

A Step-By-Step Guide to the MyMIT Application System

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Massachusetts Institute of Technology is a dream school for almost every student interested in STEM – and even for business and humanities candidates. But <u>gaining admission to MIT</u> is easier said than done. With only a 7.3% acceptance rate, the bar is unsurprisingly set quite high. Plus, you need to dedicate a significant amount of time to the MIT application as it has its own portal – MyMIT.

Unlike most top schools, MIT doesn't accept the <u>Common Application</u> or the <u>Coalition Application</u>. However, if you go through the process once with the Common App, you might find that you already have access to most of what you need to complete the MyMIT questions. MyMIT is divided into the following sections:

• Introduce Yourself

• Jobs

- Identity
- Application Information
- Activities and Distinctions
- Short Responses

• Family Information

Additional informationRecommendations

• Schools

- Certification
- Self-reported Coursework

Academic History

Review and Submit

Test Scores

As daunting as all of the sections of MyMIT might seem, if done right, you can submit a stellar application that captures various aspects of who you are and what you can bring to this STEM-oriented college. We will take a closer look at the sections and provide tips for filling out each one to ease the process for you.

PREPARING TO FILL OUT MyMIT

Before you sit down to complete the different sections of MyMIT, make sure you have the following information and documents at hand:

Your high school transcripts A list of your extracurricular activities and awards Your parents' or legal guardians' employment information, education, etc. Your test scores Contact information for your recommenders

Start collecting the documents and <u>asking for recommendations</u> ahead of time. Your teachers cannot write a stellar recommendation on the spot if you only give them a days' notice. You should ask them as early as the end of your junior year, or at the beginning of your senior year.

Remember, each section is very important, not only individually, but how they work together to paint a more holistic picture of you as an applicant. Do not rush through these details. Think about all of these logistics carefully, and you will set yourself up for success as you fill out the MyMIT application.

REGISTER

The first step is very basic. Create an account on the portal by letting MIT know your email address, first name, last name, and birthdate. Be careful not to make any spelling errors because you don't want your name or birthday to appear incorrectly on your application file!

r	
count, please enter the information reque	sted below.
	A
	Count, please enter the information reque

If you're a first year applicant, rather than a transfer student, make sure you select "First-Year Application" as you set to complete your MyMIT application.

Start New Application	>
Select an application type:	
2020-2021	
First-Year Application 🗸	
Create Application Cancel	

INTRODUCE YOURSELF

The first section is all about introducing yourself. Besides basic information such as your name, address, contact information, and gender identity, MIT also wants to know when and where you were born, and what citizenship you hold. Make sure to fill out this section very carefully, as it's easy to mix up information such as your first name and last name. This section allows you to put in a nickname if applicable, your name in another language if you have one, and if you've used any other names previously.

While MIT does not read applications by your region, it's still crucial to make sure you've typed out your address correctly as you might get important mail from the school. They might send brochures, ask clarifying questions regarding your application, and of course, announce your admissions decision. Knowing where you were born and where you live also helps provide context on your life to the admissions readers.

Name		
First (Given)*	±	
Middle		
Last (Family)*		
Suffix	~	
Preferred First Name		
Other Last Names Used		

Addresses		
Permanent Addres	ss*	
Country	United States	
Street Address		
City		
State	Select State 🗸	
Postal Code		
Mailing Address		
	Same as permanent	
Country	United States	
Street Address		
City		
State	Select State	
Postal Code	Select State	
Valid From option		
Valid Until option		
Email		
Current Email	padyaparamita@gmail.com <u>Ct</u>	hang
Telephone Numb	ners .	
Daytime		
Mobile		
WODITE		
Biographical Info	ormation	
with the sex that	al reporting requirements, we must ask for sex in a binary fashion. We suggest responding to "Sex Assigned at Bir is indicated on your original birth certificate or other similar government documents. However, we recognize that de range of gender identities, so we recommend using the next question to indicate your gender.	
Sex Assigned at Birth*		
Gender optional	Female Male	
optional	Trans Female/Trans Woman	
Birthdate	July v 2003 v	
Birth Country	United States ~	
Birth City		
Birth State	Select State	
Citizenship Infor	rmation	
on zenomp mor		

IDENTITY

Next we come to the "identity" section. Prepare to do a little bit of writing here.

