s present students to its past and future generations. It’s a timeless dialogue and an approach to thinking and living that seeks to elevate society for all, and is more vital now than ever before.
Reflecting is critical to learning.

At the heart of the Columbia experience is a conscious and considered process of becoming — not just scholars, intellectuals and professionals, but also individuals. We believe elements of personal character transcend disciplines and occupations. As an institution, we seek to cultivate in our students a holistic and multifaceted sense of self that will serve them well in all endeavors, both as members of their community and as citizens of the world.

My Columbia College Journey is a tool for inquiry and self-reflection. It consists of 13 competencies students can use to better understand their academic, social and intellectual experience in the context of their own growth as an individual. Neither requirements nor restrictions, these competencies serve as landmarks that can help you find your way on the path to becoming who you’re meant to be.
THE CORE COMPETENCIES OF MY COLUMBIA COLLEGE JOURNEY

Creativity and Innovation
Identify interests that support your creativity and enhance your ability to think flexibly. Imagine original knowledge, solutions, creations and works.

Wellness and Resilience
Balance the spheres of your life. Acknowledge success, learn from failure and form sustainable strategies for preserving physical, mental and emotional well-being.

Quantitative Literacy
See the whole equation. Become fluent in the interpretation and analysis of data. Find solutions through a multiplicity of pathways.

Global Awareness
Construct a working view of the world. Immerse yourself in the unfamiliar, and build connections across continents and cultures.

Knowledge
Strive for understanding. Build a broad foundation, advance the proficiency of your interests, and aspire to mastery of many disciplines.

Written Communication
Harness the written word. Explore forms, media and rhetoric. Find your voice, and train it to tell your story.

Community Engagement and Inclusion
Practice stewardship within your community. Be inclusive. Recognize and celebrate differences in values and identity. Broaden your perspectives and your horizons.

Oral Communication
Speak deliberately—with precision, passion and clarity. Trust your ability to articulate complex ideas and perspectives. Above all, express yourself.

Critical Thinking
Understand how you analyze information and ideas. Think critically about the world. Apply lenses across subjects and disciplines.

Teamwork and Collaboration
Consider what is gained through collective commitment toward a shared goal. Develop strategies for fostering engagement and taking initiative in pursuit of discovery.

Civic and Individual Responsibility
Understand your values, and imagine the impact of your words and actions. Seek experiences that reflect those values; act in concert with your community.

Information and Technological Literacy
Evaluate your relationship to technology and society’s vast informational landscape. Know your tools, manage them carefully and deploy them masterfully.

Research
Pursue new knowledge. Engage effectively and resourcefully with existing theory; indulge in healthy criticism of your own approach; discover opportunities in the unknown.

Written Communication
Harness the written word. Explore forms, media and rhetoric. Find your voice, and train it to tell your story.

Civic and Individual Responsibility
Understand your values, and imagine the impact of your words and actions. Seek experiences that reflect those values; act in concert with your community.

Information and Technological Literacy
Evaluate your relationship to technology and society’s vast informational landscape. Know your tools, manage them carefully and deploy them masterfully.

Research
Pursue new knowledge. Engage effectively and resourcefully with existing theory; indulge in healthy criticism of your own approach; discover opportunities in the unknown.
Prem T.

MAJOR
History

FAVORITE SPOT ON CAMPUS
I like the tables on the ramps in Lerner Hall. It’s a really social place. I love the vibe there, and the light from all the windows.

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT NYC
I’m interested in law and journalism, so being in New York is absolutely perfect. There was a journalist from my hometown who worked for CNN. I reached out and he actually made time to meet up with me. Take your chances—more often than not, you’ll get lucky.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES
Class president; Columbia Outdoor Orientation Program; Friends of Morningside Park

FAVORITE COLUMBIA TRADITION
Last year was my first snowball fight on campus. I saw the dean himself throwing snowballs. I threw one at him, and then he threw one back that hit me in the face. It’s really fun because it’s totally out of nowhere—all of a sudden, it’s hundreds of students throwing snowballs around.

REFLECTIONS
Everyone here is special in some way. Just by virtue of that fact, it never felt like there was a wall between other students and me. People really identify with each other here. You don’t feel afraid to reach out, to say a few words to someone.

HOMETOWN
Grand Forks, North Dakota
Jessie E.

MAJOR
Music (Concentration in Psychology)

FAVORITE SPOT ON CAMPUS
The music library on the top floor of Dodge. You can see the entirety of campus, and it reminds me that I’m in this amazing place.

