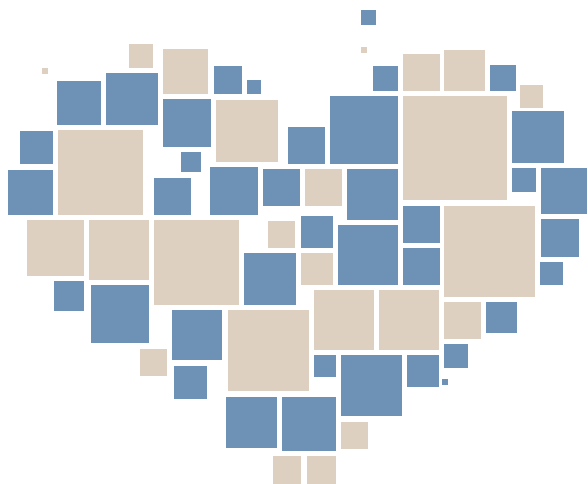
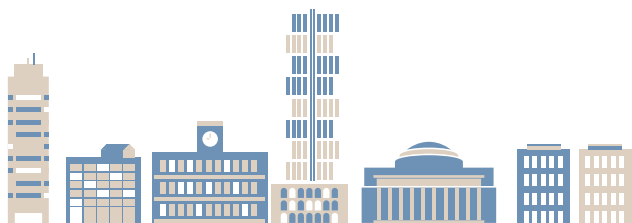


MIT Facts 2022



MIT



MIT Facts 2022

Massachusetts
Institute of
Technology

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An online version of MIT Facts, with links to additional information about the topics covered here, is available at facts.mit.edu.

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MIT at a Glance

History



Incorporated by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on April 10, 1861

Motto



Mens et manus—
“mind and hand”

Campus



168 acres (0.68 km²) in Cambridge, Massachusetts
19 student residences on campus
26 acres (0.11 km²) of playing fields
40+ gardens and green spaces
60+ public works of art



Employees

15,722, including faculty



Faculty

Professors (all ranks): 1,069
Other teaching staff: 970
Student-faculty ratio: 3:1



Selected Honors

98 Nobel Laureates
79 MacArthur Fellows
59 National Medal of Science winners
30 National Medal of Technology and Innovation winners

Undergraduate Financial Aid 2020-2021

Students attending tuition-free: 38%

Students awarded need-based

MIT scholarship: 57%

Average need-based MIT scholarship: \$45,146

Class of 2021 graduates with
no student loan debt: 82%



First-year Admission Class of 2025

Applicants: 33,240

Admits: 1,365 (4.1%)



Undergraduate Costs, 2021-2022

Tuition and fees:
\$55,510

Housing and meals:
\$18,100

Books and personal
expenses: \$3,042



Students, 2021-2022

Total: 11,934

Undergraduates:
4,638

Graduate students:
7,296



Undergraduate Majors and Minors

Major programs: 55

Minor programs: 57

Pirate certificate: 1



International Students, 2021-2022

Undergraduate students: 472

Graduate students: 2,945

Exchange, visiting, special students: 301

Mission

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.

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.

Origins

MIT is independent, coeducational, and privately endowed. The Institute admitted its first students in 1865, four years after the approval of its founding charter, and admitted its first woman student shortly thereafter in 1871. MIT's 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 and 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 prac-

tical world and transforming society for the better as guiding principles—continue to be its primary purpose.

Leadership

Administrative Organization

The Institute's chief executive officer is the [president](#). Senior [academic and administrative officers](#) include the provost, chancellor, executive vice president and treasurer, vice president and secretary of the Corporation, associate provosts, deans of the schools and college, vice chancellors, vice presidents, chancellor for academic advancement, director of libraries, and Institute community and equity officer.

MIT's academic departments and institutes—each under the leadership of a head or director—are organized within [five schools and one college](#) that encompass numerous degree-granting programs and interdisciplinary [centers, laboratories](#), and [programs](#) whose work cuts across traditional departmental boundaries.

The [MIT faculty](#) determines the Institute's educational policy. The faculty meets monthly and conducts much of its business through elected standing committees.

The Institute's board of trustees, known as the [MIT Corporation](#), includes 77 members who are distinguished leaders in engineering, science, industry, education, and other professions. Eight members serve ex officio: the chair of the Corporation, president, executive vice president and treasurer, secretary of the Corporation, president of the MIT Alumni Association, and three representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Corporation also includes 32 emeritus members. Approximately 70% of the members of the Corporation are MIT alumni.

Presidents of the Institute



A vertical timeline on the left side of the page, marked with years from 1862 to 2012. To the right of the timeline, the names of the presidents are listed, with some names appearing between two years. The years 2012, 2004, 1990, 1980, 1971, 1966, 1959, 1948, 1930, 1923, 1921, 1909, 1900, 1897, 1881, 1879, 1870, and 1862 are listed on the left. The names of the presidents are listed on the right, with some names appearing between two years: L. Rafael Reif (2012), Susan Hockfield (2012), Charles Marsteller Vest (2004), Paul Edward Gray (1990), Jerome Bert Wiesner (1980), Howard Wesley Johnson (1971), Julius Adams Stratton (1966), James Rhyne Killian, Jr. (1958), Karl Taylor Compton (1948), Samuel Wesley Stratton (1930), Ernest Fox Nichols (1922), Richard Cockburn Maclaurin (1920), Henry Smith Pritchett (1907), James Mason Crafts (1900), Francis Amasa Walker (1897), William Barton Rogers (1881), John Daniel Runkle (1878), and William Barton Rogers (1870).

2012		L. Rafael Reif
2004	2012	Susan Hockfield
1990	2004	Charles Marsteller Vest
1980	1990	Paul Edward Gray
1971	1980	Jerome Bert Wiesner
1966	1971	Howard Wesley Johnson
1959	1966	Julius Adams Stratton
1948	1958	James Rhyne Killian, Jr.
1930	1948	Karl Taylor Compton
1923	1930	Samuel Wesley Stratton
1921	1922	Ernest Fox Nichols
1909	1920	Richard Cockburn Maclaurin
1900	1907	Henry Smith Pritchett
1897	1900	James Mason Crafts
1881	1897	Francis Amasa Walker
1879	1881	William Barton Rogers
1870	1878	John Daniel Runkle
1862	1870	William Barton Rogers

Employees

15,722

**Employees
(including Lincoln Laboratory)**

6,335

Women employees

Employees by Category, October 2021

Category	Number	%
Administrative staff	4,318	27%
Research staff	3,732	24%
Other academic staff	1,963	12%
Support staff	1,737	11%
Postdoctoral scholars	1,397	9%
Service staff	1,367	9%
Faculty	1,069	7%
Clinical/Medical staff	139	1%
Total	15,722	100%

In 2021, almost 3,700 staff members had worked at MIT from between 10 and 25 years; another 1,467 had worked from between 25 and 50 years, and almost 50 employees had been at MIT for over 50 years.

International Scholars

International scholars come to MIT from around the world to teach, conduct research, collaborate, and for other purposes. This diverse group of professionals includes visiting scientists, professors, artists, and scholars, as well as postdoctoral fellows and associates, research associates and scientists, faculty, and other instructional staff. During academic year 2020-2021, MIT hosted 1,866 international scholars from 83 countries. Seventy-five percent were men and 25% were women.

International Scholars by Region, October 2021

Region	Number	%
Asia	883	48%
Europe	602	32%
Middle East	133	7%
North America	109	6%
Mexico, Latin America, and the Caribbean	88	5%
Africa	27	1%
Oceania	24	1%
Total	1,866	100%

Faculty and Instructional Staff

The MIT faculty instructs undergraduate and graduate students and engages in research.

1,069

Faculty (professors of all ranks)

272

Women faculty

Two-hundred thirty-three faculty (22%) identify as a member of a US minority group.

US Minority Group Representation among Faculty, October 2021

Category	Female	Male	Total
Asian	41	114	155
Black or African American	13	31	44
Hispanic or Latino	8	41	49
Native American or other Pacific Islander	1	–	1
American Indian or Alaska Native	–	1	1

Note: Minority group representation is self-identified, and faculty may identify with more than one group.

Distribution of Faculty by School/College, October 2021

Category	Number
School of Engineering	396*
School of Science	284
School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences	184
Schwarzman College of Computing	138*
Sloan School of Management	110
School of Architecture and Planning	81
Other	11

*135 faculty shared between the School of Engineering and the Schwarzman College of Computing are included in both counts.

Instructional Staff, October 2021

Category	Number
Professors	689
Associate professors	212
Assistant professors	168
Senior lecturers, lecturers, and professors emeriti	787
Instructors (including technical instructors)	145
Professors of the practice and adjunct faculty	38
Total	2,039

Postdoctoral Scholars

[Postdoctoral scholars](#) pursue a program of research and training under the direction of an MIT faculty member. As of October 2021, there were 1,397 post-doctoral scholars at MIT—996 men and 401 women.

