



Everything You Should Know About Queens College

Ambassador Program 2006

History

Queens College in Flushing, Queens, opened its doors in 1937 with the goal of offering a first-rate education to talented people of all backgrounds and financial means. Part of the **City University of New York** (CUNY) since its founding in 1961, Queens College is one of CUNY's largest senior colleges. Often referred to as "the jewel of the CUNY system," the college enjoys a national reputation for its liberal arts and sciences and preprofessional programs.

Mission

Queens College prepares students to become leaders of our global society by offering a rigorous education in the liberal arts and sciences under the guidance of a faculty dedicated to both teaching and research. Students graduate with the ability to think critically, address complex problems, explore various cultures, and use modern technologies and information resources. With a faculty and student population that reflects the diversity of New York City, Queens College provides an unusually rich education.

Students

- The college's achievement-oriented and hard-working students are likely to have graduated in the top 25% of their high school class.
- Princeton Review's America's Best Value Colleges (2006 edition) ranks Queens eighth in the nation for its outstanding academics, generous financial aid packages, and relatively low costs.
- Enrollment: 17,639
 - 13,019 undergraduates: 69% attend full-time
 - 4,620 graduate students: 91% attend part-time

- Queens ranks in the first tier in the category of “Best Universities–Master’s–North” in U.S. News and World Report’s America’s Best Colleges (2006 edition)

Campus and Student Activities

The college is located on a beautiful 77-acre, tree-lined campus surrounding grassy open spaces and a traditional Quad. The completely renovated Powdermaker Hall, the major classroom building, reopened in fall 2003 with state-of-the-art technology throughout. The **Benjamin Rosenthal Library**, with its soaring, light-filled atrium and distinctive clock tower, features innovations in information retrieval. The college is also expanding its wireless capability, opening new cafés and dining areas, installing plasma boards, updating the Student Union and several other buildings, and embarking on a variety of campus-beautification projects.

Because Queens is a commuter college, the administration is dedicated to making students feel that the college is their home-away-from-home, with over 100 clubs and a full athletics program. In fact, Queens is the only CUNY college that participates in Division II sports. A **Child Development Center**, staffed by professionals, offers inexpensive child care services to students with children. Ongoing cultural events include readings by renowned writers, concerts, and theatre and dance performances. The college is also home to the **Godwin-Ternbach Museum**, which houses more than 3,500 works of art.

The college holds courses at several off-campus locations, including the 43rd Street Extension Center in Manhattan and the CUNY Center for Higher Education in vibrant downtown Flushing, which opened in late 2003.

Faculty

The college’s faculty consists of top scholars who are dedicated to teaching. There are 581 full-time faculty, 86% of whom have the terminal degree in their field (not all fields offer doctorates), and 75% have tenure. Many also teach in Ph.D. programs at the CUNY Graduate Center. Our faculty have received numerous research grants from such prestigious organizations as the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health. In recent years they have also received several Guggenheim awards and Fulbright grants.

Degree Programs

The college offers over 115 undergraduate and graduate majors. Academic programs are organized into four divisions, which offer both day and evening courses: **Arts and Humanities**; **Education**; **Mathematics and the Natural Sciences**; and the Social Sciences.

The college recently introduced new degree programs in Graphic Design and Neuropsychology as well as a **Bachelor of Business Administration** degree that offers majors in Finance, International Business, and Actuarial Studies.

New additions to the graduate curriculum include a degree program in environmental geotechnology and two certificate programs: one in earth sciences for high school teachers and another in archives record management and conservation.

Queens College participates in the **CUNY Honors College**. This challenging program for academically gifted students provides full tuition, an academic expense account, mentors, internships, a free laptop, special seminars, and study abroad programs. Queens College also offers its own **Honors programs** in the arts and humanities, sciences, and social sciences to qualified students.

