

Frequently Asked Freshmen Questions

What is the annual cost?

For 2010-11 academic year, the tuition, fees, room and board are: \$15,665 for an in-state student and \$21,745 for an out-of-state student. This cost does not reflect books or supplies. A wide variety of financial aid is available for students. In fact, each year about 69% of Framingham State students receive some form of financial aid.

Are freshmen allowed to have cars on campus?

Yes, freshmen, as well as upperclassmen, resident students are allowed to have cars on campus. However, parking is very limited and first year students may be placed on a wait list. There is a fee associated with resident parking as well.

What are the living arrangements?

There are six different residence halls at Framingham State, and although there are not set freshman only residence halls, there are a number of different living options. Students who participate in the Freshmen Experience Program (FEP) are housed on the second floor of Larned Hall. This program is for first-year students only and provides a close-knit atmosphere for the students to get acclimated to college life. There is also a Freshmen Honors Floor on the eleventh floor of Corrine Hall Towers, which is for first-year honors students and provides the residents with a more supportive atmosphere and longer quiet hours to focus on their studies. We also have two residence halls that consist of primarily single rooms: Horace Mann Hall and Pierce Hall (all-female residence hall). Linsley Hall offers suite style living that consists of either six or eight person suites with double rooms, a common living area, and bathroom. Framingham State is also in the process of building a new residence hall. The new residence hall is set to be complete in the fall of 2011.

Can you request a specific roommate?

Yes, you can request a specific roommate. Once you have committed to Framingham State and have sent in a housing deposit, you will receive housing information from the Office of Residence Life and Housing. Currently, you can request a specific roommate if that person has also committed to Framingham State and has sent in a housing deposit. However, it is not guaranteed that you will automatically be placed with this person.

Are interviews mandatory?

Interviews are not part of the application process at Framingham State University. If you have questions, please feel free to call our office and either ask to speak with our transfer counselor or set up an appointment.

What are Framingham State's academic programs?

There are eleven programs for a Bachelor of Arts degree: Art Studio, Art History, Communication Arts, Economics, English, Geography, History, Modern Languages,

Politics, Psychology, Sociology, and Interdisciplinary Major in Liberal Arts and Sciences (some include concentrations).

There are eleven programs for a Bachelor of Science degree: Biology, Business Administration, Business and Information Technology, Chemistry, Computer Science, Environmental Science, Fashion Design and Retailing, Food and Nutrition, Food Science, Mathematics, and Nursing (Post R.N.'s only) (some include concentrations).

There are two programs for a Bachelor of Science in Education degree: Early Childhood and Elementary Education (include concentrations).

The minors offered include, but are not limited to: American Studies, Apparel Design, Art History, Art Studio, Biochemistry, Biology, Business Administration, Chemistry, Communication Arts, Computer Science, Consumer and Community Services, Earth Sciences, Economics, English, Food Science, French, Geography, Geology, History, Information Technology, Journalism, Latin American Studies, Law and Politics, Mathematics, Museum Studies, Music, Nutrition, Philosophy, Physics, Professional Writing, Psychology, Secondary Education, Sociology, Spanish, Statistics, and Writing.

Should I take the both the SAT I and ACT?

Framingham State does not require students to take both tests. However, we accept scores from either test.

What is more important – a high GPA or high level classes?

The Admission Committee prefers to see that a student has challenged himself/herself academically as much as possible. If a student has taken very challenging courses (i.e. AP, Honors) and earned slightly lower grades, the Committee will take into consideration the level of difficulty of the courses. Undergraduate Admissions looks at GPA's and SAT scores together and uses a sliding scale. If an applicant's GPA is lower, the committee likes to see a higher SAT/ACT score.

Do you have an Honors Program and if so can I participate?

Yes, we do have an Honors Program. It is offered to first-year students who have had a distinguished high school career based on a composite of their combined SAT/ACT scores, weighted grade point average, and demonstrated potential for superior work at the college level.

What is the average class size?

Average class sizes are 25-30 students at Framingham State.

