



Student Recruitment Program
Parents Training Guide
2015-2016

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Welcome

Thank you for your interest in the Student Recruitment Program. Your participation and excitement for this program are the perfect representation of the Olin spirit. By volunteering you will be able to showcase the community that we have at Olin! You will have the opportunity to connect with prospective students and their families by sharing your own experiences as a member of the Olin community. With your help we are able to expand our reach and continue to recruit dynamic and talented students!

There are many different ways that parents can volunteer for Olin and assist in the work of the Office of Admission and Financial Aid. This guide provides information about the different volunteer opportunities for Olin parents. We will also provide a quick guide of useful information about Olin College and its history.

This guide will outline opportunities on how you can get involved in helping Olin recruitment! Feel free to email or call if you have any questions, comments or suggestions.

The Admission and Financial Aid team would like to thank you again for your support of Olin College. We look forward to working with you and seeing you at our events!

The SRP

The Student Recruitment Program (SRP) is a way for Olin parents to participate in the recruitment of Olin students. The personal stories Olin parents can share about your child's application process and experience on campus life to the *Prospectus* and other recruitment materials. These stories help prospective students and parents most when it comes to answering the important question: is Olin right for me, or for my son or daughter? Parents can make connections with prospective students, prospective parents, guidance counselors and community-based organizations (CBOs) in their area that help the Admission staff spread the Olin story and generate more excitement about Olin College.

SRP activities include:

- Hosting or attending regional information sessions in your area
- Volunteering at on-campus events such as Open Houses and Candidates' Weekends
- Contacting and networking with college access organizations
- Supporting Olin On the Road: greet prospective students and their families at Admission staff hosted information sessions or interview days
- Attending robotics fairs and competitions
- Serving as a SRP Email Resource on the Parent website at <http://www.olin.edu/parents/resources/srp-contacts/>
- Volunteering to contact parents of admitted students after decision letters are mailed
- Attending select college fairs in your area

Programs in Your Community

We rely on parents to make valuable contacts with prospective students and families in your local community. One of the main ways SRP volunteers can help is by hosting or attending an admitted student reception or a regional information session. It can be very useful to both prospective and admitted students to hear about your family's experiences with Olin College first-hand. This kind of personal contact can often encourage an interested student to apply, or an admitted student to enroll.

Access Organizations

Access organizations or community based organizations (CBOs) help underrepresented students throughout the U.S. to prepare for, gain admission to and graduate from college. These organizations can be helpful with reaching students who are traditionally underrepresented in engineering and are a great resource for us to ensure that Olin remains a diverse and unique community. You can help out by contacting CBOs in your area to discuss Olin. There may be opportunity to visit these organizations and to meet with students who would be a great fit in the Olin community. It would be especially helpful to look at access organizations that focus on Science, Technology, Engineering and Math education. A list of potential CBOs will be available through the SRP google drive once you become a volunteer.

Olin on the Road

A great way to help out is the Olin on the Road program. Many interviews happen across the country and it is great to have a parent volunteer present at the interview site. Parent volunteers can greet those coming to the interview and be a resource to those

waiting for their interviews. Having a member of the Olin community to speak with before interviews or while waiting creates a better environment for those being interviewed and their parents. You will not be interviewing the prospective students, but you can share your experiences which helps those being interviewed to be more relaxed and for parents to go away feeling better informed about the admission process. Please contact the SRP Coordinator for dates and locations to volunteer!

Robotics Fairs and Competitions

These are great opportunities to meet prospective students and to create new interest in Olin. Many of the students that attend these fairs and competitions would make wonderful applicants to Olin. Colleges visit these competitions to promote their programs, and it would be great to have volunteers represent Olin. Many of our current students have participated in these fairs and competitions. If you are aware of a robotics fair or competition in your area that you would like to attend, please contact the SRP Coordinator.

On-Campus Events

Because you have a valuable perspective on Olin College, there are times when parent volunteers will be solicited to participate in on-campus events, such as Open Houses and Candidates' Weekends. Prospective students and parents may ask candid questions about student life, academic life and the logistical issues that arise when a student goes to college. Each year, we experience tremendous response from parent volunteers who are able to travel to Olin for Candidates' Weekends. Their participation contributes to a strong annual yield for the class, and we hope to

sustain and grow this tradition. The SRP Coordinator or the corresponding PAB Committee Chair will inform you of on-campus volunteer opportunities. Whenever possible, we hope to have both local and out-of-town parents represented.