Distribution of Postdoctoral Scholars by School/Area, October 2021

School/Area	Number	%
School of Science	444	32%
School of Engineering	415	30%
Vice President for Research area	254	19%
Schwarzman College of Computing	112	8%
Provost and other areas	89	6%
School of Architecture and Planning	43	3%
School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences	29	2%
Sloan School of Management	11	1%
Total	1,394	100%

Awards and Honors

MIT community members have received numerous accolades. The [MIT Excellence Awards](#)—now in their 21st year—celebrate the extraordinary efforts made by members of our community towards fulfilling the goals, values, and mission of the Institute. The [Collier Medal](#) was created in 2014 to honor the memory of Officer Sean Collier, who gave his life protecting the MIT community. As of October 2021, there have been 389 MIT Excellence Award and eight Collier Medal recipients.

The [MIT Awards](#) honor students, staff, faculty, and community members who have made outstanding contributions to the shared life of the Institute. The awards recognize excellence in academics and teaching, public service, community building, diversity and inclusion, achievements in the arts and athletics, leadership, and entrepreneurship.

The title of [Institute Professor](#) is an honor bestowed by the faculty and administration on a faculty colleague who has demonstrated exceptional distinction through leadership, accomplishment, and service in the scholarly, educational, and general intellectual life of the Institute or wider academic community.

Several of the most notable [honors and awards](#) won by MIT community members over the years are highlighted below, with winners currently on faculty and staff listed.

63

Institute Professors

The current Institute Professors are **Daron Acemoglu** (2019), **Suzanne Berger** (2019), **Arup K. Chakraborty** (2021), **Sallie W. Chisholm** (2015), **Ann M. Graybiel** (2008), **Paula T. Hammond** (2021), **John H. Harbison** (1995), **Robert S. Langer** (2005), **Thomas L. Magnanti** (1997), **Ronald L. Rivest** (2015), **Phillip A. Sharp** (1999), and **Marcus A. Thompson** (2015). Institute Professors emeriti are **Emilio Bizzi** (2002), **Noam Chomsky** (1976), **John M. Deutch** (1990), **Peter A. Diamond** (1997), **Jerome I. Friedman** (1991), **Barbara H. Liskov** (2008), **John D. C. Little** (1989), **Joel Moses** (1999), **Robert M. Solow** (1973), and **Sheila Widnall** (1998).

98

Nobel Prizes

Faculty members **Joshua Angrist**, economics (2021), **Abhijit Banerjee**, economics (2019), **Esther Duflo**, economics (2019), **H. Robert Horvitz**, medicine/phys-

iology (2002), **Wolfgang Ketterle**, physics (2001), **Robert C. Merton**, economics (1997), **Phillip A. Sharp**, medicine/physiology (1993), **Susan Solomon**, peace (co-chair of IPCC Working Group One recognized under Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2007), **Samuel C. C. Ting**, physics (1976), **Susumu Tonegawa**, medicine/physiology (1987), **Frank Wilczek**, physics (2004), and staff member **Jean Marcel Tirole**, economics (2014).

59

National Medals of Science

Faculty members **Sallie W. Chisholm** (2012), **Ann M. Graybiel** (2001), **Rudolf Jaenisch** (2011), **Robert S. Langer** (2006), **Phillip A. Sharp** (2004), **Susan Solomon** (1999), and **Robert A. Weinberg** (1997).

30

National Medals of Technology and Innovation

Faculty member **Robert S. Langer** (2012).

79

MacArthur Fellows

Faculty members **Regina Barzilay** (2017), **Angela M. Belcher** (2004), **James J. Collins** (2003), **Erik D. Demaine** (2003), **Junot Díaz** (2012), **Esther Duflo** (2009), **Amy Finkelstein** (2018), **Linda G. Griffith** (2006), **John H. Harbison** (1989), **Dina Katabi** (2013),

Laura Kiessling (1999), Eric Lander (1987), Heather N. Lechtman (1984), Nergis Mavalvala (2010), John A. Ochsendorf (2008), David C. Page (1986), J. Taylor Perron (2021), Sara Seager (2013), Peter W. Shor (1999), Marin Soljačić (2008), Joshua B. Tenenbaum (2019), Frank Wilczek (1982), Jack Wisdom (1994), and staff members Isaiah Andrews (2020), Amy B. Smith (2004), and George Zweig (1981).

21

John Bates Clark Medals

Faculty members Daron Acemoglu (2005), Esther Duflo (2010), Amy Finkelstein (2012), Parag Pathak (2018), and staff member Isaiah Andrews (2021).

16

A. M. Turing Awards

Faculty member Ronald Rivest (2002), and staff members Butler W. Lampson (1992) and Michael Stonebraker (2014).

6

Pulitzer Prizes

Faculty members Junot Díaz (2008) and John H. Harbison (1987), and staff member Deborah Blum (1992).

2

Millennium Technology Prizes

Faculty member Robert S. Langer (2008).

269

**National Academy
of Sciences
Members**

667

**National Academy
of Engineering
Members**

62

National Academy of Medicine Members

205

Guggenheim Fellows

36

Fulbright Scholars

Schools and College

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)*

Institute for Medical Engineering and Science

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)

Global Languages (Course 21G)

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)

MIT 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)

*Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (Course 6) reports jointly to the dean of engineering and the dean of computing.

MIT Stephen A. Schwarzman College of Computing

Electrical Engineering and Computer Science

(Course 6)*

Institute for Data, Systems, and Society

Degrees Offered

Bachelor of Science (SB)

Master of Applied Science (MASc)

Master of Architecture (MArch)

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

Master of Business Analytics (MBAn)

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)

Admission

The [selection process](#) at MIT is holistic and student centered: each application is evaluated within its unique context. No school, state, or regional quotas are applied, and we do not consider legacy/alumni relations in our process. Selection is based on outstanding academic achievement as well as a strong match between the applicant and the Institute, including:

- Alignment with MIT's mission
- Collaborative and cooperative spirit
- Initiative
- Risk taking
- Hands-on creativity
- Intensity, curiosity, and excitement
- Balancing hard work with downtime

*Selected Class of 2025 Undergraduate
Admissions Statistics*

33,240

Applications for first-year admission

1,365 (4.1%)

Offers of admission

1,184

First-year students enrolled

47%

Female

67%

**Attended public
high schools**

10%

**International
citizens from 62
countries**

48

**US states
represented**

16%

**Among the first generation in their
family to attend college**

For more information, visit mitadmissions.org.

Graduate Admission

Applicants for graduate degree programs are evaluated for previous performance and professional promise by the department in which they wish to register.

Selected 2021 Graduate Admissions Statistics

37,798

Applications for graduate study

3,834 (10.1%)

Offers of admission

2,346 (61%)

First-year students registered
in advanced degree programs

38%

Female

43%

International
citizens from 89
countries

For more information, visit gradadmissions.mit.edu.

Enrollments, 2021-2022

11,934

All students

4,638

Undergraduates (39%)

2,231

Women (48%)

2,584

US minority groups
(56%)

7,296

Graduate students (61%)

2,772

Women (38%)

1,539

US minority groups
(21%)

In 2021-2022, MIT students come from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, two territories, and 131 foreign countries.

For more information, visit registrar.mit.edu.

Undergraduates by School/College, 2021-2022

School/College	Majors	2nd majors
Architecture and Planning	61	8
Engineering*	2,510 (1,467)	115 (105)
Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences	79	65
Management	109	35
Science	683	138
Computing*	(1,467)	(105)

Note: Excludes 1,178 first-year students, nine undesignated sophomores, and nine special students. 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.

*Students in interdisciplinary programs are included in the totals of the school or college that administers the program. Students in joint programs with the College of Computing are included in the totals for Engineering, with the number of shared students in parentheses. See the Registrar's [enrollment reports](#) for details.

Graduate Students by School/College, 2021-2022

School/College	Bachelor	Master's/ Engineer	PhD/ ScD
Architecture and Planning	335	195	0
Engineering*	990 (281)	2,182** (800)	100
Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences	20	286	0
Management*	1,641 (15)	160 (74)	55
Science	6	1,211	0
Computing*	87 (296)	28 (874)	0
Total	3,079	4,062	155

*Students in interdisciplinary programs are included in the totals of the school or college that administers the program. Students in joint programs with the College of Computing are included in the totals for Engineering and Management (with the number of shared students in parentheses), but not in the Computing totals. See the Registrar's [enrollment reports](#) for details.

**Includes 180 students working on Harvard degrees only through the Harvard-MIT Health Sciences and Technology Program.

US Minority Group Representation among Students, 2021-2022

Minority group	Undergraduate	Graduate
Asian American	1,536	874
Hispanic	702	468
African American	336	192
American Indian or Alaska Native	6	4
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	4	1
Total	2,584	1,539

International Students

There are 3,417 [international students](#) enrolled in degree programs at MIT—472 undergraduates (10%) and 2,945 graduate students (40%)—in 2021-2022. Additionally, 301 exchange, visiting, and special students participated in MIT programs.

International Students, by Region, 2021-2022

Region	%
Asia	54%
Europe	19%
Latin America and the Caribbean	9%
North America	6%
Middle East	6%
Africa	4%
Oceania	2%
Total	100%

Tuition and Financial Aid

[Tuition rates](#) are set by the [Academic Council](#) each spring for the following academic year.