Does Framingham State have early action and/or early decision?

Those students who consider Framingham State their first choice should consider our Early Action option which guarantees an admission decision by December 15th. The Early Action deadline is November 15th. This is non-binding and those students who are accepted to Framingham State may submit their tuition deposit any time up to May 1st.

What is there to do on campus for social life?

There are over 60 clubs and organizations at Framingham State. The office of Student Involvement and Leadership Development plans events throughout the year. The two largest event planning organizations are the Student Government Association and the Student Union Activities Board. These organizations each sponsor many events such as: musical entertainment (both local and national), comedy shows, hypnotists, mind readers, bingo and many other social events. Other clubs such as Hilltop Players (the drama club), Active Sociologists, Women's Empowerment, 10 Percent and FSU Dance Club hold events throughout the semester as well. Because of the hardworking individuals in the clubs, organizations and Student Involvement offices, there is always something to do around campus, even on most weekends.

When do you need to declare a major?

Framingham State students do not have to select a major or concentration until the end of their sophomore year. There are many different general advisors and counselors available to students to help them make their decision.

Do you have a 5-year MBA program?

There is not a 5-year MBA program, however; you can graduate in five years with an MBA. To be eligible, students must enroll in Framingham State and obtain an undergraduate degree, take the GMAT (Graduate Management Admission Test) and apply to the Graduate School. If you are accepted into the accelerated program you can then complete the graduate program in one year by attending classes full-time. The regular graduate program can be completed in two years if students attend full-time.

Are the residence hall rooms connected to the Internet?

Yes, the entire campus has wireless internet and there are also plugs for internet cords in all of the rooms in our residence halls.

Is the campus safe?

The Framingham State campus is very safe. There are cameras all around the campus that have a direct feed to Campus Police 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There are also call boxes at the front entrance of University buildings, scattered randomly around the campus and in all four of our parking lots. Each call box has an emergency button that connects directly to Campus Police in an emergency situation and there is also a call button that allows whoever pushed it to speak directly to Campus Police. Our Campus Police also patrol the campus and a three mile radius 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Our residence halls are accessed through the scanning of the student's ID and only the students that live in that building can gain access. Security Desk Attendants sit at the front desk of all residence halls 24 hours a day, seven days a week and scan everyone's IDs on entry to ensure they reside there. If guests are visiting, they must be checked into the residence halls with a federal or state issued picture ID and the student's own FSU ID that they pick up upon leaving. That way, they always know who is in every residence hall at any given time.

Is housing guaranteed?

Students may opt to live on campus for their entire college career, provided they meet all paperwork and payment deadlines.

What is the job placement rate?

Framingham State is proud to report that 96% of the class of 2008 was either employed or attending graduate school within 6 months after graduation. The Office of Career Services assists students with advising, career development, internships, workshops and coordinates an extensive on-campus recruiting program.

What is the percent of freshmen that return after their first year?

Approximately 73% of freshmen return as sophomores.

How many stay all four years?

Over 75% percent of Framingham State students stay all four years and graduate with a degree.

What are the application deadlines?

The priority housing deadline is February 15th. Applications after that date are welcomed, although housing may be by waitlist only. The Spring Semester (January start) deadline is December 1st.

What are the admission criteria?

Students need to send the completed application form, official high school transcript including a senior year course schedule and first quarter grades when available, official SAT I or ACT scores, a letter of recommendation from either a counselor, coach, teacher, or work supervisor, essay, and application fee of \$45.

The high school transcript should show the following minimum requirements: 4 years of English, 3 years of college preparatory math including Algebra II, 3 years of social science (at least 2 years of lab science), 2 years of social studies, 2 years of the same foreign language, and 2 years of college preparatory electives.

How soon will I find out if I am accepted?

Application decisions are sent on a rolling basis. After the completed application is processed, students are notified by mail of an admission decision within 4-6 weeks.

What scholarships are available?

Students do not have to fill out another form to be considered for scholarships. All applications are reviewed for merit scholarships based on their recalculated high school GPA and SAT or ACT scores.