Cultural Background Question: The first box here is a prompt that asks: "Please tell us more about your cultural background or identity in the space below. (150 words or fewer)"

MIT wants to make sure that it admits students from a wide variety of backgrounds. They've presented this question to ensure that they understand the full context of your family history and upbringing. You might choose to elaborate on an important piece of family history, or you might want to talk about an aspect of your culture or identity that you really enjoy, such as a dish or a traditional holiday. Whatever you choose to write about, remember that your goal is to stand out from the thousands of other applicants vying for a spot at MIT. Think about what really distinguishes you.

Cultural Background	
lease tell us more about your cultural background and identity in the space below. 50 words or fewer	

150 words remaining

Sexual Orientation and Pronouns: Part of MIT's goal in admitting a diverse pool of students involves making sure they accept students who identify in different ways, including on the basis of their sexuality and gender. If you feel comfortable, let MIT know how you identify.

Sexual Orientation	& Pronouns
	in learning about the LBGTQ community and resources at MIT, please feel free to contact the LBGTQ@MIT office -253-5440, or <u>lbgtq.mit.edu</u>
Sexual Orientation	🗆 Lesbian
optional	Pansexual/Bisexual
	Gay
	Straight/Heterosexual
	Queer
	Asexual/Ace
	Unsure/Questioning
	Prefer Not to Answer
	Another Identity
Pronouns	e.g., she, her, hers; he, him, his; they, them, theirs
optional	
Please indicate the O First name O Preferred first na	name you would like to use for all official print and email communication from MIT.*

Religious preference: If you are religious, you can let MIT know which faith you belong to – or you may click "choose not to answer" if you don't wish to elaborate. All of these questions are there to help the admissions officers understand your context better.



Share Your Story: MIT has posed another question here for students. "Describe the world you come from; for example, your family, school, community, city, or town. *How has the world shaped your dreams and aspirations?*" (250 words)

This short essay focuses on community impact. In understanding how you and the world you come from have shaped each other, MIT wants to gauge what you will bring to campus that no other student can. Carefully think about whether you want to write about your family, your school, or even your city, and identify what your role has been in this community. If you've spearheaded any initiatives in this community or collaborated with others, highlight them in your response. MIT appreciates students' leadership and teamwork abilities.

Share your story	
Describe the world you come from; for example, your family, school, community, city, or town. and aspirations?* 250 words or fewer	How has that world shaped your dreams
250 words remaining	

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Next, it's time to let MIT know when you're applying and what major you're applying for.

Application Round: If MIT is your dream school and you want to receive your admissions decision as soon as possible, apply <u>early action</u> by November 1. Early action is a flexible route as not only would you know if you've been admitted to MIT by December, you also won't be bound to commit and can use the regular decision pool to explore other options and even better financial aid packages.

If you're not ready by November, you can choose to apply during the regular decision pool. Remember that you'll be competing with a far greater number of candidates – MIT received 21,312 in 2019. So you'll have to bring your absolute A-game.

Application Cycle	
	tion cycles: Early Action and Regular Action. We don't have a preference as to when you apply, and there is no applying in one versus the other. You can read more <u>here.</u>
l intend to apply:* C Early Action (Nov C Regular Action (
Previous Applicati	ons
Have you applied fo	first-year admission to MIT before?*
O Yes	
O No	

Major: MIT would like to know which among its <u>50+ programs</u> appeals to you. You might go for a STEM subject, as many MIT students do, such as Biomedical Engineering or Physics. Or, you might be interested in being a Writing or Women's and Gender Studies major. The university provides you with a box limited to 100 words to explain why you're drawn to your chosen field.

Before you write this response, it's important to sit down and look through the majors and course offerings. Once you've decided which major appeals to you, it's time to think about your own experiences. How did your love for the field begin? How have you honed your skills in the discipline since then? If you've taken any challenging courses or started relevant clubs, how is MIT the perfect place for you to continue your exploration? No matter which MIT major you've chosen, it's important to show admissions officers evidence of your dedication to this field, and how further study in this field meshes with your profile.