Undergraduate Tuition and Living Expenses

\$55,510

2021-2022 tuition (9 months)

\$18,100

Housing and meals

\$3,042

Books and personal expenses

Undergraduate Financial Aid

The Institute's [undergraduate financial aid](#) program ensures that an MIT education is accessible to all qualified candidates regardless of their financial circumstances. MIT provides financial aid to meet the full price of an MIT education, based on the calculated financial need of a family. In 2020-2021, 99% of undergraduates received \$160.6 million in financial aid from all sources, with MIT being the largest source. For students with a family income under \$90,000 (and typical assets), the Institute ensures that scholarship funding from all sources will allow them to attend MIT tuition-free.

Financial need is the difference between the cost to attend MIT and a family's ability to pay that amount. Need is determined using information provided on the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#) and the [College Scholarship Service \(CSS\) Profile](#). The first \$5,400 of financial need is designated as a student contribution and can be met through a combination of summer savings and a student job during the academic year, outside scholarships or grants (including Pell Grants), or student loans. The remaining need, if any, is met with an MIT Scholarship. Students receiving scholarships and grants from sources outside MIT may use that aid to replace the student contribution.

Please note that the numbers for the 2020-2021 academic year reflect COVID-19 policies and may differ from other academic years.

Selected Undergraduate Financial Aid Statistics, 2020-2021

Average need-based MIT Scholarship	\$45,146
Students awarded a need-based MIT Scholarship	57%
Students attending tuition-free	38%
Class of 2021 graduates with no student loan debt	82%
Average student loan debt for Class of 2021 graduates who borrowed	\$26,160
Average yearly earnings for those who worked	\$966

Graduate Tuition and Living Expenses

Graduate students generally incur greater expenses than undergraduates. Most attend the Institute for a calendar year rather than an academic year, increasing the cost of tuition.

\$55,510

2021-2022 tuition (9 months)
Specific programs and departments
may have different tuition amounts.

\$19,175

2021 summer tuition for students
enrolled in courses

MIT's [residential system](#) can accommodate 37% of its graduate students; the rest find housing in the Boston/Cambridge area. [Graduate students' costs](#) for housing, food, books, medical insurance, and incidentals vary widely depending on marital status, quality-of-life expectations, and housing arrangements. For example, monthly charges for on-campus housing range from \$884 to \$3,250, depending on housing type and location.

Graduate Financial Aid

[Financial aid for graduate students](#) is in large part provided by individual departments, and the amount of aid varies significantly. Financial support includes fellowships, traineeships, teaching and research assistantships, and loans. Most forms of support are

granted for merit, while others are granted for financial need or a combination of merit and need.

Approximately 2,630 graduate students are primarily supported as research assistants and 620 are appointed as teaching assistants; 1,700 are supported on fellowships.

Doctoral Student Support by Type and School, 2020-2021

School	RA	FE	TA	Other or none
Architecture and Planning	51%	18%	15%	16%
Engineering	56%	23%	8%	13%
Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences	30%	37%	21%	12%
Management	33%	41%	25%	1%
Science	47%	38%	12%	2%
Schwarzman College of Computing	71%	24%	6%	0%
Total	51%	29%	11%	9%

Note: RA=research assistantship, FE=fellowship, TA=teaching assistantship

Academics

MIT's strength—as represented by its official seal and motto, *mens et manus*, mind and hand—is the fusion of academic knowledge with practical purpose.

Undergraduate Education

MIT believes the best education occurs when students are self-motivated and engaged participants in a dynamic community of learners. Thus, an MIT undergraduate education combines rigorous

academics with a “learning-by-doing” approach. MIT’s rich [experiential learning](#) ecosystem enables students to pursue a wide variety of educational opportunities in such areas as [research](#), [public service and social impact](#), and [entrepreneurship](#), to name a few.

One avenue for student engagement is the [Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program \(UROP\)](#), pioneered at MIT in 1969 and now emulated in academic institutions around the world. UROP offers students the opportunity to join a faculty-led research team or to initiate their own research project.

Another unique feature of an MIT education is the [Independent Activities Period](#), a special four-week term in January that enables students to set their own agenda within a creative and flexible environment.

Undergraduates are encouraged to add an international dimension to their education as well. Students may choose from Institute-wide or departmental study-abroad programs. They may also conduct research abroad, assist with building sustainable communities overseas, or venture out on fieldwork or internships arranged through [MIT International Science and Technology Initiatives](#).

Leadership training opportunities include the [Undergraduate Practice Opportunities Program](#), the [Bernard M. Gordon-MIT Engineering Leadership Program](#), and ROTC programs in the [United States Army](#), [Navy/Marine Corps](#), and [Air Force](#). In addition, [Career Advising & Professional Development](#) guides all students as they explore and prepare for careers, graduate study, and life after MIT.

Selected Undergraduate Facts

- MIT has a 3-to-1 ratio of undergraduate students to faculty and instructional staff.
- MIT offers [55 undergraduate major and 58 minor programs](#).
- The [first semester at MIT is graded on a pass/no record basis](#), giving first-year students time to adjust to the rigor of MIT before receiving letter grades.
- MIT's [General Institute Requirements](#) are designed to give every student a broad and strong foundation in core fields of human knowledge, including mathematics; physical, natural, and social sciences; and the humanities and arts.
- First-year students can choose to participate in a first-year learning community, such as the [Concourse Program](#), [Experimental Study Group](#), or [Terrascope](#).
- In 2020, 57% of [graduating seniors](#) reported participating in an [international experience](#) while at MIT.
- Each year nearly 60% of MIT undergraduates participate in the [Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program](#), with more than 92% having done so by the time they graduate.

Majors

[Aerospace Engineering](#)

[American Studies](#)

[Ancient and Medieval Studies](#)

[Anthropology](#)

[Archaeology and Materials](#)

[Architecture](#)

[Art and Design](#)

[Asian and Asian Diaspora Studies](#)

[Biological Engineering](#)

[Biology](#)

[Brain and Cognitive Sciences](#)

[Business Analytics](#)

[Chemical Engineering](#)
[Chemical-Biological Engineering](#)
[Chemistry](#)
[Chemistry and Biology](#)
[Civil and Environmental Engineering](#)
[Comparative Media Studies](#)
[Computation and Cognition](#)
[Computer Science and Engineering](#)
[Computer Science and Molecular Biology](#)
[Computer Science, Economics, and Data Science](#)
[Earth, Atmospheric, and Planetary Sciences](#)
[Economics](#)
[Electrical Engineering and Computer Science](#)
[Electrical Science and Engineering](#)
[Finance](#)
[French](#)
[German](#)
[History](#)
[Humanities and Engineering](#)
[Humanities and Science](#)
[Latin American and Latino/a Studies](#)
[Linguistics and Philosophy](#)
[Literature](#)
[Management](#)
[Materials Science and Engineering](#)
[Mathematical Economics](#)
[Mathematics \(General, Applied, or Pure\)](#)
[Mathematics with Computer Science](#)
[Mechanical Engineering](#)
[Mechanical and Ocean Engineering](#)
[Music](#)
[Nuclear Science and Engineering](#)
[Philosophy](#)
[Physics](#)
[Planning](#)
[Political Science](#)
[Russian and Eurasian Studies](#)
[Science, Technology, and Society](#)
[Spanish](#)

[Theater Arts](#)
[Urban Science and Planning with Computer
Science](#)
[Women's and Gender Studies](#)
[Writing](#)

Graduate Education

MIT's graduate students and postdocs represent one of the most talented and diverse cohorts of scholars in the world.

The Institute's graduate programs provide collaborative environments and leading-edge facilities, such as [MIT.nano](#), for advanced study. Students work together with faculty to extend the boundaries of knowledge in fields ranging from quantum computing to medicine to political science to the arts. MIT boasts globally prominent master's and doctoral programs in engineering, mathematics, architecture, management, the social sciences, and the humanities.

The [Institute for Medical Engineering and Science](#), the [Institute for Data, Systems, and Society](#), the [Center for Real Estate](#), the [Program in Media Arts and Sciences](#) at the MIT Media Lab, and other programs offer [interdisciplinary graduate degrees](#). The [Harvard-MIT Health Sciences and Technology Program](#) and the [MIT-Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Joint Program in Oceanography/Applied Ocean Science and Engineering](#) provide opportunities for graduate students to engage with other local institutions.

Roughly one-third of graduate students remain in academia after graduation and the rest pursue careers in industry, government, nonprofits, and other sectors. MIT offers a number of professional/career development and leadership opportunities to

prepare students for their chosen career path, such as teaching development through workshops and certificate programs offered by the [MIT Teaching + Learning Lab](#), the [Path of Professorship Program](#) for women, and leadership development through the [Graduate Community Fellows Program](#) and the [Bernard M. Gordon-MIT Engineering Leadership Program](#).

MIT Libraries

The [MIT Libraries](#) are an engine for creating, sharing, and safeguarding knowledge at the Institute and beyond. The Libraries work to improve access to the world's collective knowledge and support the MIT community in many ways.

