

College Readiness Academy Boston

July 19-31, 2027 • UMass Boston • Ages 14-18
Residential \$5,950 • Day Camp \$4,550

- Explore different campuses.
- Understand your fit.
- Build your college plan.

SHORELIGHT



Program Background

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Why Boston?

Academic Planning & Multicultural Exploration Program for International Students



University Immersion

Live and study at **University of Massachusetts Boston (UMass Boston)**, experiencing authentic American university life firsthand.

- ✓ On-campus residence halls
- ✓ University dining facilities



Elite Campus Tours

In-depth visits to **8 universities** in the Boston area, including Harvard, MIT, Brown, and other world-class institutions.

- ✓ Official campus tours
- ✓ Meet admissions officers



Expert Guidance

Learn **college application strategies and academic skills** from experienced university mentors.

- ✓ Harvard Student Agencies instructors
- ✓ UMass Boston faculty



Global Networking

Study alongside students from **Vietnam, Brazil, Russia, and more**, building international connections (based on past cohorts).

- ✓ Multicultural environment
- ✓ Lifelong friendships

A "Low-Risk" Introduction to US Education

Not Just Planning – Exploration

Use Boston as a starting point to explore your potential academic path at a manageable cost.

Still deciding between multiple countries — North America, Europe, Australia?

Instead of relying on second-hand information, experience it firsthand.

During this two-week program, students explore the **academic environment, teaching styles, and campus culture** of leading North American institutions, gaining real insight to support future international study decisions.

Even If You Don't Choose America

This experience will become a **valuable window to broaden international perspectives**, helping students develop adaptability and critical thinking within multicultural environments — skills that remain valuable regardless of where they ultimately study.

“

"Here, you are not choosing a path – you are discovering yourself."

Program Philosophy

Three Modules for Structured Academic Preparation

From knowledge building → skill acquisition → real-world experience

1 Planning & Direction

Thematic Seminars

- Overview of the U.S. university system
- Guide to the college application process
- Introduction to general education and degree requirements

Goal: Build a strong foundational understanding of North American higher education.

2 Methodology & Skills

Workshops & Assessments

- **Academic Skills:** Essay writing, note-taking, time management, public speaking
- **Professional Assessment:** Focus2 evaluation to identify strengths and academic interests

3 Experiential Practice

Hands-on Learning

- **Official tours of 8 universities** to evaluate campus fit and academic environments
- **College Fair Simulation:** Experience the U.S. admissions process firsthand



Structured Learning Approach: Knowledge → Skills → Practice

Beyond the Classroom



University Immersive Life

 **Housing and dining:** UMass Boston student dorms and dining with full support from university housing staff

 **Safety:** A top priority throughout the program

Authentic American university life experience



Boston City Exploration

 **Cultural Journey:** exploring Boston's history and cityscape

 **Local Life:** Local experiences (supermarkets, malls), integrate into the culture

Experience Boston's urban charm



International Exchange

 **Multicultural Integration:** Study and live with international students from multiple countries

 **Countries:** Vietnam, Brazil, Russia, and more...

Build international friendships and networks

What You Take Home

Tangible Outcomes



Focus2 Professional Assessment Report

Official access to the Focus2 assessment, providing a data-driven analysis of your strengths, interests, and potential academic pathways.



Program Completion Certificate + Comprehensive Evaluation Report

Issued by the program organizers and includes personalized academic feedback and college planning guidance.



Instructor Recommendation Letter Opportunity

Outstanding participants may request a letter of recommendation from program instructors.

Intangible Growth

1

Greater Clarity About Personal Strengths

Identify potential academic directions and develop stronger self-awareness.

2

Stronger Core Academic Skills

Learn essential learning strategies and time management skills used in North American universities.

3

A New Perspective on Choosing Universities

Move from passively selecting schools to actively evaluating academic fit and opportunities.



Integrated Outcomes:

Practical credentials + lasting personal development



Who This Program Is For

No matter where you are in your academic journey, this program supports your growth.



Students with Clear Goals

Planning to pursue undergraduate studies in North America

Students who have already decided to apply to U.S. universities and want to prepare early and strengthen their applications.