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT NYC
As a music student, it’s been extremely important. I auditioned for a couple of professional choirs in my first year, and have been doing that ever since.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES
New Opera Workshop; CU Swing

MEMORABLE FACULTY MOMENT
I told my anthropology teacher that I was interested in doing some research. He took me on for his annual summer archaeology trip, and I had an amazing adventure excavating, learning and playing music in New Mexico!

REFLECTIONS
I’ve loved swing dancing my whole life, but never really did it. When I came to Columbia, I was like, “Oh my gosh, there’s a group!” I took the lessons. We go down to this club near Penn Station, and you get to dance with these amazing—probably professional—swing dancers. That one club opened up a little world for me.

HOMETOWN
Falmouth, Massachusetts
Research and discoveries in the arts and sciences

Within the looking glass
Investigating structure dynamics in supercooled liquids, David Reichman, Centennial Professor of Chemistry, works to de-mystify “the deepest and most interesting unsolved problem in solid state theory”—the question of how and why glass forms into a solid.

Reach for the stars
Students and faculty in our Department of Astronomy bring an appreciation for the celestial to the masses through public lectures, guided stargazing nights, sci-fi film screenings and even a bit of sidewalk astronomy in the heart of the city.

Conservation’s cultural complexities
Anthropology professor Paige West’s work with indigenous peoples in Papua New Guinea examines how conservation efforts designed to protect natural ecosystems can negatively impact traditions and culture.
Examining why financial markets melt down

One of Foreign Policy magazine’s leading global thinkers, professor Adam Tooze’s recent research and writing looks at the global financial crises of the last decade through the lenses of economics, business, history and politics.

Inter-media

A fellow at Columbia’s Institute for Ideas and Imagination, professor Debashree Mukherjee investigates the material relations between cinema’s bodies, machines, aesthetics and environments as they intersect with practices of modernity and freedom in late colonial India.

Playwright with a purpose

A two-time Pulitzer Prize winner, professor Lynn Nottage has earned critical acclaim as a playwright whose powerful, intimate work unapologetically confronts race, class, inequality and poverty.
Nowhere but here
do pioneering thinkers work across disciplines united by a vision of Engineering for Humanity.
Columbia Engineering
THE FU FOUNDATION SCHOOL
OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCE
Since 1864, Columbia Engineering students and faculty have made remarkable contributions to technological and social progress as we have pushed the frontiers of knowledge and discovery to meet the needs of our global society. Today, Columbia engineers are a force for the future, working to create a more sustainable, healthy, connected, secure and creative humanity.
Transcending disciplines, educating leaders, transforming lives.

Through an undergraduate course of study that features an engineering foundation with a liberal arts core and leverages the extensive resources of a major research university, Columbia Engineering students become leaders and innovators, prepared to confront complex issues with groundbreaking solutions to the grand challenges of our time.
Centered in the cultural and financial hub of a city that has emerged as a world-renowned center for high-tech research and development, we offer students a unique educational opportunity. Developing a powerful engineering foundation from within 17 areas of study, undergraduates form close working relationships with a diverse faculty that represents the brightest minds in engineering and applied science from across the country and around the world.

Our students and faculty push research frontiers, engage in interdisciplinary collaborations, and blaze new and distinctive pathways toward tangible, real-world impact that will shape the course of the 21st century.

Columbia engineers pursue a deep liberal arts foundation side by side with their Columbia College peers through the Core Curriculum. Their education is further enriched by over 20 liberal arts minors as well as over 15 engineering minors.

Both in and out of the classroom, Columbia Engineering is a hands-on environment with an emphasis on engaged learning, discovery and innovation. It’s a rich creative landscape where free thinkers flourish, bold ideas thrive and possibilities become realities.

Learn more about Columbia engineering.columbia.edu

“From leading a world-class solar fuels research project to performing with the Columbia University Orchestra at Lincoln Center, the wealth of possibilities available at Columbia Engineering played a pivotal role in setting my career vision.”