What would you like to stud	ly?
	use we're curious about what interests you right now-not because we have any quotas. Most MIT students I the end of their first year, which means there is plenty of time between now and then to explore, discover mind.
applied, so we couldn't use th	y half of our students ultimately major in something entirely different from what they wrote here when the nis data to predict anything even if we wanted to. Moral of the story: writing "underwater basket weaving" ne admissions process, so just be honest!
What field of study appeals to Tell us more about why this fi 100 words or fewer	eld of study at MIT appeals to you.*
100 words remaining	

FAMILY INFORMATION

Parents and Siblings: When filling out information about your parents, you need to know your parents' marital status, their profession, their educational background information (including their school and graduation year), and their employment status (whether they are employed, retired, homemaker, or deceased). Your family background is a big part of providing admissions officers a greater context of who you and where you come from. They want to know if you were raised by a single parent, whether you grew up in a divorced home, whether one of your parents have passed away.

This section is also for admissions officers to find out if your parents went to college, what your parents do, and their current position. MIT values the perspective of first generation students and looks to see if you are coming from that background. Plus, they ask how many siblings you have and what they're highest level of education is.

Unlike other elite schools, MIT does not give a boost to "legacy" candidates. In other words, having parents who attended MIT does not in any way improve your chances of admissions.

Languages: MIT wants to know what language(s) your family speaks at home. This is an opportunity to show more about your cultural background.

Additional Information About Family: If you want to add anything further on your family circumstance, this section provides a box to do so. This information helps provide admissions officers with more information regarding your familial circumstances. There is no specific answer that MIT is looking for - it will just help the school understand your background better.

Parent Information		
	bout one or two people whom you consi se use the optional section on this page.	ider to be your parents. If you feel that you need to clarify your
First Name	Last Name	Relationship
Add New		
	tional parents, caregivers, or guardians?	
Yes		
Sibling Information		
Enter information for your sibling	s here.	
First Name	Last Name	Age
Add New		
Additional Family Information		
What language is primarily spoke	n at your home?	
	ee or Reduced Price Lunch program? (Fi 1001 systems only.	inancial need has no bearing on admission decisions.) To be
Completed by students in U.S. scr		

SCHOOLS

The next section requires you to mention all of the high schools you have attended. MIT wants to know the name of the school, the city, state, and country where it's located, and what the dates of your attendance are.

Schools Attended

List the secondary schools (high schools) you have attended or are attending. Please search for your school and select from the list. If you are still attending the school, please enter your anticipated date of graduation in the end date field.

If you are unable to locate your school, please enter your high school's information, including name and country.

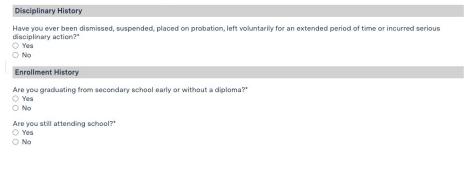
Institution Add Institution Dates Attended

Institution		
Country	United States 🗸	
City	Brooklyn	
State	New York 🗸	
Dates Attended	✓ ✓ to	• •
Level of Study	~	

ACADEMIC HISTORY

The academic history section inquires into whether any disciplinary action has ever been taken against you, whether you're graduating high school without a diploma, and whether you are still in school during the time of your application. You should say yes to the question if you aren't currently taking a gap year.

Academic History



SELF-REPORTED COURSEWORK

In the next section, MIT wants to know what high school classes you have taken and whether you have challenged yourself throughout the last four years. MIT is an academically rigorous institution and not only expects you to excel academically, but also specifically bring experience in the following:

- One year of high school physics
- One year of high school chemistry
- One year of high school biology
- Math, through calculus
- Two years of a foreign language.
- Four years of English
- Two years of history and/or social sciences

The MyMIT boxes ask what the subject category is (English, foreign language, science, math etc.), which years you took the class, which level you took it in (AP, college, IB, honors, regular, etc.), the name of the class and the grade you received. You also have to separately indicate the number of years you bring in the form of STEM experience.