- ✓ Become familiar with the college application process
- ✓ Gain first-hand experience with U.S. higher education
- ✓ Build a stronger academic profile



Students Exploring Multiple Paths

Comparing different international study destinations

Students who are still deciding between regions such as America, Europe, or Australia and want real experience to guide their decision.

- ✓ Experience North American university life firsthand
- ✓ Explore academic and campus environments
- ✓ Evaluate whether this path is the right fit



Students Seeking Personal Growth

Looking to broaden their global perspective

Students who may still be exploring their academic direction but want to step outside their comfort zone and develop independence.

- ✓ Discover new opportunities in an international environment
- ✓ Build confidence through new experiences
- ✓ Develop stronger decision-making skills

Program Credibility

Organizer Experience

2013

Founded

Boston

U.S.

10+

Years
Experience

Specializing in international student services with **over 10 years of experience in U.S. higher education admissions guidance**. Our professional team provides structured support and a strong safety framework for students.

Academic Support

- ✓ Shorelight Instructors
- ✓ Guest experts, including professionals from University Career Development Centers
- ✓ Harvard Student Agencies (HSA) instructors participate as guest speakers

Safety Assurance System

UMass Boston

Students live and study on a **university campus with supervised housing**, ensuring a safe and structured environment.

Environmental Advantage

Boston is known for its safe urban environment, world-class universities, and highly international community.

Staffing

Program staff and instructors accompany students throughout the program, with 24/7 support available and a 10:1 student-to-staff ratio.

Insurance Coverage

All participants receive comprehensive program insurance for additional safety and peace of mind.

Program Details

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Sample Timetable

ACADEMIC	CAMPUS VISIT	ACTIVITY	ROUTINE	MILESTONE
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TIME	MONDAY July 19	TUESDAY July 20	WEDNESDAY July 21	THURSDAY July 22	FRIDAY July 23	SATURDAY July 24	SUNDAY July 25
8:30–9:30	Cohort arrival Check-in • Site tour	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast Travel to Harvard	Breakfast	Brunch
9:30–12:00		UMass Boston tour	Class	Class	Harvard tour	Museum of Science	Sport Fest
12:00–1:00		Lunch	Lunch Travel to MIT	Lunch Travel to BU	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch and Relax
1:00–3:00		Team building	MIT tour & reflection	Boston University tour	Class Harvard Square	Boston city tour	Beach & games
3:00–5:30	Orientation & icebreaker	Class Tour reflection	Back Bay Shopping Return to campus	Tour reflection Return to campus	Return to campus Tour reflection	Outlet shopping	
5:30–7:00	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner
7:00+	Grocery shopping	Social	Social	Social	Social	Free time	Free time

*Our goal is to provide the best possible experience. Activities and excursions may be adjusted due to weather, availability, or other unforeseen circumstances to ensure safety and quality.

Sample Timetable

							ACADEMIC	CAMPUS VISIT	ACTIVITY	ROUTINE	MILESTONE
TIME	MONDAY July 26	TUESDAY July 27	WEDNESDAY July 28	THURSDAY July 29	FRIDAY July 30	SATURDAY July 31					
8:30–9:30	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast					
9:30–12:00	Class	Class Travel	Class	Class Travel	Class	Departure					
12:00–1:00	Lunch	Lunch at UMass Amherst	Lunch Travel	Lunch	Lunch						
1:00–3:00	Travel to Northeastern University tour	UMass Amherst tour	Boston College tour	Brown University Providence tour	Simulated College Fair						
3:00–5:30	Tour reflection Nearby excursion Return	Amherst College Return	Waterworks Museum Return	Reflection Return	Final presentation Graduation						
5:30–7:00	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner	Dinner						
7:00+	Free time	Social	Social	Talent show practice	Talent show						

*Our goal is to provide the best possible experience. Activities and excursions may be adjusted due to weather, availability, or other unforeseen circumstances to ensure safety and quality.

Academic Content

☀ Application Preparation Seminars



Understanding the U.S. University System

Gain insight into the structure, culture, and expectations of higher education institutions in the United States.



Mastering U.S. College Applications

Learn how to navigate each stage of the college application process.



Essay Writing Fundamentals

Understand the structure, tone, and techniques required to craft strong academic and personal essays.