AMAR B.
Marshall Scholar
Hong Kong
Chemical Engineering

350+
ENTREPRENEURS
FOSTERED BY THE COLUMBIA STARTUP LAB IN FIVE YEARS
COLUMBIA ENGINEERING AREAS OF STUDY

Applied Mathematics
Applied Physics
Biomedical Engineering
Chemical Engineering
Civil Engineering
Computer Engineering
Computer Science
Earth and Environmental Engineering
Electrical Engineering
Engineering Management Systems
Engineering Mechanics
Financial Engineering
Industrial Engineering
Materials Science and Engineering
Mechanical Engineering
Operations Research

ENGINEERING COMMON COURSES (ENGINEERING COMMONS)

The Art of Engineering
Calculus
Chemistry
Computer Science
Physics
Technical Electives
Non-Technical Electives

FROM THE CORE CURRICULUM

Literature Humanities, Contemporary Civilization or Global Core
Art Humanities or Music Humanities
University Writing
Economics
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<th>ENGINEERING MINORS</th>
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<td>Applied Mathematics</td>
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<td>French and Francophone Studies</td>
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ENGINEERING FOR HUMANITY

From New York’s first subway and FM radio to DNA sequencing platforms, sophisticated climate modeling and advanced bioreactors, Columbia Engineering innovations have revolutionized industries and advanced society.
In the City of New York

Sustainable
Preserving our planet while advancing the quality of life for people around the globe is one of the most urgent challenges facing society. New and interdisciplinary ways of thinking are required to accelerate essential breakthroughs, from mitigating and reversing climate change to providing water and energy for a rapidly expanding population.

Healthy
The global life expectancy of our species has doubled since 1900. As health and wellness practices become more personalized, precise, interactive and holistic for both individual patients and entire populations, technical advances will be critical to optimize care and ensure medical resources for underserved communities.

Secure
From economies to power grids, complex systems underpin our global society. To enhance production and function, and to manage the inherent risks, we must better understand, model, design, predict, control and optimize the dynamics and behavior of such systems—both natural and human engineered.

Connected
Technology is enabling an exponential increase in connectivity, as well as an explosion of data into all spheres of life. Harnessing that potential to improve the human experience requires progress in many areas— including new algorithms for data security and verification and new methods to ensure transparency, ethics and equity.

Creative
Engineering is an essentially creative field, marked by an emphasis on immersion and exploration. What’s more, the tools and techniques we discover propel creativity and ingenuity in other fields. As we develop makerspaces and promote connections across backgrounds and disciplines, we create an environment where innovation flourishes.

“I came to Columbia so I could be an engineer who also was aware of social institutions and histories that shaped the world today. This enhances my knowledge of the world, and makes me a more ethical engineer who can...truly make the world a better place for all.”
ARYN D.
Hurst, TX
Computer Science, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, and Sociology

Today, Columbia Engineering continues to bring our engineering impact to the service of humanity, and we are dedicated to the pursuit of engineering that fosters a more sustainable, healthy, secure, connected and creative world.
The Columbia Engineering experience combines the technical acumen students acquire through Columbia’s Engineering Commons with the broad humanist and liberal arts exposure of the renowned Columbia Core Curriculum.

The result is an active, roll-up-your-sleeves culture of imagining, creating and solving. It’s made possible by a diverse, energetic and intellectually curious student body focused on a better future — and enabled by ready access to world-class facilities, ample resources and field-leading faculty.
Broad exposure. Diverse experience.

The Art of Engineering
This foundational and inspirational class guides the transition from high school student to successful collegiate engineer. Students gain practical research experience with the Common Project. Think creatively and collaboratively at Friday group lectures. Engage in half-semester research in the department of their choosing.

The Columbia MakerSpace
Columbia’s 3,000 sq. ft. MakerSpace offers a wide variety of tools—from 3D printers to laser cutters and CNC tools for digital fabrication—for projects, hobbies, building prototypes or tinkering with a new idea.

Columbia Design Challenges
Columbia Design Challenges encourage students from across the University to devise interdisciplinary solutions to urgent societal needs. From fighting Ebola and building sustainable workspaces in India to increasing access to clean water in Rio de Janeiro and generating innovative technology for New York City’s participation in the 2020 Census, our students work on real problems to help find real solutions.

Senior Design Expo
The annual Senior Design Expo showcases the collaborative projects of seniors with their peers, applying their knowledge to solve an engineering challenge while researching, designing and producing an original prototype.

Research that matters.

Nanotechnology Initiative
An interdisciplinary community within Columbia University dedicated to supporting and developing research efforts in nanoscience and technology, as well as quantum science and technology.

Artificial Intelligence
Working closely across disciplines with resources like Columbia’s Data Science Institute, faculty are shepherding a new wave of AI technologies. These advances have the potential to permeate and transform every field—from medicine and finance to materials discovery, social interactions and free speech.