Classes					
	're just	trying to get a clear p		on. Don't stress out about exac preparation by subject area. Fc	tly how to fill this out. Use your r more tips, advice, and
o be completed by	studer	nts in U.S. or U.Sbas	ed school systems only.		
Subject Category		Year Taken	Level	Class Name	Grade Received
Add New					
STEM Preparation					
Please indicate the To be completed by			be taken) of each class li	isted below.	
Calculus*	Ye	ar			
	~	~			
Physics*	Ye	ar			
	~	~			
Biology*	Ye	ar			
0,	~	~			
Chemistry*	Ye	ar			
	~	v			

Additional Information: If there is any information about your school's subject offerings or grading policies that you want to provide for the admissions officers, MyMIT has a box in the self-reported coursework section. There is a second box with a limit of 250 words which has been added this year for you to explain any extenuating circumstances you've experienced due to COVID-19. This could include changes in the school system, conditions at home, illness in the family, etc. Use it to your discretion – similar to how you would answer the Common App COVID-19 question.

here is anything w	e should know abo	out your school's g	rading system or c	ourse offerings, pl	lease use the space belo
		umstances (includ	ing disruptions du	e to COVID-19), ple	ease tell us about them H
		umstances (includ	ing disruptions du	e to COVID-19), ple	ease tell us about them H
		umstances (includ	ing disruptions du	e to COVID-19), ple	ease tell us about them H
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		umstances (includ	ing disruptions du	e to COVID-19), ple	ease tell us about them f
		umstances (includ	ing disruptions du	e to COVID-19), plo	ease tell us about them f
		umstances (includ	ing disruptions du	e to COVID-19), ple	ease tell us about them h
ou have or had an ional; 250 words c		umstances (includ	ing disruptions du	e to COVID-19), pic	ease tell us about them h

TEST SCORES

The test scores section asks you to self-report any tests you have taken, whether standardized tests such as the SAT or ACT (this is optional for the 2020-21 cycle), or tests based on what you've studied in high school, such as the AP or IB, or tests which show your English language proficiency, such as IELTS or TOEFL. When self-reporting your test scores, you must be honest. You also have to order your scores to be sent from the Collegeboard or the ACT websites to each individual school.

MIT also has a box asking you to indicate whether you experienced any unforeseen situation when it came to your testing. This could be a place to talk about whether your test score was affected by external factors or if you had multiple test dates canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

	1
	it any course(s) with standardized exams (A-level, Baccalauréat, etc.) taken or under way. (If you have taken the exam, please l score.) MIT does not consider the SAT Subject Tests as part of the admissions process.
unde	
	rstand that sometimes things outside of your control impact your ability to complete tests. If you have an extenuating
cumst	ance, such as exam cancellations or illness, please let us know here.
cumst	
cumst	ance, such as exam cancellations or illness, please let us know here.
cumst	ance, such as exam cancellations or illness, please let us know here.
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cumst	ance, such as exam cancellations or illness, please let us know here.

JOBS

MIT appreciates students who are responsible and hardworking. One way to demonstrate that you have different skills is by listing any job positions you've held in high school. MyMIT asks that you list every single work experience and the duration of the role, as well as a description (without a character limit!) of what you did. Make sure you take advantage of the space to describe both your place of employment and what your specific work entailed. Whether you babysat, worked as a cashier, or started your own business, no job is too small here!

ne, d Add Employer	×	
Employer Name Dates of Employment Starting Position Ending Position Hours/Week Description	v v to Present v v	Dates of Employment

ACTIVITIES AND DISTINCTIONS

The activities and distinctions section is divided into four parts: activities, summer activities, distinctions, and supplements and portfolio.

Activities: Unlike the Common App, which allows space for 10 different activities, MyMIT asks you to list your four more important ones. Think very carefully about which ones you pick. Prioritize science and engineering activities, particularly roles where you've held leadership positions, have earned tangible achievements, and committed to for a long period of time. You also have a 40-word limit to describe what you did as part of the activity. Use this space well.

