Why do international students choose BHCC?

Every year, Bunker Hill Community College (BHCC) welcomes hundreds of international students from more than 100 countries to our campuses. While they are here, and after they transfer to four-year colleges and universities, they tell us that BHCC was a great choice. If you want to study at a college that offers excellent programs, outstanding faculty, individualized attention, opportunities to make life-long friends and a great city, consider BHCC.

BHCC values international students

Since its founding in 1973, BHCC has made international education a priority. Our institution has a national reputation for serving students from around the world. We value and appreciate the worldwide perspective that international students bring to us. International students play a central role in the College community, and it’s easy for international students to get involved in campus life and make life-long friends.
Outstanding academic programs and dedicated faculty

BHCC offers more than 100 associate degree and certificate programs that enable students to complete the first two years of a bachelor’s degree and then they transfer to universities for the final two years. Articulation agreements between BHCC and public and private universities make it easy to transfer, and transfer counselors help at every step of the way.

Academic excellence is important at BHCC. We offer a dynamic Honors program, an award-winning Honor Society and assistance in transferring to top universities after graduation.

BHCC also has options for students who do not wish to go on for a bachelor’s degree. Students can enroll in either an associate degree program or pursue one of nearly 50 certificate programs.

At many universities, introductory level courses students take in the first two years are taught by teaching assistants. These teaching assistants are actually students pursuing their graduate degrees. At BHCC, all of your professors will have advanced degrees and extensive teaching experience.

Location

BHCC is located in Boston, Massachusetts, the cultural and historic center of New England. Our Charlestown Campus is only a ten-minute drive from downtown Boston and the city’s many cultural, historical, entertainment and sporting events centers. BHCC has its own subway stop, making it easy to get around the city. Boston has the largest number of colleges, universities and medical centers in the United States. Many large corporations, as well as small technology-driven firms, are located in Boston. BHCC’s students love the international environment of Boston.

“Bunker Hill Community College is the best community college you can attend. BHCC makes it easy for students to transfer to a four-year university in the U.S. If you would like to get a great education and transfer to a four-year institution, BHCC is the place for you.”

- Fatih Mengi, Turkey, Associate in Science, Engineering Transfer Option
Comprehensive support and individualized attention

BHCC will help you succeed. We have an outstanding English as a Second Language program with many levels of instruction. If you are not totally ready for academic coursework, you can enroll in innovative “paired courses” that combine an academic course with ESL support. Students can obtain free tutoring in almost all subject areas at the Tutoring and Academic Support Center. The Student Health Center provides healthcare and health education.

The average class size at BHCC is 20 students. This is very different from the size of introductory classes at many universities, which often have 100-200 students. At BHCC, your professors will know your name and where you are from by the end of the first week. Your professors and advisors will know you well enough to help you choose the best university when it’s time to transfer.

BHCC also offers the state-of-the-art LifeMap. LifeMap is a program and a process that is dedicated to promoting student success in educational, career and life goals. LifeMap utilizes technology combined with personal attention students receive from faculty and staff to ensure a positive and productive post-secondary educational experience. The BHCC portal allows students to access the many technological components contained in LifeMap, including email, career planning tools, ePortfolio, advising and counseling information, financial planning and information regarding support services on and off campus.

BHCC faculty and staff provide students the individual attention and support required to fulfill their personal and educational goals.
“Bunker Hill Community College helps students from all over the world to realize their full potential. It strengthens even as it challenges – and it makes one yearn for excellence. BHCC is indeed a home to international students.”

- Tenisha Druscilla Namazzi, Uganda, Associate in Science, Biotechnology
Established in 1999, the International Center coordinates international education activities at Bunker Hill Community College and provides programs, services and activities designed to further the internationalization of the BHCC community.

The International Center provides a focus for all international activities at BHCC and serves as a “home away from home” for international students. The Center coordinates orientation programs for new international students and assists students in obtaining homestays with American families or off-campus housing. Professional international student advisors help students adjust to college life in the United States and provide counseling on immigration, academic and personal concerns.

International student services
New students participate in orientation programs to help them adjust to the U.S. culture and educational system and to student life in Boston. Students can obtain advice on current immigration regulations relating to visas, change of immigration status, school transfers, work permission, practical training and travel to other countries. International student advisors also serve as counselors to discuss academic matters and personal issues such as adjustment to living in the United States.

International student admissions
Students who wish to attend BHCC on an international student (F-1) visa apply through the International Center. Applicants must have
completed secondary school and must demonstrate evidence of English proficiency. The student or sponsor must demonstrate that sufficient funds are available to cover the cost of educational and living expenses.

**Study abroad scholarships**

With funding from BHCC and the Student Government Association, the International Center coordinates an annual study abroad scholarship program. Students can apply to study in a variety of countries for periods ranging from two to eight weeks. Applicants must be matriculated into a program and must have completed 12 academic credits at BHCC with a grade point average of 2.5 or higher. Approximately 35 scholarships, covering 80 percent of the total program costs, are awarded each year. The application deadline is usually the fourth week of October.

**Intercultural programs and activities**

The International Center regularly coordinates cultural and educational programs designed to assist the College community in learning more about our rapidly shrinking world. These programs frequently feature BHCC faculty, staff and students who have international and intercultural experience. Many international visitors to BHCC are hosted by the International Center each year.

**Faculty and curriculum development programs**

The International Center coordinates a number of international programs and activities that enable faculty and students to participate in diverse programs. The Center also provides support to faculty developing new international courses and updating their courses to include a global perspective.

**For more information**

contact the International Center at:
Phone: 617-228-2460
Fax: 617-228-2442
Email: international@bhcc.mass.edu

Visit us at bhcc.mass.edu.
AFFIRMATIVE ACTION and EQUAL OPPORTUNITY POLICY

Bunker Hill Community College does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, disability, genetic information, maternity leave or national origin in its educational programs and in admission to, access to, treatment in or employment in its programs or activities as required by Chapters 151B and C of the Massachusetts General Laws; Titles VI and VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504, Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and regulations promulgated thereunder.

Direct all inquiries concerning the application of these regulations to Thomas L. Saltonstall, Director of Diversity and Inclusion, the College’s Affirmative Action Officer and Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator, 250 New Rutherford Avenue, Room E236F, Boston, MA 02129, by emailing tisalton@bhcc.mass.edu or by calling 617-228-3311.