Contacting Prospective Parents

You may remember receiving a phone call or an email after your daughter or son attended Candidates' Weekends. Contact with a current parent can be essential to the decision making process for the prospective family. An Olin parent can share stories of their post-Candidates' Weekend experience and decision-making process. At Candidates' Weekends, the Admission and Financial Aid staff collects the contact information of prospective parents who wish to receive a phone call or email from a current parent. The SRP Coordinator then solicits volunteers to contact the prospective parent from the Parent SRP members, matching prospective parents with SRP volunteers based on geography, gender of the student or other characteristics. All communication will take place after the decision letters are mailed and only admitted students' families will be contacted. It may be helpful to have your *Parent Handbook* available when placing your call. If the prospective parent asks anything you are unable to answer, please refer them to the Office of Admission and Financial Aid.

SRP Email Resources

This group serves as year-round email resources for prospective and admitted students and parents. Volunteers' email addresses will be published on the Olin website and students and parents can

then email you if they have a question they think would be best answered by an Olin Parent. You are not expected to be an expert on Olin, just a resource to help students and parents get to know Olin better. If you receive a question you cannot or do not feel comfortable answering, please direct it to the Office of Admission and Financial Aid. Only your name, state, child's graduation year and your email will be published on the website.

College Fairs

College fairs can be an excellent way to meet a large number of prospective students at once, generate new interest and provide answers to common questions. Given Olin's selectivity, small size and specialized nature, college fairs are often not a highly productive way for us to recruit interested students. The Admission Office receives hundreds of invitations to college fairs each year and carefully selects the fairs we believe will be the most beneficial to Olin. The SRP Coordinator will contact parent volunteers in a region when we have identified a fair where Olin should be represented. If a SRP member in the area can attend the fair, the Coordinator will make arrangements with the college fair organizers. The SRP Coordinator will send confirmation of the college fair registration and any other pertinent information to the SRP volunteer.

Olin Admission Volunteer
Field Guide

Olin Info: History and Founding

Franklin W. Olin (1860-1951) was an engineer, entrepreneur and professional baseball player. Raised in Vermont lumber camps and lacking a high school diploma, he qualified himself for entrance to Cornell University through self-instruction. At Cornell he majored in civil engineering and was captain of the baseball team. He even played major league baseball during the summers to finance his education. He went on to found the company known today as the Olin Corporation, a Fortune 1000 company.

In 1938, Mr. Olin transferred a large part of his personal wealth to a private philanthropic foundation. In the 60 years since then, the New York-based Olin Foundation has awarded grants totaling more than \$300 million to construct and fully equip 72 buildings on 57 independent college campuses. Recipients include Babson, Bucknell, Carleton, Case-Western, Colgate, Cornell, DePauw, Harvey Mudd, Johns Hopkins, Marquette, Rose-Hulman Institute, Tufts, University of San Diego, University of Southern California, Vanderbilt, and Worcester Polytechnic. The Foundation's commitment in excess of \$400 million to Olin College remains one of the largest such commitments in the history of American higher education.

Starting in the late 1980's, the National Science Foundation and engineering community at-large started calling for reform in engineering education. In order to serve the needs of the growing global economy, it was clear that engineers needed to have business and entrepreneurship skills, creativity and an understanding of the social, political, and

economic contexts of engineering. The F.W. Olin Foundation decided the best way to maximize its impact was to help create a college from scratch that can address these emerging needs.

The Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering received its educational charter from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1997, the same year the Foundation announced its ambitious plans for the college. Planning and architectural design work for a state-of-the-art campus began almost immediately. By the end of 1999, the new institution's leadership team had been hired, and site development work commenced on 70 acres adjacent to Babson College. Olin's first faculty members joined the college by September 2000.

The college officially opened in Fall 2002 to its inaugural freshman class. During the prior year, 30 student "partners" worked with Olin's world-class faculty to create and test an innovative curriculum that infused a rigorous engineering education with business and entrepreneurship as well as the arts, humanities, and social sciences. Over the time that Olin has been open, the community has developed a hands-on, interdisciplinary approach that better reflects actual engineering practice. State-of-the-art facilities matched with first-rate students, nationally renowned professors, and unbridled enthusiasm have made Olin an exciting whirlwind of activity and excellence. Olin's commitment to continual innovation and improvement promises to keep Olin College a place where the dust will never settle. For a more detailed history of the college please [visit the website](#).

Quick Facts

Mission

Olin College prepares students to become exemplary engineering innovators who recognize needs, design solutions, and engage in creative enterprises for the good of the world.

Olin at a Glance

Official opening: Fall 2002

Enrollment: 343 undergraduate students

Location: Needham, Massachusetts (14 miles west of Boston)

Programs: Undergraduate Engineering – Electrical and Computer Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, and Engineering (Concentrations include Computing, Bioengineering, Materials Science, Design and Systems).