Equipping scholars with the best content and the skills to use it. The Libraries provide access to tens of millions of items, both physical and digital, and to collections from libraries worldwide. Library specialists help people navigate resources, manage data, and think critically as consumers and creators of information, and play a vital role in supporting data-intensive and computational research across MIT.

Providing an intellectual town square. Through MIT Reads (a shared reading and discussion program), free workshops, or welcoming spaces—including the renovated Hayden Library and Building 14 courtyard—the Libraries invite the MIT community to recharge, be inspired, create new knowledge, and connect with one other.

Sharing knowledge with the world. The Libraries work to ensure that research is openly and equitably available to the broadest possible audience. Since 2009, articles by Institute authors made freely available have been downloaded more than 19 million times, with close to 55% of faculty articles shared

openly. Launched in 2019, the [Center for Research on Equitable and Open Scholarship](#) investigates how disparate communities can participate in scholarship with minimal bias or barriers.

Stewarding collections unique to MIT. Distinctive Collections preserves and fosters the use of unique and rare items, both tangible and digital, including MIT-produced materials, archival collections, rare books, visual materials, and the [Aga Khan Documentation Center collections](#).

Computing on Campus

The computing environment at MIT includes a wide range of information technologies and resources. [Information Systems and Technology \(IS&T\)](#) supports MIT's education, research, and administration by providing infrastructure, services, systems, and support for the community's computing needs.

MITnet. MIT's network infrastructure in the Cambridge/Boston area is made up of more than 7,500 miles (12,070 km) of fiber, over 10,000 wireless access points, and 4,000 switches that provide on-campus wired connectivity. The MIT Kendall Wi-Fi network covers approximately 1,000,000 ft² (92,903 m²) of outdoor space in the Kendall Square area and surrounding neighborhoods. The MIT Regional Optical Network—a 2,500 mile (4,023 km) optical ring—connects the MIT network to New York City and about 10 other locations, including the Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center. MIT's 100-gigabit backbone supports connections to Internet2 and the Energy Sciences Network, which in turn provides access to the CERN Large Hadron Collider. MIT also has 10-gigabit dedicated connections to Amazon, Comcast, and Apple, as well as dual redundant 10-gigabit links to the commodity internet.

Services and software. IS&T provides extensive IT services and software to the MIT community:

- Email and productivity applications through Microsoft Exchange and Office Online
- The Canvas course management system
- Collaboration services, including Dropbox, Zoom, and Slack
- Enterprise cloud platforms, including Amazon Web Services and Google Cloud Platform
- Secure computing services and software including, Duo two-factor authentication
- Managed servers through a hybrid cloud environment

Systems. IS&T maintains core Institute systems, including the infrastructure, applications, and databases that support MIT's administrative, academic, and research activities.

Support. IS&T Support teams handle approximately 80,000-90,000 support requests each year. IS&T teams provide 24/7 IT help by phone or email to the MIT community, as well as direct support to more than 50 departments, labs, and centers. The [Knowledge Base](#) draws on the cumulative IT expertise at MIT to deliver close to 11,000 self-help articles.

Makerspaces

“Learning by doing” is a cornerstone of MIT's educational philosophy, and “making” is an important part of the MIT experience. Makerspaces located throughout the campus offer access to tools and space for members of the MIT community to invent, prototype, and bring their ideas to physical life. The Institute has over 40 design/build/project spaces that add up to over 130,000 ft² (12,077 m²). Tools and facilities for CNC routing, 3D printing,

glassblowing, wood and metal working, mold-making and casting, robotics, circuitry, textiles, ceramics, biomaking, and more are available for class and personal projects. The Institute is building a next-generation campus-wide makerspace in the Metropolitan Storage Warehouse, now in the design phase.

Recognizing the importance of the maker experience to an MIT education, the Institute initiated [Project Manus](#) (housed within the [MIT Innovation Initiative](#)) in 2015 with the goal of creating the gold standard in next-generation academic maker systems. Current projects include [MakerLodge](#), a first-year maker training program; [The Deep and Metropolis](#), open-access makerspaces optimizing hands-on trainings for the MIT community; [Mobius](#), an app for locating maker resources on campus and paying for materials; and the [Make Impact Consortium](#).

Open Learning

[MIT Open Learning](#) works to transform teaching and learning at MIT and around the globe through the innovative use of digital technologies by:

- Supporting MIT faculty and students in bold digital teaching and learning experiments to enhance residential education.
- Promoting and enabling quantitative, rigorous, and interdisciplinary research on teaching and learning.
- Providing platforms for technological advances in education.
- Sharing research and best practices by convening and partnering with teachers, schools, universities, and organizations.
- Extending MIT's knowledge and classroom to the world.

MIT Open Learning also offers an array of programs and services.

- [Residential Education](#) facilitates on-campus online teaching and learning in MIT courses. More than 99% of MIT undergraduates have used the MITx residential platform for their coursework. Residential Education also supports Canvas and other learning management systems on campus.
- [MITx courses](#) extend MIT learning to the world through courses developed and taught by MIT instructors. More than 4.1 million unique learners from over 200 countries have earned more than 236,000 MITx course certificates on edX. As of November 2021, MIT faculty can put their MITx courses on edX or on MITx Online.
- [OpenCourseWare](#) offers free, open, publicly accessible web-based materials from more than 2,550 MIT courses.
- [MITx MicroMasters](#) programs provide an affordable, accelerated, and convenient path to a master's degree. Learners who pass a set of MITx graduate-level courses and exams earn a MicroMasters credential and can apply to an accelerated, on-campus master's degree program at MIT or at one of dozens of pathway universities around the world.
- [MIT xPRO](#) provides professional development opportunities to a global audience via online courses and programs.
- [MIT Horizon](#) offers bite-sized articles, videos, and podcasts for workforce learning on emerging technologies.
- [MIT Bootcamps](#) offers intensive week-long programs that challenge participants to develop a sustainable new venture. Innovators come from around the world to learn from MIT faculty and MIT-trained mentors.

- [MIT Integrated Learning Initiative](#) furthers our understanding of learning and education through rigorous, interdisciplinary research.
- The [Abdul Latif Jameel World Education Lab](#) leads a consortium of approximately 30 members to promote excellence and transformation in education worldwide.
- [Digital Learning Lab](#) scientists and fellows advance learning strategies and initiatives across campus.
- [MIT ReACT](#) (Refugee Action Hub) designs and deploys new learning opportunities for displaced populations around the world.
- The [MIT pK-12 Action Group](#) takes MIT's learning approach beyond campus to pre-kindergarten through grade 12 learners and teachers around the world, building upon existing efforts and developing new ones.
- The [MIT Center for Advanced Virtuality](#) pioneers innovative experiences using technologies of virtuality (e.g., extended reality, video games, and social media) and investigates the impacts of these technologies on learning, simulation, and cognition, as well as their social and ethical implications.
- [Responsible AI for Social Empowerment and Education \(RAISE\)](#), a collaboration between Open Learning, the Media Lab, and the Schwarzman College of Computing, is a new MIT initiative to innovate learning in the era of artificial intelligence.

MIT Open Learning also leads the Digital Credentials Consortium, a group of nine universities building an infrastructure for digital academic credentials that can support the education systems of the future.

Campus Life

The Campus

168

Acres (0.68 km²)

40+

**Gardens and
green spaces**

19

**Residence halls
on campus**

60+

**Public works
of art**

Originally founded in Boston, MIT relocated to Cambridge in 1916. The Institute is an integral part of the city, a diverse and vibrant community of approximately 119,000 residents noted for its history, intellectual life, and thriving innovation climate. The city hosts more than 47,000 college and university students, many of whom live within its 6.43 mi² (16.2 km²).

[MIT's campus](#) extends more than a mile (1.6 km) along the Charles River. At its heart is a group of interconnecting buildings, designed by architect W. Welles Bosworth (Class of 1889), that facilitate interaction and communication among MIT's schools and departments.

The campus architecture showcases a range of styles, from neoclassical through modernist, brutalist, and deconstructivist. Among the timeless landmarks on campus are buildings designed by leading architects such as Alvar Aalto, Frank Gehry, Steven Holl, Fumihiko Maki, I. M. Pei '40, and Eero Saarinen. Inside, state-of-the-art facilities support

MIT's research efforts in multiple disciplines. These facilities range from wet labs, clean rooms, and makerspaces to wind tunnels, robot and drone test labs, and a 237,777 ft² (22,090 m²) nanotechnology and advanced imaging center.

For students, the campus has 19 residence halls ([11 for undergraduates](#) and [8 for graduate students and families](#)), each with its own distinctive personality and community. Urban and walkable, the campus encourages sustainable practices in many ways, offering gardens and green spaces, bike-share stations, and free shuttles.

At its edges, the campus merges with various Cambridge neighborhoods, including Kendall Square—where the close association of industry and research expertise has made this area the most innovative square mile on the planet.

Pedestrian- and bicycle-friendly, Cambridge has six subway stations, a commuter rail line, 24 bus routes, 68 bike-share stations, dedicated bicycle lanes, and numerous shuttles and bikeways, enabling visitors and residents to get around without a car.