How will my AP classes be treated?

Framingham State accepts Advanced Placement credits provided students receive a minimum score of 3 on the AP exam. An official AP report is required for credit to be granted.

What is the student to faculty ratio?

The ratio is 17:1 (17 students per one faculty member).

Do TA's teach class?

There are no teaching assistants or graduate students conducting classes at Framingham State.

How accessible are the faculty?

We are proud of our faculty's dedication and accessibility to our students. Full time faculty are required to have three office hours per week (most hold more) during which students can come in without an appointment to ask any questions regarding class material. Also, our professors are flexible and if their office hours do not match up with your free time, they will often allow appointments to be made for any questions. Students have access to faculty mostly through phone and email, if they cannot meet with them face-to-face.

What is the graduation rate?

Approximately 49% of students who start in their freshman year graduate from Framingham State.

When can I visit?

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions is open year round. There are scheduled tours given by our Student Admissions Representatives most weekdays at 10:30am, 12:30pm and 2:30pm. Information sessions, which include a presentation about Framingham State followed by a campus tour, are scheduled on various days throughout the year. Please call the admissions tour line at (508) 626-4934 or logon to our website www.framingham.edu/admissions/visit-us/ for more information, tour times and dates.

What about student diversity?

Our undergraduate population is made up of students from 19 states and 11 foreign nations. Our student of color population makes up approximately 14% of our total undergraduate student population.

What is the percent of male/female students?

For the 2010 academic year, the Framingham State population was approximately 65% female and 35% male.

Are there opportunities to study abroad?

Yes! Students have the opportunity to study in a variety of countries (UK, France, Italy, Spain, India and Australia just to name a few) for different lengths of time as long as they are full-time students and in good academic standing.

www.framingham.edu/study-abroad/

Will I be able to practice my religious observances?

A Campus Ministry Office is located on Framingham State's campus. Although Framingham State does not affiliate itself with any one religion, this office has pamphlets on area congregations and services throughout the surrounding area. Catholic and Protestant services are held on campus in our Ecumenical and Cultural Center. Framingham State also has four different religious affiliated clubs on campus: Christian Fellowship, Catholic Newman, FSU Protestants and Hillel. All four are open to everyone on campus and host different events and services for their members and the entire Framingham State Community.

What's the food like?

Sodexo dining services handles our meal plan options. You can create a plan that best fits your eating habits by choosing 10, 14 or 19 meals per week which are deducted when swiped at the main dining commons for entry. Students have the option of also getting Flex Dollars with those meal plans where the 10 comes with 200 dollars, the 14 comes with 150 and the 19 comes with 100. Those Flex Dollars can be used at our Snack Bar (which includes many snacks, prepared foods, and a full deli and grill), Cyber Café (which is a coffee shop that serves Starbucks) and Juice Bar (which also includes many snacks, prepared foods and our smoothie bar).

What are the average standardized test scores?

The average combined SAT score on the critical reading and math scores for incoming students for the 2010-2011 academic year was 1050. The average ACT composite score was 23.

What is Framingham State's policy regarding students with documented learning disabilities?

Framingham State offers support services to students with learning disabilities. Students need to submit official documentation of their disabilities to the. This documentation is reviewed by a professional on campus to determine what the student's needs are and what Framingham State can provide. Students with learning disabilities who attend Framingham State must complete all of the same graduation requirements as other undergraduate students.

How big is Framingham State?

Total traditional undergraduate enrollment is approximately 3,900 students. The 2010-2011 class included about 735 freshmen and 395 transfers.

What varsity athletic teams are at Framingham State?

Framingham State is a member of NCAA Division III.

Men's varsity sports include: baseball, basketball, cross country, football, soccer, and ice hockey.

Women's varsity sports include: basketball, cross-country, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, and volleyball.

What is the average GPA?

The average GPA for incoming freshmen is 3.0.

Does Framingham State accept the Common Application?

We accept the Framingham State application as well as the Common Application.