Instructor: Harvard Student Agencies (HSA)

Harvard Student Agencies (HSA), founded in **1957**, is one of the largest student-run nonprofit organizations in the world. Operating multiple business divisions and employing more than **900 Harvard undergraduate students each year**, HSA provides hands-on leadership and entrepreneurship experience. Through real-world projects and collaborations with global clients, the organization equips students with practical skills in business, consulting, and innovation, while fostering a strong network of alumni working across leading industries worldwide.



Academic Content

Academic Excellence Seminars



Public Speaking and Presentation Skills

Develop confidence and clarity in delivering effective academic and professional presentations.



Networking and Career Exploration

Explore careers aligned with students' interests, values, skills, and academic goals.



Listening, Notetaking, and Time Management

Recognize and practice the academic strategies needed to thrive in the university environment.



Communicating with Professors

Practice effective, respectful, and professional communication skills for engaging with faculty members.



Managing Teamwork

Gain strategies for collaboration, conflict resolution, and leadership in team-based academic work.



Academic Content

☀ College Tours and Reflection

	Harvard	MIT	Brown	Boston University	Boston College	Northeastern	UMass Boston	UMass Amherst
University Group	Distinctive Academic Models			Private Universities in Boston			Public University Experiences	
Academic character	Broad liberal arts within a major research university	STEM-focused, analytical and project-driven	Flexible, student-directed learning	Broad programs with a global, research-oriented outlook	Liberal arts foundation with Jesuit values	Experiential education connecting study with professional practice	Accessible public education with diverse academic pathways	Wide-ranging programs at a large public flagship
Campus experience	Historic, residential, tradition-rich	Innovative, collaborative and urban	Creative, residential and close-knit	Large university integrated into Boston	Traditional, residential and community-oriented	Urban, career-focused and globally connected	Urban, diverse and waterfront-based	Expansive, residential and activity-rich
Campus Photo								

Academic Content

☀ Simulated College Fair

Building on their campus visits, students meet Shorelight university representatives to broaden their exploration and prepare for real college decisions.

Florida International University • University of Central Florida • Adelphi University • University of Massachusetts Boston • University of Illinois Chicago • American University • Auburn University

- Explore universities beyond the Boston area
- Compare academics, campus life, and admissions pathways
- Prepare stronger questions and clarify their personal college fit



Academic Content

☀ Capstone Project – College Playbook

Students create and present a personalized plan that answers:

01

Define an ideal college

Describe the academic and campus experience they want

02

Identify close matches

Select colleges that align with their priorities

03

Explain personal fit

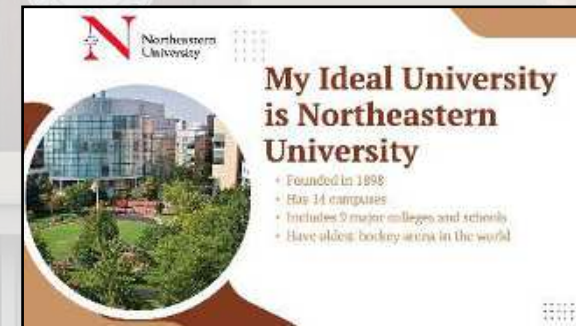
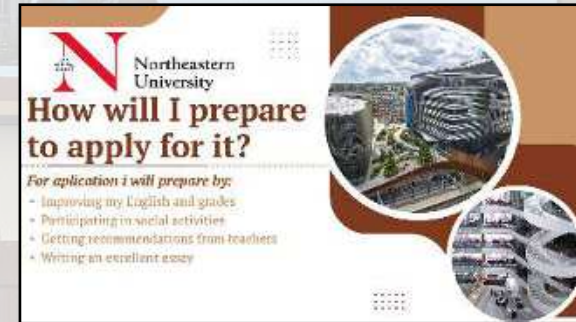
Connect their interests, values and strengths to the college

04

Build an application plan

Outline realistic next steps, including deadlines, essays and cost

Final deliverable: An individual College Playbook presented as part of a student panel at the Project Showcase and suitable for inclusion in the student's portfolio.



Cultural Immersion and Social Life



Outlet Shopping



Freedom Trail City Walk



Museums



Social Nights



Beach Game



Sports

Student Testimonials

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Why Students Love It

"I've come back home with a lot of answers to my questions about my future."