Housing

Undergraduate Students

Most undergraduates live in one of MIT's [11 on-campus houses](#) or in one of [36 MIT-affiliated fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups \(FSILGs\)](#). All unmarried first-year students must live in one of the Institute's residence halls. Each on-campus residence hall has a live-in house team comprising a head of house (usually a senior faculty member), as well as other professional staff, including an area director and graduate resident advisors, who support residents. On-campus housing is guaranteed for four consecutive years, and many students elect to remain on campus following their

first year or move to an FSILG. The current number of undergraduates living on campus is 3,330.

In 2021-2022, approximately 2,000 students were affiliated with an FSILG; approximately 1,200 of them chose to live in an FSILG community as an alternative to a traditional residence hall.

Graduate Students

More than 2,400 graduate residents live in MIT's [eight graduate houses](#) conveniently located on campus. Five of the available houses are able to accommodate graduate students and their partners. In addition, two of the eight graduate residences can accommodate over 400 students with families. Approximately 90 graduate students live in undergraduate residence halls as graduate resident advisors.

Sustainability

MIT's [comprehensive commitment to sustainability](#) aims to transform the Institute into a powerful model that generates just, equitable, and scalable solutions for responding to the unprecedented challenges of a changing planet. In these efforts, MIT has mobilized its community—from researchers to students to faculty and staff—to tackle climate change at the level of the campus and beyond.

- In 2015, MIT debuted its new climate action plan, *Fast Forward: MIT's Climate Action Plan for the Decade*, which calls for net-zero campus emissions by 2026 and elimination of direct campus emissions by 2050.
- Since 2014, MIT has reduced its net emissions by approximately 21%. Approximately 12% of this net reduction is attributed to MIT's Summit Farms [solar power purchase agreement](#), 8% to on-campus mitigation measures, and less than 1% to carbon improvements to the local electricity grid.

- The [Access MIT](#) program provides generous subsidies for staff, faculty, and postdocs for low-carbon commuting—including subway, bus, bicycling, and commuter rail—resulting in a nearly 15% decrease in parking at gated facilities on campus between 2016 and 2020. Data from the program is now being used to inform flexible and hybrid work arrangements.
- MIT sponsors four Bluebike stations on campus, with a total of 106 docks. The MIT community completed more than 453,358 bike share trips in 2021.
- New construction and major renovation projects on campus aim to meet the national LEED Gold (version 4) certification standard. To date, MIT has completed more than 18 LEED projects, including three LEED Platinum projects.

Guided by the goals of Fast Forward, MIT's long-standing efforts to reduce campus emissions are powered by cross-functional teams and strategies broadly focused on Scope 3 emissions, procurement, and power-purchase agreements.

More than two dozen offices, programs, and initiatives at MIT work to address sustainability and climate change issues, including the MIT Office of Sustainability, the Environmental Solutions Initiative, the MIT Energy Initiative, the MIT Climate & Sustainability Consortium, and the Abdul Latif Jameel Water and Food Systems Lab. MIT community groups also contribute significantly to sustainability work, with no fewer than 20 student- and staff-led groups advocating for and advancing climate change solutions. Recurring initiatives of the [Graduate Student Council](#) and [Undergraduate Association's](#) committees on sustainability and the staff [Working Green Committee](#) include a monthly Choose to Reuse swapfest and hackathons that engage students, industry, and thought partners in finding real-life solutions to sustainability challenges.

An Environment and Sustainability Minor offers undergraduates an opportunity to delve into interdisciplinary coursework and investigations into real-world challenges facing people and the planet.

As a founding member of the [Cambridge Compact for a Sustainable Future](#), MIT works with Cambridge, Harvard University, and more than 15 local businesses and organizations to achieve a more healthy, livable, and sustainable future. The Institute also partners with the cities of Cambridge and Boston to develop sustainability solutions for MIT and the world, and is a member of the [Boston Green Ribbon Commission](#).

Visit sustainability.mit.edu and datapool.mit.edu to learn more.

The Arts

60+

**Music, theater,
visual arts, writing,
and dance groups**

12

**Museums
and galleries on
campus**

>50%

**Incoming first-
year students with
training in the arts**

>50%

**Undergraduates
enrolled in arts
courses each year**

[The arts at MIT](#) are rooted in experimentation, risk taking, and imaginative problem solving. The Institute offers highly regarded degree programs in architectural design; art, culture, and technology; comparative media studies; history, theory, and crit-

icism of architecture and art; music; theater arts; and writing. Undergraduate minors are also offered in several of these fields. Many MIT faculty have received [awards](#) in recognition of their work in the arts, including the Pulitzer Prize, Grammy Award, Guggenheim Fellowship, and MacArthur Fellowship. MIT students are also strong contributors to the vibrant arts culture that permeates campus life.

The [MIT Museum](#) presents programs, exhibitions, and events that explore the foundations and frontiers of science and technology. The Institute's past achievements are celebrated through the museum's extensive and unique collection, while MIT's current research, innovation, and design provide a catalyst for rotating exhibitions and ongoing programs. Key collection areas include science, technology, architecture, art, MIT history, holography, marine technology, and photography. The museum also produces the annual Cambridge Science Festival, featuring multiple days of programs and activities at locations across Cambridge and greater Boston.

The [MIT List Visual Arts Center](#) is the Institute's contemporary art museum. Its core mission is to exhibit, collect, and commission visual arts for MIT. The List presents six to eight exhibitions annually in conjunction with a broad range of education programs free to both the MIT community and the general public. It also maintains and adds to MIT's permanent collection of more than 3,500 artworks that includes over 60 public sculptures and hundreds of paintings, prints, photographs, and drawings located throughout campus. The List Center commissions new works for the MIT Public Art Collection through the MIT Percent-for-Art Program, and oversees the Student Lending Art Program that allows MIT students to annually borrow original works of art from the collection to hang in their living spaces.

The [MIT Center for Art, Science & Technology](#) facilitates and creates opportunities for artists at MIT and beyond to exchange ideas and collaborate with engineers and scientists. The center fosters a culture where the arts, science, and technology thrive as interrelated, mutually informing modes of exploration, knowledge, and discovery.

The [Eugene McDermott Award in the Arts at MIT](#) celebrates innovative talents in all arts disciplines and is one of the most generous cultural honors in the United States. Recent recipients of the award include designer Thomas Heatherwick (2020), singer and actress Audra McDonald (2018), and architect David Adjaye (2016).

Athletics and Recreation

33

**Varsity sports
(16 men's,
15 women's, 2 coed)**

35

**Club teams,
with 800+
participants**

18

**Intramural sports,
with 4,000
participants from
the MIT community**

>25

**Different
classes to
satisfy GIRs**

MIT's [Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation](#) offers opportunities for sports instruction and participation at all levels. The Institute supports one of the broadest intercollegiate

athletic programs in the world, and features one of the nation's most expansive club programs. MIT provides group exercise and wellness classes, personal and group training, a variety of aquatic classes, and sport skill instruction for those who wish to engage in other [recreational programs](#).

As part of the [General Institute Requirements \(GIRs\)](#), each student must earn eight points through physical education and wellness courses and complete the swim requirement. Seasonal offerings include golf, sailing, broomball, and ice-skating, while additional specialty courses include scuba, back-packing, top-rope climbing, kayaking, downhill skiing, and snowboarding.

- Approximately 25% of undergraduates join a team while at MIT.
- MIT competes mainly against NCAA Division III New England colleges, but also routinely participates in regional and national championships.
- The Institute has earned 358 Academic All-America citations, the most among all NCAA Divisions.

With 10 buildings and 26 acres (0.11 km²) of playing fields, MIT boasts one of the most expansive athletic complexes in New England. The Zesiger Sports and Fitness Center on the west side of campus features two swimming pools, a fitness center, international-scale squash courts, and a multi-activity court. Roberts Field and Jack Barry Field, lighted sports-turf venues, are adjacent to the Zesiger Center. In 2018, the duPont Outdoor Tennis courts were outfitted with a new playing surface, fencing, and top-level lighting for all 12 courts. The east side of campus is served by the Alumni Pool and Wang Fitness Center, located in the Stata Center at the edge of Kendall Square.

Fun and Culture

MIT Colors

Cardinal red and silver grey first came to represent MIT in 1876, following the recommendation of the “School Color Committee,” convened in February that year expressly for the purpose of defining its official colors. According to committee chair Alfred T. Waite (Class of 1879), cardinal red was selected because it was reminiscent of the American flag and “has always stirred the heart and mind of man.” Gray, on the other hand, was chosen for its “quiet virtues of modesty and persistency and gentleness.” The committee’s choices were affirmed by the Alumni Association and approved by the faculty that May.

Today, MIT’s colors are displayed in myriad ways, one of the most prominent being through the Cardinal and Gray Society, the alumni group for those who have reached the 50th anniversary of their graduation. The group plays an important role at Commencement, as newly inducted members—wearing the society’s distinctive cardinal red jacket and gray slacks or skirt—head the processional and lead the graduates into Killian Court.

