
Admissions

Holy Cross seeks students who are intellectually curious, appreciative of humanity's creative sense, and committed to the realization of each person's potential. Admission to Holy Cross is highly selective; therefore, the Admissions Committee gives preferential consideration to those candidates who have demonstrated their ability to perform well in a rigorous intellectual endeavor. Although there are no specific secondary-school subject requirements for admission, candidates are urged to complete the most challenging college-preparatory program available in their schools. A curriculum of this nature should emphasize study in English, mathematics, foreign language (ancient or modern), laboratory sciences, and social sciences. Variation from this preparation, however, may not necessarily disqualify a candidate for admission. Evidence of superior achievement in analytical reading and writing is of particular importance to the Admissions Committee.

Standardized test scores are an optional part of the Holy Cross admissions process. Students have the option to submit their scores if they believe the results present a fuller picture of their achievements and potential. Students who opt not to submit their scores are at no disadvantage in admissions decisions. International students whose first language is not English are still required to submit the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).

Since Holy Cross seeks students who will contribute to the College both academically and personally, the Admissions Committee takes specific note of the individual talents and qualities of candidates as well as the extent of extracurricular involvement. Such information is conveyed to the Committee through recommendations from counselors and teachers, through an optional (but highly recommended) personal interview, and through the candidate's statements on the application.

The College limits the number of students accepted to the biology major and the premedical program. Candidates interested in these academic areas should indicate this preference at the time of submitting an application. Students are first evaluated for admission to the College and then for approval for these programs.

The deadline for filing an application is January 15. Candidates may file the Common Application (hard copy or online). Holy Cross does not require a Common Application supplement. Applicants will be notified of the Committee's decision in early April. Application for admission to Holy Cross is encouraged of all academically qualified candidates regardless of religious affiliation, race, sex, or national origin.

The College of the Holy Cross supports the efforts of secondary school officials and governing bodies to have their schools achieve regional accredited status to provide reliable assurance of the quality of the educational preparation of its applicants for admission.

Campus Visits

Visitors are always welcome at Holy Cross and will find their time spent on campus to be most productive when the College is in session. Group information sessions are held on several Saturday mornings during the fall. These sessions include a presentation by a member of the Admissions staff, a discussion period, and a student-guided tour of the campus.

Visitors are invited to take guided tours of the campus, which are conducted by student volunteers, throughout the fall and spring semesters. Tours begin at the Admissions Office several times throughout the day. Day visits are available to high school seniors Monday-Friday while classes are in session. These visits can include a tour of the campus, as well as the opportunity to observe classes and to meet informally with our students and faculty members.

Interviews

Personal interviews in the Admissions Office are scheduled Monday through Friday except during January, February and March. While not required, they are used in the evaluation of a candidate and, therefore, are highly recommended. We suggest that they be arranged well in advance. The deadline for on-campus interviews for students applying regular decision is December 29. For Early Decision candidates, the deadline is November 24. To arrange an interview please call the Admissions Office at 1-800-442-2421.

Alumni interviews are available in most metropolitan areas to applicants unable to interview on campus. To facilitate scheduling, please consult the Admissions section on the Holy Cross Web site (www.holycross.edu). The deadline to request an alumni interview is December 1.

Early Decision

To superior high school seniors who have selected Holy Cross as their first choice, the College offers an Early Decision Program. The Admissions Committee assumes that all students who apply under this program will accept an offer of admission, provided it includes adequate financial aid if such is needed. Students should file an Early Decision application by December 15. Decisions will be made on a rolling basis. Students will be notified of the decision approximately three to four weeks from receipt of all required credentials, including an Early Decision form. Early Decision candidates may file applications for regular admission to other colleges, but upon notification of acceptance to Holy Cross, all other applications must be withdrawn immediately and a validating, non-refundable tuition deposit of \$500 be submitted.

A personal interview on campus is recommended for all Early Decision candidates and should be arranged well in advance. Should the Admissions Committee be unable to grant acceptance, the application will either be denied or deferred for consideration in the regular pool. The candidate must then have an official transcript of seventh semester grades sent to the College.

Early Admission

Through its program of Early Admission, the College will consider the application of superior high school juniors who have attained a high degree of personal maturity, fulfilled their graduation requirements and have the full support of their high school. A personal interview is required for students applying for Early Admission.

Transfer Students

Each semester Holy Cross accepts a limited number of transfer students to the second- and third-year classes. Because of the competition, candidates for transfer must present evidence of strong academic achievement at the college level. The application deadline is November 1 for the spring semester and March 1 for the fall semester. A personal interview is highly recommended for all transfer candidates. Because of departmental limitations, transfer students are admitted to the biology major and the pre-medical program on a space-available basis.

First-Year Orientation

A special program of orientation for new students is arranged by various campus offices and organizations prior to the start of classes in the fall. Information concerning the orientation program is forwarded to the students in late spring.

Further Information

Inquiries concerning admissions should be addressed to:

Admissions Office

College of the Holy Cross

1 College Street

Worcester, MA 01610-2395

(508) 793-2443

1-800-442-2421

www.holycross.edu

E-mail: admissions@holycross.edu