Regenerative Medicine
Multidisciplinary research brings together bioengineers, clinicians and systems biology scientists to create innovative procedures and therapies that can help the human body heal itself, whether that means recovering from heart attacks, improving brain function or fighting cancer with bacteria.

Electrochemical Energy Center
Charting an urgent pathway toward a clean energy future with a world-class research team spanning multiple departments. Electro-chemical reactions are the driving force behind next-generation batteries, future fuel, carbon capture and conversion, and the decarbonization of manufacturing industries.

Columbia Engineering students are more than engineers—they’re visionaries with the power to discover solutions, advance progress and find answers to the world’s greatest challenges.

The Columbia engineers who pioneered inventions like X-ray technology and the mass-production of antibiotics worked at the very cutting edge of technology in their lifetime. Today, we’re doing the same.
Chang Min Y.

**MAJOR**  
Chemical Engineering (Minor in Economics)

**FAVORITE SPOT ON CAMPUS**  
The third-floor reference room, or Ref Ro, in Butler Library, has a special aura about it. It reminds me, at least, that there are big shoes to fill. It inspires you to go out and do some cool things.

**WHAT I LOVE ABOUT NYC**  
There’s a wide range of people from all over the world, and everyone is here for an ambitious purpose—something they want to achieve.

**CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES**  
Columbia Undergraduate Consulting Club; Sigma Phi Epsilon

**MEMORABLE FACULTY MOMENT**  
My biopharma professor did so much more than just teach. Every week, he introduced us to a new industry expert, and went above and beyond to help us explore the full spectrum of the biotech space.

**REFLECTIONS**  
People here have a mentality of thinking not only about what to do with their time here, but also beyond that. People think about what they want to do throughout their lives...it’s a powerful energy.

**HOMETOWN**  
Seoul, South Korea
Rachel A.

MAJOR
Biomedical Engineering

FAVORITE SPOT ON CAMPUS
On the steps in front of Low—it’s a really cool place to just chill and be outside.

WHAT I LOVE ABOUT NYC
The proximity of everything. Great food around you at all times.

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES
I’ve been on the varsity women’s soccer team, and I wouldn’t trade anything for that experience.

FAVORITE COLUMBIA TRADITION
There’s this dance group called Raw Elementz at Columbia. It’s not an exaggeration to say some of my favorite memories are their performances on the steps of Lerner.

REFLECTIONS
I love the vibe of the athletic community here. We’re super supportive of each other. You see them for hours on end every day, so even in the short time you’ve been together, you feel like you’ve known them forever. That’s definitely been a highlight.

HOMETOWN
Silver Springs, Maryland
Climate change and response

Associate professor of earth and environmental engineering Pierre Gentine is accelerating a more effective climate response with investigations into the global water cycle that increase our ability to make predictions about the future of droughts, flooding and extreme weather.

Labor of love

Applying her expert knowledge of structures to the human body, associate professor of mechanical engineering Kristin Myers is developing instruments that prevent pre-term birth—sparing families deep emotional and financial costs, and making this leading cause of infant mortality a thing of the past.

Pro-biotic

For years, science focused on killing bacteria. Now researchers like assistant professor of biomedical engineering Tal Danino are reframing this complex, invisible world and genetically programming bacteria to diagnose disease and even heal the human body.
Computing at the speed of light

Professors Keren Bergman and Michal Lipson of Electrical Engineering together with Alex Gaeta of Applied Physics are working to replace electrons with photons from the nanoscale to the microscale for networks that will connect us faster without taxing energy resources.

Inside the intricacies of thought

A pioneer in algorithms, Christos Papadimitriou, professor of computer science, is turning his focus to the mystery of the human brain to understand the sources of cognition, intelligence, language and stories.

Building blocks for a better world

Enhancing materials like concrete to better protect the environment, associate professor of civil engineering and engineering mechanics Shiho Kawashima’s innovations in the field of rheology create stronger, longer-lasting infrastructure—staving off disasters like gas leaks and oil spills.
Nowhere but here
can 6,000 classmates, 500 clubs and one residential campus in New York City help you discover who you truly are.
COLUMBIA STUDENT LIFE

Finding community and lifelong friends.