Tim the Beaver

[Tim the Beaver](#) has represented MIT since 1914, when he was [adopted as the mascot](#) at the suggestion of the Technology Club of New York during their annual dinner, at which President Richard Maclaurin was presented with two handsomely mounted real beavers. Other contenders included the kangaroo, who goes forward by leaps and bounds, and the elephant, who is wise, patient, strong, hard-working, and has a good, tough hide. The club chose the beaver—nature’s engineer, or in Lester Gardner’s (Class of 1898) words, “an industrious American animal noted for its mechanical skills who does its best work after dark.”

Brass Rat

In a ritual long enjoyed by MIT undergraduates, a committee of sophomores gathers each year to design their class ring, which is ceremoniously revealed during the spring term. MIT's class ring dates back to 1929, when a student committee convened to design what is formally known as the "Standard Technology Ring." Featuring a beaver (the Institute's mascot) on top, the Boston and Cambridge skylines on the sides, and the MIT seal and dome on the shank, the ring also incorporates unique design elements related to each graduating class. Made of gold, the ring's nickname, "[the Brass Rat](#)," derives from its color and the prominence of the beaver mascot. A concrete symbol of an MIT education, the distinctive Brass Rat is recognized worldwide and instantly identifies MIT alumni to one another.

Pi Day

In true MIT spirit, the Institute typically releases admission decisions on Pi Day (March 14), an annual celebration of the mathematical constant. Frequently, these admissions decisions are released at 6:28 p.m., which is known colloquially as "Tau time" ($\tau \times 2$). An exception was made for the early release time of decisions on March 14, 2015—known as Super Pi Day—as the date reflects the full first five digits of Pi (3.1415)—when admissions decisions were released at 9:26 a.m. in order to continue with the next three digits of Pi. MIT Admissions creates an engaging [video](#) to accompany the announcements and celebrate the tradition, and posts it to the [MIT Admissions Blog](#).

Hacking

MIT culture distinguishes itself not only for its seriousness of purpose but also for its unique sense of humor, as expressed through "[hacking](#)." Hacks at the Institute are elaborate but benign practical jokes, perpetrated anonymously—on campus, around

Cambridge, or even farther afield—that amaze for their creativity, cleverness, and difficulty of execution. A 1958 prank in which the Harvard Bridge was measured in increments of fraternity pledge Oliver Smoot has achieved such fame that “[smoot](#)” has been incorporated into the American Heritage Dictionary and is included as a unit of measure in Google Earth. The bridge still displays its quirky unit of measure today.

Though not officially sanctioned, hacks can be appreciated for their technical prowess and humorous digs at rival institutions. Examples include the astonishing emergence of a large black weather balloon with MIT written all over it in the middle of a [Harvard-Yale football game in 1982](#) and the 2006 cross-country theft of [Caltech’s Fleming Cannon](#).

Pirate Certificate

Not content to just produce exceptional graduates in the usual fields of study, the Institute also offers its swashbuckling students the opportunity to become certified pirates. Students who complete four physical education courses—archery, fencing, pistol (or rifle), and sailing—are eligible to receive a [Pirate Certificate](#), officially awarded by the Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation. In addition to receiving a certificate printed on faux parchment, newly minted pirates are rumored to swear a secret oath.

MIThenge

The Infinite Corridor runs through the center of MIT’s campus, connecting its east and west sides. Twice a year, an astronomical event lights up the length of the hallway that runs through Buildings 7, 3, 10, 4, and 8. In November and again in January, the setting sun aligns with that particular section, flooding its third-floor windows with a stream of direct sunlight that dazzles spectators observing from the west end of

Building 8. The assumed azimuth is 245.75 degrees. Now an annual tradition known as “[MIThenge](#),” this phenomenon was originally discovered, calculated, and publicized in 1975–1976 by students from the Department of Architecture.

MIT Mystery Hunt

The [MIT Mystery Hunt](#) is a puzzlehunt competition that takes place in January. The hunt challenges participating teams to solve a series of puzzles that lead to “the coin” (physical or virtual) hidden somewhere on campus. Puzzles can be as creative, complex, collaborative, unusual, physical, and solvable as hunt organizers decide to make them. The winning team gets to write the subsequent year’s hunt—and redefine the rules.

Launched in 1981, the MIT Mystery Hunt continues today as strong as ever. It is widely regarded as one of the oldest and most complex puzzlehunts in the world, attracting as many as 2,000 people annually and inspiring similar competitions at universities, companies, and cities around the world.

MIT and the Community

Service to the community

Since its founding, MIT has maintained a commitment to [be a good neighbor and serve the local community](#). The Institute actively supports nonprofit organizations that address local challenges by providing financial resources, the use of MIT facilities, representation on boards and committees, educational programs, and volunteer engagement. In addition, members of the MIT community support the Institute’s [Community Service Fund](#), which provides assistance for nonprofits where MIT volunteers are at work.

Departments, labs, and centers at MIT often create programming to inspire K-12 student interest in science, technology, engineering, and math. The Institute is working to increase awareness of these offerings to local schools and ensure equitable access to these opportunities.

The Institute's [Priscilla King Gray Public Service Center](#) provides programming, guidance, information, and support to students, faculty, and staff interested in public service, and serves as a resource for both MIT and the community at large.

Economic impact and innovation catalyst

MIT has a far-reaching impact on the economy of the region. The Institute is Cambridge's second largest employer and largest taxpayer, representing 14.9% of the city's revenue stream. MIT pays taxes on its commercial property and provides an annual voluntary payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) for property that is used for academic purposes and is legally tax exempt. In fiscal year 2021, the Institute made a PILOT contribution of approximately \$2.2 million to the city and paid approximately \$70 million in real estate taxes.

The research, startups, and talent pool that MIT generates are a magnet for investment, catalyzing and fueling the local innovation economy. [Kendall Square](#), at the eastern end of MIT's campus, is the seat of a thriving innovation hub. To provide expanded opportunities in this innovation economy, the [Job Connector](#) by MIT was established as a workforce development hub for Cambridge residents to explore opportunities for job readiness, skill training, internships, and apprenticeships. The Institute's [Kendall Square Initiative](#) and [Volpe](#) mixed-use development projects will also enhance the life and character of the area by adding over 2.5 million ft² of retail, office, and residential space and more than four

acres of open space. A new Open Space Programming office is working to create diverse, vibrant, and inclusive programming in MIT's Kendall open spaces—events and activities are open and inviting to all.

For more information, visit ogcr.mit.edu.

Research at MIT

The soul of MIT is research. For more than 150 years, the Institute has married teaching with engineering and scientific studies—and produced an unending stream of advancements, many of them world changing. Examples of some of MIT's historical achievements follow:

- 1930s** Pioneering high-speed photography
- 1940s** Engineering practical microwave radar
- 1950s** Building the magnetic core memory that made digital computers possible
- 1960s** Developing the inertial guidance systems for the Apollo space program
- 1970s** Inventing the first workable public key cryptographic system
- 1980s** Discovering the smallest known, most abundant photosynthetic bacteria in the ocean
- 1990s** Using new genetic and multiple-cell monitoring technologies to demonstrate how animals form memory about new environments
- 2000s** Creating a new type of matter, a gas of atoms that shows high-temperature superfluidity

This stream of discovery continues. Here are just a few accomplishments from this decade:

- Designing computer techniques that automatically decipher ancient languages
- Building a new radar technology system that can see through walls up to 60 ft (18.3 m) away
- Demonstrating experimentally the existence of a fundamentally new magnetic state called a quantum spin liquid
- Developing a new steelmaking process that produces no emissions other than pure oxygen
- Making the first direct detection of gravitational waves reaching the Earth (in collaboration with Caltech and others around the world), confirming Albert Einstein's prediction from 100 years ago
- Adapting a CRISPR protein that targets RNA, rather than DNA, for use as a rapid, inexpensive, highly sensitive diagnostic tool with the potential to transform research and global public health
- Developing with scientists from Brigham and Women's Hospital a way to power and communicate with devices implanted within the human body. The implants are the size of a grain of rice, have no batteries, and are powered by radio frequency waves.
- Capturing the first direct image of a black hole as part of an international team of over 200 scientists

Undergraduates can plunge directly into this world of exploration through the [Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program](#), which offers students a chance to collaborate with Institute faculty on cutting-edge research.

During fall 2021, approximately 5,130 researchers (including 1,397 [postdoctoral scholars](#) and 280 [visiting faculty and scientists](#)) worked with MIT faculty and students.

As an institution, MIT encourages interdisciplinary research across department and school boundaries while focusing on tackling great societal challenges. More interdisciplinary teams are found off-campus in nearby Lexington, Massachusetts, at [MIT Lincoln Laboratory, a federally funded research and development center focused on national security.](#)

Research Expenditures, by Primary Sponsor, Fiscal Year 2021

Primary sponsor	Expenditures (in millions)	%
Industry	\$163.11	22%
Department of Health and Human Services	\$135.73	18%
Department of Defense	\$124.75	17%
Foundations and other nonprofits	\$84.22	11%
National Science Foundation	\$74.03	10%
Department of Energy	\$71.55	10%
NASA	\$33.73	5%
State, local, and foreign governments	\$25.48	3%
All other federal agencies	\$15.02	2%
MIT Internal	\$12.16	2%
Total	\$739.78	100%

Research Centers, Labs, and Programs

Today's researchers tackle complex problems that cannot be resolved within a single academic discipline—and MIT constantly creates and evolves academic organizations that foster interdisciplinary work.