Activities		
and out of school - hobbie	nd time outside of your regularly scheduled classes? Briefly de es, interests, sports, clubs, projects, etc in order of importanc (an estimate is fine), dates participated, and a brief description	e to you. Include the
Name of Organization	(Å	
Role		
Grades Participated	□ 10th □ 11th □ 12th	
Hours per Week (round to nearest whole number)	e.g., 8	
Weeks per Year (round to nearest whole number)	e.g., 25	
Description (40 words or less)		

Summer Activity: If you participated in a summer program or extracurricular, you get a separate section for it! So talk about the different ways you spent your high school summers – and MIT encourages mentioning anything you did, from reading and relaxing to camp and travel to summer school and volunteer work. This can be a great place to showcase your prowess in STEM if you participated in competitive science <u>summer programs</u> and <u>competitions</u> or read STEM-specific books.

×

Activity Name		Role	
Add New			
Summer Activities			
irst. /ou may list any summer jobs an Summer Activity		, camp, travel, summer school, volunteer v s in the previous Jobs section. Approximate Dates of Participation	Approximate Hours per Week
	۵		
	1		

Distinctions: MIT allows you to list up to five "scholastic distinctions" and five "non-scholastic" distinctions. Think carefully about what counts as scholastic versus what doesn't. A writing or art award could very well fit under scholastic, where a sports trophy would fit under non-scholastic. You're asked to mention the name of the organization that granted you the prize, the name of the award itself, the level at which you received the award (school, regional, state, national, international), and the year in which you got the award.

Scholastic Distinctions			
You may list up to five scl achievement and indicate		on since entering high school. F	Please include the year you received the
Name of Award	Organization	Level	Year Awarded
Add New			

	ests as part of the MAA's Americ exams or don't know what they a		
Non-Scholastic Distinct	ions		
You may list up to five no achievement and indicate		ve won since entering high scł	nool. Please include the year you received the
Name of Award	Organization	Level	Year Awarded
Add New			

Supplements and Portfolio: In this part, MIT provides you with directions on how to submit an arts supplement if you're a musician, dancer, or artist of any kind or fill out the varsity athletics form if you're interested in sports. You can also indicate an interest in the ROTC here. Finally, there is a box (with a 250-word limit) to indicate whether any of your extracurricular activities were significantly disrupted due to COVID-19. You can also use this space to discuss anything else about your activities you would like the admissions officers to know. Mention anything you believe might add to your application. However, don't use this space to add a 5th activity or 6th honor!

Supplements and Portfolio
We know not all skills and talents can be expressed in the application so we provide the following opportunity for submitting portfolio work and pursuing special interests.
Information about submitting a portfolio can be found on our website.
Varsity Athletics: I am interested in participating in the following varsity sports at MIT: Baseball Basketball - Men Basketball - Women Crew - Heavyweight I have submitted/will submit the <u>MIT varsity athletics form</u> .
ROTC: I am interested in joining the following Reserve Officers' Training Corps unit(s) at MIT: Air Force Army Navy Navy (Marine Corps option)
Additional Information
If there's anything further you'd like to tell us about your activities (including disruptions due to COVID-19), please use the space below. optional; 250 words or fewer

SHORT RESPONSES

MyMIT comes with essay prompts unique to the university. But they aren't too different from supplemental essays you might find for other institutions, so there's no need to panic. Although the word limits are far lower than your Common App personal statement essay, you may have already had practice with reflective writing while planning the longer response for other colleges. You can apply similar ideas and topics to your MIT supplements, which must each be limited to 250 words each. Alongside conveying your love for the school, use these essays to provide crucial context on your interests and background. The prompts are:

We know you lead a busy life, full of activities, many of which are required of you. Tell us about something you do for the pleasure of it.

At MIT, we bring people together to better the lives of others. MIT students work to improve their communities in different ways, from tackling the world's biggest challenges to being a good friend. Describe one way in which you have contributed to your community, whether in your family, the classroom, your neighborhood, etc.

Tell us about the most significant challenge you've faced or something that didn't go according to plan. How did you manage the situation?