Anna, Summer 2025 Participant, Brazil 🇧🇷

"It was not only about academics ... it was also creating memories and meeting new people from all different countries."

Nadya, Summer 2025 Participant, Dominican Republic 🇩🇲

"Those two weeks made my summer the best in my life. I highly recommend this program."

Yegor, Summer 2025 Participant, Kazakhstan 🇰🇿

"It is one of my best trips so far in my life and I will highly recommend anyone to join this trip."

Pham, Summer 2025 Participant, Vietnam 🇻🇳

Why Students Love It

“This was such a fun and meaningful experience—I learned that choosing a university isn’t only about rankings or academics, but also about finding a place that values your creativity, humanity, and individuality.”

Maria, Summer 2026 Participant, Brazil 🇧🇷

“This program introduced me to universities I might not have discovered otherwise, and the staff were incredibly friendly and supportive.”

Yaroslav, Summer 2026 Participant, Cyprus 🇨🇵

“I would recommend this program to friends who are interested in studying abroad because it showed me the opportunities and experiences American universities can offer.”

Alinur, Summer 2026 Participant, Kazakhstan 🇰🇿

“Although we came from different countries, the teamwork activities helped us become closer, more comfortable, and supportive of one another.”

Lam Anh, Summer 2026 Participant, Vietnam 🇻🇳

Why Students Love It



Price and Registration

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Price Includes

Residential: **\$5,950**
Day Camp: **\$4,550**

Program Tuition

Lectures, Seminars, Workshops, Case studies etc.

Student Services

Visa support (letters and 1 mock interview session), program supervision, airport transfers on scheduled dates between 8 am and 5 pm, program transportation, health insurance.

Program Activities

Museum tickets, tours, campus visits, social events etc.

Room and Board:

Meals:

- Three meals per day at the dining hall and catering in the dorm.
- All standard religious and medical dietary requests will be accommodated
- Nearby cafes, restaurants, and shops

UMass Boston Residence Hall:

- Double occupancy with community bathroom
- Close proximity to classes
- Air conditioning
- Internet
- Washer and dryer
- Linen



Registration Requirements

Criteria	Boston Program
Age Requirement	14–18 years old
Degree Level	Enrolled in middle/high school or recently graduated from high school
English Proficiency	(Recommended) IELTS: 5.5; TOEFL iBT: 3.5 on the new 1–6 scale (or 51 on the previous 0–120 scale); PTE Academic: 39; Duolingo: 95; iTEP Academic: 3.5; Cambridge English: B2 with a Cambridge English Scale score of 162; or equivalent. [Waivers are available]
Visa Requirement	B1/B2 Tourist Visa / ESTA

*Application and final payment deadline: April 30, 2027

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: What kind of students is this program for?

A: Students aged 14–18

- Students planning to apply to North American universities
- Students exploring different study abroad destinations
- Students seeking international exposure and independence

Q2: What if my English is not strong enough?

A: IELTS 5.5 or equivalent is recommended. Students who do not meet this requirement may apply for an English interview assessment.

Q3: Can 13- or 19-year-old students participate?

A: Yes. 13- or 19-year-old students may be admitted on a case-by-case basis.

Q4: Can parents accompany students?

A: Yes. Two options are available:

- Residential Option: Stay in UMass Boston dormitories with 24/7 supervision
- Day Camp Option: Students attend daily classes and return home or to parents afterward

Q5: How do I apply for a visa?

A: Students should apply for a B1/B2 tourist visa. Our team provides visa guidance and preparation support.

Q6: How is student safety ensured?

A: The program takes place on the UMass Boston campus with 24/7 supervision from dorm staff and program teachers. Insurance coverage is included.

Q7: What are the accommodation conditions?

A: Students stay in UMass Boston residence halls with air conditioning, internet, laundry facilities, and provided bedding.

Q8: How are meals arranged?

A: The program provides three meals per day, accommodating common religious and medical dietary needs.

Q9: What will I receive after completing the program?

A:

- Focus2 professional assessment report
- Program completion certificate and evaluation report
- Opportunity to receive an instructor recommendation letter

Q10: Can I meet students from other countries?

A: Yes. Students from multiple countries participate, providing opportunities to build international friendships and connections.

**Sign your students up today for a
life-changing summer experience!**

Have a question?

Please let us know!

summerprograms@shorelight.com