Centers, Labs, and Institutes

Independent interdisciplinary centers, laboratories, and institutes:

[Abdul Latif Jameel Clinic for Machine Learning in Health](#)

[Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab](#)

[Center for Environmental Health Sciences](#)

[Center for Global Change Science](#)

[Center for International Studies](#)

[Center for Real Estate](#)

[Center for Transportation and Logistics](#)

[Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence Laboratory](#)

[Division of Comparative Medicine](#)

[Haystack Observatory](#)

[Institute for Data, Systems, and Society](#)

[Institute for Medical Engineering and Science](#)

[Institute for Soldier Nanotechnologies](#)

[Koch Institute for Integrative Cancer Research](#)

[Laboratory for Information and Decision Systems](#)

[Laboratory for Nuclear Science](#)

[Leventhal Center for Advanced Urbanism](#)

[Lincoln Laboratory](#)

[Materials Research Laboratory](#)

[McGovern Institute for Brain Research](#)

[Microsystems Technology Laboratories](#)

[MIT Energy Initiative](#)

[MIT Kavli Institute for Astrophysics and Space Research](#)

[MIT Media Lab](#)

[MIT Portugal Program](#)

[Nuclear Reactor Laboratory](#)

[Picower Institute for Learning and Memory](#)

[Plasma Science and Fusion Center](#)

[Research Laboratory of Electronics](#)

[Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology](#)

[Sociotechnical Systems Research Center](#)

Institute Initiatives

Institute-wide research and educational activities:

[Abdul Latif Jameel World Water and Food
Systems Lab](#)

[Internet Policy Research Initiative](#)

[MIT Environmental Solutions Initiative](#)

[MIT Innovation Initiative](#)

[MIT.nano](#)

Prominent Programs

Notable centers, laboratories, institutes, and programs that engage the efforts of multiple MIT faculty:

[Abdul Latif Jameel World Education Lab](#)

[Art, Culture, and Technology Program](#)

[Center for Archaeological Materials](#)

[Center for Bits and Atoms](#)

[Center for Clinical and Translational Research](#)

[Center for Collective Intelligence](#)

[Center for Computational Science and
Engineering](#)

[Center for Constructive Communication](#)

[Center for Energy and Environmental Policy
Research](#)

[Center for Information Systems Research](#)

[Concrete Sustainability Hub](#)

[Deshpande Center for Technological Innovation](#)

[Edgerton Center/D-Lab](#)

[Initiative on the Digital Economy](#)

[Institute for Work and Employment Research](#)

[Joint Program on the Science and Policy of
Global Change](#)

[Knight Science Journalism Program](#)

[Laboratory for Financial Engineering](#)

[Laboratory for Manufacturing and Productivity](#)

[Legatum Center for Development and
Entrepreneurship](#)

[Martin Trust Center for MIT Entrepreneurship](#)

[MIT Center for Art, Science, and Technology](#)
[MIT Sea Grant College Program](#)
[MIT-Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution Joint
Program in Oceanography/Applied Ocean
Science and Engineering](#)
[Operations Research Center](#)
[Simons Center for the Social Brain](#)
[Women's and Gender Studies Program](#)

Key Local Collaborators

MIT's research extends out through collaborations with leading institutes and consortia both locally and around the world. These are the notable local centers, institutes, and laboratories that have a close research affiliation with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology:

[Advanced Functional Fabrics of America](#)
[Broad Institute](#)
[Charles Stark Draper Laboratory](#)
[Howard Hughes Medical Institute](#)
[Massachusetts Green High Performance
Computing Center](#)
[Ragon Institute of MGH, MIT and Harvard](#)
[Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research](#)

Lincoln Laboratory

MIT's [Lincoln Laboratory](#), in Lexington, Massachusetts, is a federally funded research and development center (FFRDC) that develops advanced technology to address national security needs. Its core competencies are in sensors, information extraction (signal processing), communications, and decision support—all supported by a broad research base in computing and advanced electronics. Other areas of innovative research and development are cybersecurity, biotechnology, novel engineered materials, autonomous systems, and humanitarian

assistance and disaster relief systems. Field-testing prototype systems is strongly emphasized. As a Department of Defense FFRDC, the laboratory transitions technologies to both the military services and industry. Approximately 3,650 MIT employees and 486 subcontracted personnel worked at Lincoln Laboratory in fiscal year 2021.

Ninety percent of Lincoln Laboratory's funding comes from the US Department of Defense.

Lincoln Laboratory Program Funding, by Mission Area, Fiscal Year 2021*

Mission area	% of total funding
Communication Systems	20%
Space Systems and Technology	18%
Air, Missile, and Maritime Defense Technology	15%
Tactical Systems	12%
Advanced Technology	11%
Homeland Protection	9%
Cybersecurity and Information Sciences	6%
Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Systems and Technology	4%
Advanced Research Portfolio	3%
Air Traffic Control	2%
Total	100%

*Lincoln Laboratory's fiscal year runs from October 1 to September 30.

MIT and Industry

Since its founding, MIT has encouraged researchers to work collaboratively across departments, fields, and institutional boundaries to solve problems. This has led to thousands of fruitful [partnerships with industry](#) and other leading research institutions.

Approximately [800 companies](#) work with faculty and students in Institute-wide programs such as MIT Corporate Relations' [Industrial Liaison Program](#) (the main conduit between corporations and MIT) and [MIT Startup Exchange](#) (which promotes collaboration and partnerships between MIT-connected startups and industry), as well as in many other collaborations.

Research sponsored directly by industry totaled \$178 million in fiscal year 2021, or 24% of total MIT research expenditures. According to the National Science Foundation, MIT consistently ranks first in industry-financed research and development expenditures among universities and colleges without a medical school.

The [Technology Licensing Office \(TLO\)](#) moves innovations and discoveries from the lab to the marketplace for the benefit of the public and to amplify MIT's global impact. The TLO cultivates an inclusive environment of scientific and entrepreneurial excellence, and bridges connections from MIT's research community to industry and startups by strategically evaluating, protecting, and licensing technology. In fiscal year 2021, the TLO received 730 invention disclosures (including 98 from Lincoln Laboratory), filed 358 new US patents, had 435 US patents issued, executed 139 licenses and options, had 24 companies formed using MIT intellectual property, and received \$87.4 million in total licensing revenue.

MIT's strong corporate connection also is reflected in its extensive business-oriented curricula, such as the [Leaders for Global Operations](#) program, [System Design and Management](#) program, [Sloan Fellows Program in Innovation and Global Leadership](#), [Supply Chain Management](#) program, and other degree programs that offer an industry internship component.

[MIT Sloan Executive Education](#) offers programs that combine innovation and entrepreneurship with strategic thinking and global leadership for mid- to senior-level executives. Led by senior faculty, programs provide participants with the tools and frameworks they need to create and lead successful organizations.

[MIT Professional Education](#) provides technology professionals around the world a gateway to renowned MIT research, knowledge, and expertise through advanced education programs designed specifically for them. Programs are offered in person, online, and in multiple languages.

Innovation and Entrepreneurship

MIT was founded with the aim of providing students with an education that combines rigorous academic study with practical, hands-on learning. This emphasis on practice is infused into the Institute's innovation and entrepreneurship curriculum and programming. MIT offers an Entrepreneurship and Innovation Minor and more than 50 courses, as well as dozens of not-for-credit opportunities during the [Independent Activities Period](#) and the [MIT delta v accelerator program](#) in the summer.

MIT's new hub for innovation and entrepreneurship, [InnovationHQ \(iHQ\)](#), opened to the MIT commu-

nity in 2021. Offering over 25,000 ft² of enhanced workspaces for students, along with offices for key program staff and researchers, conference rooms, training spaces, and meeting rooms, iHQ encourages the cross-pollination of ideas among MIT students, faculty, and staff, and the broader innovation community of Kendall Square.

Diversity is a key factor for innovation, helping unearth inherent biases in technological solutions, enabling teams to make better decisions, and driving stronger performance. MIT aims to enable higher levels of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem by elevating opportunities and targeted activities for members of traditionally marginalized communities. Some examples include the Inclusive Innovation Economy series, the Inclusive Innovation Programs, and the Women in Innovation and STEM Database at MIT.

There are more than 85 resources dedicated to fostering innovation and entrepreneurship at MIT. These are just a few:

- The [MIT Innovation Initiative](#) develops and strengthens the entrepreneurial community throughout the Institute by helping to steward the innovation process from idea to impact. It provides an infrastructure that inspires, supports, and connects MIT's most innovative people, programs, and partnerships.
- The [MIT Sandbox Innovation Fund Program](#) provides seed funding for student-initiated entrepreneurial ideas, mentoring from within MIT and a broad network of committed partners, and tailored educational experiences.
- The [Bernard M. Gordon-MIT Engineering Leadership Program](#) provides a blend of education and practice opportunities to MIT engineering students, and develops their

leadership capabilities and character, so that they can effectively contribute to real-world engineering projects.