Remember that you're trying to demonstrate why admissions officers should pick you over other applicants. Talk about activities, stories, and parts of your background that are unique to you. Remember the values that MIT looks for in students — consider how your collaboration skills, dedication to your involvement, and leadership skills

can shine through your essays. Think also about how an MIT education pertains to your goals. The word limit can be difficult for most questions, so you need to be succinct. Don't waste the space fixating on general statements that might apply to any of the top 10 colleges. Make sure your answers are specific to MIT's resources, and more importantly, to your strengths. You can read about how to answer each of the MIT application essays in more detail here.

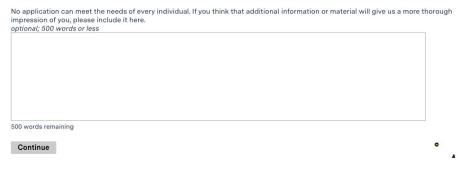
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Next, MIT gives you a space of 500 words to describe any additional information you might wish to share with the admissions officers that has not yet been mentioned in the application.

You should always be very careful when filling out this section. Admissions officers go through a lot of applications. You do not want to waste their time with something that could have been mentioned elsewhere in the application. It could be used to provide context on whether any unforeseen circumstances, such as illness or a death in the family, impacted your school performance. You could use it to build upon any research abstract or include your art or writing portfolio. You could also use it to address any disciplinary action that might exist on your record.

This section is not a place to extend your essays or add to your activities list. Those word limits and guidelines exist for a reason. You absolutely do not have to fill out this section if you don't have anything else to add. It will not make or break your application.

Additional Information



RECOMMENDATIONS

Most of the hard work is now done! MIT requires two teacher evaluations and this is where you add them as your recommenders. One of these letters should come from a math or science teacher, and the other from a humanities, social science, or English teacher. Make sure you ask someone who knows you well and can provide concrete examples on why you're a valuable candidate, and how you can contribute to MIT's campus if accepted.

Recommendations

We require two teacher evaluations—one from a math or science teacher and one from a humanities, social science or language teacher —as well as a Secondary School Report from your school counselor. Once you have identified these evaluators, you will need to request a letter from them here. You will only be able to submit your application with one of each recommendation type.

You can request these letters at any time before submitting your application, but we recommend sending the request as soon as you have determined who you would like to ask. Note that you will not be able to add or update recommender information after submitting your application.

Name	Status
Add Recommender	

Continue

CERTIFICATION

Finally, you must confirm that all of the information that you've entered is an accurate representation of you. You also agree to inform the MIT admissions office in case there are new updates to any of the answers in your application including new disciplinary action.

Certification

By signing below you agree to the following statements:
I understand and affirm that I have an obligation to inform the MIT Office of Admissions immediately if there is new information that changes the accuracy of my answers to any sections of this application, including disciplinary history.
I have completed all the applicable spaces on this form and I affirm their accuracy. I understand that any misrepresentation of the facts on this form may be cause for refusal or cancellation of admission.
In place of your signature, please type your full legal name:

REVIEW AND SUBMIT

Confirm

Check for any spelling errors, mix-ups in phone numbers, addresses, and names. Make sure you've put your best foot forward and prioritized your most impressive highlights. Once you've checked and double checked that you've correctly filled out the different parts of the application, it's time to submit!

Review and Submit

Remember that once you submit your application you cannot make any additional changes (this includes adding new recommendation requests). If you would like to continue working on your application, please use the navigation links on the left.

Once you click "Submit Application," you will be prompted to pay the \$75 application fee. (If you already requested a fee waiver on the previous page, you will skip this step.) If you need a fee waiver and have not requested one on the Fee Waiver page, please do so before submitting.

After you have successfully made your payment, be sure to click the "Return to website" button in order to process your payment. Failure to do this may result in an error recording the payment in your application.

Very few students receive a chance to attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. However, if you believe that your goals align with MIT's mission, and you've worked hard to stand out both inside and outside the classroom, you shouldn't be afraid to give it your best shot and see what happens. A lot of it begins with understanding what the application portal asks for, following instructions, and making sure that you've portrayed your strongest self in filling out the application. Take it one component at a time. Good luck!