The college is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the oldest and most respected undergraduate honors organization in the United States. Fewer than 10 percent of the nation's liberal arts colleges meet the stringent academic requirements necessary to host a Phi Beta Kappa chapter. top of page

Nontraditional Programs

The **Adult Collegiate Education (ACE)** program, for highly motivated adults 25 years of age and older, offers the option of obtaining college credit for life achievement. The **Weekend College** allows busy students to pursue their degrees on Saturday and Sunday. **Worker Education** assists union members returning to school, including non-degree, matriculated, and graduate students. The **Continuing Education Program** offers lifelong learning opportunities through non-credit courses that stress personal and professional development. The **College for Older Adults** is an innovative, low-cost educational program that stresses the pleasures of learning in non-credit courses designed for adult learners age 50 and older.

Tuition

For New York State residents, yearly tuition is \$4000 for undergraduates and \$5420 for graduate students. For out-of-state and international students, tuition is \$360 per credit for undergraduates and \$425 per credit for graduate students.

Financial Aid

Various forms of financial aid are available. In fact, more than 50% of the college's students receive need-based financial aid. The Queens College Foundation also offers merit-based scholarships.

Admission Requirements

Admission is based on a variety of factors, including high school grades, academic program, and SAT or ACT scores. Students should have a well-rounded program of study that includes academic course work in math (3 years), English (4 years), lab science (2 years), social studies (4 years), and foreign language (3 years).

Accreditation

The college is accredited by the State of New York and the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. The American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education includes Queens in its list of member colleges. Other programs are accredited by their disciplinary associations.

The Arts

Queens College is the center for the arts in Queens. The Evening Reading Series has brought some of the world's finest writers to campus, including Toni Morrison, Norman Mailer, Doris Lessing, and V. S. Naipaul. Great performers from all fields—Dance Theatre of Harlem, the New York Philharmonic, Dionne Warwick, Billy Joel, to name a few—have taken the stage at **Colden Center**, which also regularly presents family shows.

The only museum in Queens with art from ancient to modern times, the **Godwin-Ternbach** hosts several new exhibitions a year. There are also regular exhibits in the **Louis Armstrong House and Archives**, which the college administers, and the **Queens College Art Center**. The **Center for Jewish Studies** offers thoughtful lectures, films, and performances. Students from the **Aaron Copland School of Music** play almost daily in the acoustically perfect LeFrak Concert Hall, and drama and dance students perform year-round. All events are open to the public, and most are free of charge.

Alumni

Queens College has graduated over 100,000 students since its first graduating class in 1941. About 85% of alumni live in the New York metropolitan area. The college ranks 35th nationally in the number of graduates who have earned a PhD.

Alumni have gone on to successful careers in almost all fields.

- Arts: Jerry Seinfeld, Ray Romano, Carole King, Paul Simon, Joy Behar, Marvin Hamlisch, and Susan Isaacs.

- Politics: Congressmen Gary Ackerman and Joseph Crowley, State Comptroller Alan Hevesi, Queens Borough President Helen Marshall.
- Business: Allan Z. Loren, Chairman and CEO, Dunn and Bradstreet Corporation; Michael Goldstein, Former Chairman and CEO, Toys "R" Us; Ira Lampert, Chairman and CEO, Concord Camera Corporation; Eugene Murphy, Retired Vice Chairman, General Electric; Carol Hochman, President and CEO Danskin, Inc.; and Warren Phillips, Former Publisher, Wall Street Journal.
- Media: Pulitzer Prize winners Lloyd Schwartz and Dorothy Rabinowitz, and Emmy Award-winning TV Anchor Mary Murphy.
- Other fields: Nathan Leventhal, Former President, Lincoln Center; Robert A. Moog, inventor of the Moog Synthesizer; Michael Berenbaum, Former Director, U. S. Holocaust Research Institute; Robert Batscha, former President of the Museum of Television and Radio; and M. Christine DeVita, President of Wallace-Reader's Digest Funds.

Location

Queens College, located off Exit 24 of the Long Island Expressway, is on Kissena Boulevard in a residential area of Flushing. It is easily accessible by public transportation (<http://www.qc.cuny.edu/about/directions.php>).

The college is only 20 minutes from Manhattan, whose magnificent skyline overlooks the campus quad.