- The [Deshpande Center for Technological Innovation](#) empowers some of MIT's most talented researchers to develop innovative technologies in the lab and bring them to market in the form of breakthrough products and new companies, with the goal of making a difference in the world.
- [MITdesignX](#) empowers students, faculty, and researchers to build new business ventures and forward-thinking solutions to address critical challenges facing the future of cities and the human environment.
- The [Legatum Center for Development and Entrepreneurship](#) offers programs that support students at every stage of the entrepreneurial journey, from discovering their path to exploring specific market opportunities to executing a plan that transforms opportunity into an innovative venture.
- The [Lemelson-MIT Program](#) promotes invention and the early stages of entrepreneurship across the United States through its prize program for collegiate inventors and its invention education initiatives.
- The [Martin Trust Center for MIT Entrepreneurship](#) advances knowledge and educates students in innovation-driven entrepreneurship in a manner that will best serve the nation and the world in the 21st century.
- [MIT D-Lab](#) works with people around the world to develop and advance collaborative approaches and practical solutions to global poverty challenges.
- [MIT IDEAS Global Challenge](#) taps and expands MIT students' unique skills and interests to prepare them to explore and address complex social and environmental challenges.

- The [MIT Startup Exchange](#) actively promotes collaboration and partnerships between MIT-connected startups and industry, principally members of MIT's Industrial Liaison Program.
- The [Venture Mentoring Service](#) connects entrepreneurs with teams of carefully selected mentors and other services to help turn their ideas into for-profit or non-profit ventures.
- The [Technology Licensing Office](#) cultivates an inclusive environment of scientific and entrepreneurial excellence and bridges connections from MIT's research community to industry and startups by strategically evaluating, protecting, and licensing technology.

MIT also has a wealth of [student clubs and initiatives](#) involved in entrepreneurship or innovation, among them the [MIT \\$100K Entrepreneurship Competition](#), the [MIT Clean Energy Prize](#), and conferences such as [Hacking Arts](#) and [Hacking Medicine](#).

Alumni

MIT Students after Graduation

Upon graduation, MIT students are well prepared and successful applicants for jobs or graduate school. They use a variety of MIT resources, including networking; career fairs; advising; and professional development services, clubs, and organizations. MIT [Career Advising and Professional Development \(CAPD\)](#) and other Institute resources, along with faculty, advisors, departmental staff, and alumni, help guide students applying to graduate and professional schools. Students interact with employers and graduate schools through career fairs, employer information sessions, and recruiting partnerships. In 2020-2021, there were more than 700 unique company engagements via virtual career fairs,

virtual recruiting, virtual information sessions, and formal partnerships with individual companies.

2021 Graduating Students' Post-Graduation Plans

Plan	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctoral
Graduate school	43%	16%	–
Work	52%	80%	99%

Sources: 2021 [Graduating Student Survey](#), [Doctoral Exit Survey](#).
Institutional Research, Office of the Provost.

Graduating bachelor's students going on to graduate school indicated pursuing one or more of the following: master's (58%), doctoral (39%), and medical (6%) degrees. In 2021, the top universities for bachelor's recipients pursuing graduate study were MIT, Stanford, Harvard, UC Berkley, and Princeton. Master's students seeking further study were primarily pursuing doctoral (85%) and master's (8%) degrees. Most master's students (69%) continued their studies at MIT.

More than half of doctoral students planning to work (55%) were choosing to work in academic or research institutions. Of those entering academia, 16% had tenure-track faculty appointments.

Additional 2021 Post-Graduation Employment Statistics

Plan	Bachelor's	Master's	Doctoral
Expect to work in the US	95%	80%	89%
Had an internship/externship that led to accepted job offer	50%	31%	–
Employer is a start-up	16%	22%	–

Sources: 2021 [Graduating Student Survey](#), [Doctoral Exit Survey](#).
Institutional Research, Office of the Provost.

MIT graduates who continue to employment are offered competitive salaries after graduation. Typically, they receive salary offers 30–40% above the national average for new college graduates, depending on the industry. Additional salary data is available on the [CAPD website](#).

Organizations that Hire MIT Graduates

Many companies and organizations regularly recruit at MIT. The following is a brief list:

Amazon
Apple
Boston Children's Hospital
Boston Consulting Group
Facebook
Ginkgo Bioworks
Goldman Sachs
Google
IBM
Jane Street Capital
Massachusetts General Hospital
Mathworks
McKinsey
Microsoft
Milwaukee Tool
NASA, Jet Propulsion Lab
Nike
Northrup Grumman
NVIDIA
Procter & Gamble
SpaceX
Takeda Pharmaceutical
Tesla
Thornton Tomasetti
US Navy

MIT Alumni Association

The [MIT Alumni Association](#) seeks to engage and inspire the MIT global community to make a better world. It serves as a platform to strengthen the ties of MIT's 142,887 living alumni and its students and friends with the Institute and with one another, and offers opportunities for connection through various resources, programs, services, and channels.

Geographic Distribution of Alumni

Region	Number
United States and Possessions	108,894
New England	27,305
Mid-Atlantic	26,959
West	22,644
Southwest and South Central	9,285
Great Lakes	7,740
Southeast	7,461
Northwest and Great Plains	6,666
Alaska and Hawaii	563
Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and other US territories	271
Asia	9,685
Europe	6,810
North America (other than US)	2,490
South America	1,730
Pacific Ocean Islands and Australia	719
Africa	570
Central America	90
Total	130,988

Note: Includes only alumni with known addresses. Data as of July 1, 2021.

In fiscal year 2021, 63% of living alumni engaged with MIT philanthropically, virtually, or face to face. More than 17,000 alumni volunteered in service to the MIT community. The Annual Fund reported \$89.8 million in gifts, and more than 36,000 alumni, students, and friends gave to MIT.

Resource Development

In fall 2021, MIT announced the conclusion of its [Campaign for a Better World](#), which raised a total of \$6.24 billion to support the Institute's work on some of humanity's biggest challenges. Overall, 112,703 individuals and organizations contributed to the campaign. Sixty-three percent of all donors were MIT alumni.

The campaign was publicly launched in 2016 and formally ran from July 2011 to June 2021. During its final year, new gifts and pledges totaled \$564 million.

Campaign donors supported the establishment of hundreds of new scholarships, fellowships, and professorships, and contributed extensive new funding for labs, living and learning spaces, innovation and entrepreneurship, and discovery research. Campaign contributions fueled a 67% increase in unrestricted giving compared to the previous decade, helping to advance early-stage ideas, supply vital equipment, renew existing buildings, and supplement financial aid.

MIT continues to cultivate the support of its alumni and friends for ongoing core needs and to seek opportunities to focus fundraising efforts on what drives the Institute's giving community: accelerating the creation of new knowledge and innovative solutions for the world's most difficult problems.

Operating Financials

Fiscal Year 2021 Statistics

Value of Plant and Invested Assets, Fiscal Year 2021

Asset	Value (in millions)
Land, buildings, and equipment, net book value	\$4,476.0
Market value of endowed funds	\$27,394.0
Market value of total investments	\$34,793.4

Gifts and Pledge Payments to MIT, Fiscal Year 2021

Source	Amount (in millions)
Foundations	\$299.2
Individuals	\$187.5
Corporations	\$75.8
Other	\$0.1
Total	\$562.6

Gift and Pledge Payment Designations, Fiscal Year 2021

Designation	Amount (in millions)
Research and education programs	\$305.3
Undergraduate education and student life	\$65.6
Construction and renovations	\$62.6
Unrestricted	\$50.2
Faculty chairs	\$38.5
Graduate fellowships	\$19.6
Scholarships and other undergraduate aid	\$17.5
Undesignated and miscellaneous	\$3.3
Total	\$562.6

Operating Expenditures, Fiscal Year 2021

Category	Expenditures (in millions)	%
Sponsored research	\$1,775.5	48%
Instruction and unsponsored research	\$1,177.4	31%
General and administrative*	\$773.8	21%
Total	\$3,728.7	100%

*Includes auxiliary enterprises and Alumni Association.

Operating Revenues, Fiscal Year 2021

Category	Revenues (in millions)	%
Sponsored support– Lincoln Laboratory	\$1,118.0	28%
Investment return to operations	\$912.6	23%
Sponsored support–Campus	\$810.4	21%
Gifts and bequests for operations	\$448.2	11%
Tuition, net of discount	\$344.3	9%
Other revenue	\$200.9	5%
Auxiliary enterprises	\$82.0	2%
Sponsored support– Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research and Technology	\$28.7	1%
Total	\$3,945.1	100%

Accreditation

MIT is [accredited](#) by the New England Commission of Higher Education.

Inquiries regarding MIT's accreditation status may be submitted to MIT at accreditation@mit.edu or directly to the commission:

New England Commission of Higher Education
3 Burlington Woods Drive, Suite 100
Burlington, MA 01803-4514
telephone 781-425-7785
email info@neche.org

Many degree programs at MIT are accredited by specialized professional accrediting bodies, including ABET, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, the American Chemical Society, the National Architectural Accrediting Board, and the Planning Accreditation Board. Academic departments can provide information on the accreditation of the specific degree programs they offer.