Columbia College and Columbia Engineering form a community of bright, curious individuals living and learning together in a truly one-of-a-kind city. Our students come together from every background and every corner of the world to engage and explore, to seek new adventures and perspectives, to build connections and lifelong friendships, and to pursue a better world.

This community draws inspiration from a city and a neighborhood always in motion and a campus alive with opportunity. Students tap into energy and ideas inspired by more than 500 student clubs and organizations — everything from intramural athletics and philosophy journals to investment clubs and culinary societies. They find people who share their passions and beliefs, and discover in themselves a new sense of purpose and identity.

“...I have found friendship and support from my fellow Native students within Native American Council. Regardless of your identity, there is a community for you on campus.”

Abigail H.
Norman, OK
Anthropology

60+

SOCIAL JUSTICE, SERVICE AND STUDENT-LED INITIATIVES, CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS
In the City of New York

50+
MUSIC- AND PERFORMANCE-BASED GROUPS

500+
CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

“You can be whoever you want to be at Columbia, and there will always be social and institutional resources to get you there!”

SABRINA JADE S.
Fremont, CA
Data Science
I can meet people from across the world in my classes, dorms, and clubs. I have learned a lot about different cultures and have become much more open-minded.

IRENE B. 
Zhoushan, China
Computer Science and Economics
“Every dorm has a floor lounge, complete with a TV and lounge chairs, open 24 hours. It’s the go-to spot for my friends, and we have floor bonding activities every week so it’s easy to meet people.”

ANTHONY A.
San Diego, CA
Computer Science
“It was only after I came to Columbia and met students from all over the world that I began to understand what it means to live in such a cosmopolitan community.”

ALAN B.
Tijuana, Mexico
English
I love Columbia sporting events. I’m a part of the WKCR sports department, so we travel to games to broadcast...seeing the fans that show up in support of the Lions is always a ton of fun.

BRIAN O.
Norfolk, MA
Mathematics–Statistics and Sociology
“Fifty years from now, this is the kind of thing we’ll remember: sitting in the hallway with a bunch of friends, talking about books until two in the morning.”

Tom S.
Benicia, CA
History
In the City of New York

@GoColumbiaLions

Mikha D.
Manila, Philippines
Biomedical Engineering

“In a place miles and miles away from home, it’s surprisingly easy to find your second home.”

700+
STUDENT
ATHLETES
1 Every October, thousands of Columbia alumni from every corner of the world return to Morningside Heights to celebrate Homecoming—a weekend full of fall festivities that culminates in a football game between the Lions and an Ivy League rival.

2 In early December, students and alumni gather on College Walk for this dazzling and moving celebration of tradition, holiday spirit and the Columbia community.

3 Columbia’s oldest performing arts tradition, the Varsity Show has entertained students and faculty alike since 1894, with sold-out performances that satirize life at Columbia.

4 Legend holds that the first member of the incoming class to find the owl hidden on the statue of Alma Mater in Low Plaza will become the class valedictorian.

5 Every spring, Columbia’s Hindu Students Organization hosts Holi, the Festival of Colors, where students of all faiths celebrate the end of winter.

6 Students come together for an extravagant one-night-only performance art festival in Columbia’s steel-and-glass student center, Lerner Hall, where dance, music and comedy groups showcase their talents on the building’s crisscrossing ramps.

7 An annual event where Indigenous Peoples and their friends unite to celebrate and honor their identities through dance, song and socialization.

8 At the first snowfall of each year, the students converge on Low Plaza for a friendly, free-for-all snowball fight under the watchful eye of Alma Mater.

9 Sponsored by the Chinese Students Club each fall, Night Market features food, art and performances that run the gamut from lion dance to a cappella, to sketch comedy.
In the City of New York

Residence Hall Leadership Send Off

Held each fall on the South Lawn, the RHLO Send Off brings together undergraduates from Columbia College, Columbia Engineering and Barnard College for games, refreshments and even some inflatables.

Surf, Turf, & Earth

As the school year winds down, Columbia’s top-ranked Dining Services pulls out all the stops for Surf, Turf & Earth, featuring lobster tails, steak and literally boatloads of shrimp. Students are advised to come hungry!

Bacchanal

In April, the Bacchanal Spring Concert is a chance to enjoy music festival vibes with friends from across the undergraduate community. Recent headliners include AlunaGeorge, Ty Dolla $ign and Columbia alums Vampire Weekend.

President’s Annual Fun Run

Every fall, this 5K fun run draws hundreds of students, faculty and staff for a beautiful, early morning run through Riverside Park along the Hudson River.

