



CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
MARTIN J. WALSH

Welcome to Boston!

As a kid growing up in Boston's Dorchester neighborhood, I knew many people that had come here from all over the world for greater opportunities. My own parents were immigrants from Ireland who came to Boston for greater economic prosperity.

I am so excited that you have chosen to study in Boston, home to some of the best colleges and universities in the world. You came here because you know Boston is a place where you will have the chance to further your studies, engage with a community of fellow learners, and put yourself on a path toward lifelong success.

We are proud of our international community in Boston. Twenty-five percent of our student body is international. Twenty-eight percent of our residents are foreign-born, and forty-eight percent of children in Boston have at least one parent who was born in another country. This diversity is one of our greatest strengths.

As Mayor of Boston, I wanted to reach out to you personally to let you know that you are welcome here, and that Boston is your city.

I wanted to let you know that we, as a City, are here for you. We want you to know your rights when you're [renting out an apartment](#) from a landlord, getting a [library card](#), or adjusting to life in Boston with the [Office of Immigrant Advancement](#). The [Office of Neighborhood Services](#) and their [311 hotline and app](#) are always available and can help connect you with all City services.

I also ask you to consider making Boston your home after you graduate. Boston has a dynamic innovation ecosystem, with numerous resources to [support new companies](#). The [Global Entrepreneur in Residence Program](#), which started in Boston, can even support visas for entrepreneurs if you want to stay in the US after graduation to grow your company.

If you're new here, the [#MeetBoston Challenge](#) can help guide you in exploring all Boston has to offer. Whether it's catching a Red Sox game at Fenway Park, learning about our revolutionary history, or discovering one of our neighborhood hidden gems, I recommend starting your relationship with our City early!

I hope you have a wonderful time getting to know your new home, because you are a Bostonian too now.

Sincerely,

Martin J. Walsh  
Mayor of Boston