King’s Crown Shakespeare Troupe

For 20+ years, the King’s Crown Shakespeare Troupe has given free, outdoor performances all around Columbia’s Morningside Heights campus.

Through the Gates

Every year, student leaders and administrators serenade first-year students with the Columbia fight song as they enter the gates of Columbia University at 116th Street during the New Student Orientation Program.
In the City of New York
Having a broad representation of perspectives—in our residence halls, our labs and classrooms, and across our campus—is critical to our culture. The more voices we hear, the more we learn and the better we understand. So, we seek out intellectually curious minds from all walks of life and socioeconomic backgrounds across the country and around the world, who will contribute to, and profit from, the Core Curriculum and the total Columbia experience.
In the City of New York

PROVIDING ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY

What matters most to us is your ability to thrive at Columbia, not your ability to pay for it. We are committed to making Columbia's opportunities accessible for all our students. If cost is a concern for your family, we encourage you to apply for financial aid.

$174 Million in Aid

Columbia typically awards over $174 million in scholarships and grants. In fact, we offer some of the most generous financial aid of any college in the United States, and students are often surprised by how much they receive. In many instances, Columbia is actually more affordable than public colleges and universities.

Need-Blind Admissions

We are need-blind for US citizens, eligible non-citizens and undocumented students, which means you are considered for admission without regard for your ability to pay for your education. Foreign citizens applying for aid are reviewed in a more need-aware process, but many of our foreign citizens receive significant financial aid.

100% of Need Covered

If you're a first-year student or a transfer student pursuing your first degree, Columbia covers 100 percent of your demonstrated need for all four years that you are here.

$0 Parent Contribution

If your family's annual income is $60,000 a year or less, your parents are not expected to contribute to the cost of attendance. Almost 40 percent of financial aid recipients have a parent contribution under $5,000.

No Loans

Financial aid packages consist of work study, as well as grants, which are need-based scholarships that do not have to be paid back. There are no loans included in your financial aid package, and you can graduate debt-free.

Gateway to Opportunity

We have a range of programs in place to help you enjoy your time at Columbia and make the most of the opportunities you’ll find here—among them research funding, financial support for studying abroad and the chance to win tickets for cultural events through our beloved Urban NY lottery.

Learn more about financial aid

undergrad.admissions.columbia.edu/affordable
Where will Columbia Blue take you? We can’t wait to find out.

Our website provides extensive information about Columbia College and Columbia Engineering admissions processes, including the criteria we use to select students, recommended secondary school preparation and details on our testing policy.

CAMPUS VISITS

Information sessions are a chance to ask our admissions team about all things Columbia: academics, residential life, extracurricular activities, advising, admissions requirements, financial aid, New York City and more. Sessions are followed by a student-led campus tour.

We offer tours that provide information about both Columbia College and Columbia Engineering. All tours and info sessions begin at our Visitors Center located at 213 Low Memorial Library.

Go to undergrad.admissions.columbia.edu/visit to see a full list of info sessions and tours, or to make a reservation. Tours and info sessions aren’t offered during University holidays, so please visit the website before making travel arrangements.

APPLYING TO COLUMBIA COLLEGE OR COLUMBIA ENGINEERING

You are invited to apply to Columbia College or Columbia Engineering, but we ask that you only apply to one. Apply by using either the Common Application or the Coalition Application. To allow our Committee on Admissions to get to know you better, we also ask applicants to complete a series of Columbia-specific questions. Columbia’s complete application requirements are online: undergrad.admissions.columbia.edu/apply.

IMPORTANT DATES

Admissions application due
Early Decision — November 1
Regular Decision — January 1

Financial aid application due
Early Decision — November 15
Regular Decision — February 15

Decisions released
Early Decision — Mid-December
Regular Decision — By April 1

NONSODIMINATION POLICY

Columbia University is committed to providing a learning environment free from unlawful discrimination and harassment and to fostering a nurturing and vibrant community founded upon the fundamental dignity and worth of all of its members. Columbia University does not discriminate against any person in the administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, scholarships and loan programs, and athletic and other University-administered programs or permit the harassment of any student or applicant on the basis of race, color, sex, gender (including gender identity and expression), pregnancy, religion, creed, marital status, partnership status, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, military status or any other legally protected status.

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Learn how to apply
or simply stay in touch

undergrad.admissions.
columbia.edu

@columbiaadmissions