Curriculum: Interdisciplinary, in teams, project-based approach emphasizing entrepreneurship, liberal arts, and rigorous science and engineering fundamentals

Partnerships: Olin students may enroll in classes at Brandeis University, Babson and Wellesley Colleges at no charge.

Facilities: 300,000 sq. ft. of academic, residential and administrative space on 70-acre site adjacent to Babson College

Accreditation: Achieved full NEAS&C and ABET accreditation

Student-to-Faculty Ratio: 9 to 1

Faculty: Acclaimed scholars and researchers with a commitment to teaching excellence

Admission: Highly selective; Outstanding achievement in coursework and testing; Special attention given to creativity, passion and enterprise

Scholarship Policy: Amended by the Board of Trustees in June 2009. Starting with the Class of 2014, every admitted student receives a four-year, half-tuition merit-based scholarship.

Funding: The F. W. Olin Foundation has made a commitment to the college in excess of \$400 million, one of the largest grants in the history of American higher education

Affiliation: Independent nonprofit

Chartered: 1997, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An overview of Olin facts can also be found [on our website](#).

Application Info

Admission Statement

Each year, Olin College will enroll approximately 85 students who rank among the top in the country. By traditional measures (course rigor, test results and achievement) the quality of students we seek will be outstanding; however, we place equal importance on personal character, creativity, risk-taking, unusual life experiences and an entrepreneurial spirit.

Olin College strives for gender balance and a student body that is multidimensional, representing a broad range of cultural, economic and geographic backgrounds. Olin College is approved by the INS to issue I-20 forms (student visas) and strives for a multicultural presence on campus by enrolling international students and those with significant international experience. US Permanent Residents and Greencard holders are also eligible for admission.

Applying to Olin College

Olin College is a member of the [Common Application](#). We require all applicants to complete their application online, through the Common Application. The Olin Supplement is required, along with the application fee, in order to submit your application. There is no Early Action or Early Decision at Olin College.

Admission Process

The application deadline is January 1. The application for admission consists of seven parts.

1. Common Application
2. Olin Supplement to the Common Application which requires two additional essays

3. \$80 application fee (\$100 fee for international students)
4. Secondary school report (returned by your counselor with official transcripts)
5. Current Senior Year Grades (first quarter report card or some other progress report)
6. Two teacher recommendations - one from a math or science teacher and one from a teacher of your choice
7. Results of the SAT or ACT with Writing

After applications have been reviewed, we will invite our top candidates to campus to participate in Candidates' Weekends. The program includes a design project, individual interviews and team exercises. From this group of candidates we will select the incoming class. All admitted students have the option of deferring for a year.

Cost and Financial Aid

Scholarship Policy

Olin's generous scholarship policy stems from one of the founding principles of the college- to provide a world-class engineering education at significantly reduced cost to students and their families. **All students admitted to Olin College receive an Olin Scholarship covering half of tuition during the four years of the baccalaureate program. This scholarship is currently valued at approximately \$90,000.**

Estimated Cost: Academic Year 2016-17

Billed expense

Tuition	\$46,800	
Room	\$9,500	
Meal Plan	\$6,300	
Laptop Purchase	\$2,656	(billed in 2 payments)
General Fee	\$350	
Student Activity Fee	\$180	
Health Insurance	\$1,443	(estimate)

Indirect Costs

Books & Supplies	\$300
Travel	\$1,300
Personal	\$453

Total COA = \$66,617

For more Information please visit:

<http://www.olin.edu/admission/costs-financial-aid/>

Need-Based Assistance

Families interested in applying for additional assistance to meet costs in excess of the Olin College Scholarship should submit a copy of the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) online. Olin's institutional code is 039463. **The FAFSA deadline is February 15!**

Eligibility for need-based aid is determined by federal methodology, which calculates a family's ability to contribute. Students and their families may also elect to apply for educational loans to help cover a portion or all of the Expected Family Contribution.

Outside Scholarship Policy

All students are expected to pursue outside merit scholarships (local, regional, and national). These scholarships bring distinction to the student and to Olin. Because of the change in tuition policy, scholarships can be applied to billed expenses including tuition, the meal plan, required laptop purchase, and other educational expenses. The total of all scholarships, grants, and self-help cannot exceed the total Olin College student budget. Please note that outside scholarships may affect the amount of need-based assistance a student is eligible to receive from Olin College.

Visiting Olin

Prospective students are encouraged to visit Olin College to learn more, see the facilities and meet members of the Olin Community. Information sessions and student led tours are generally offered mid-spring through late fall weekdays in the Office of Admission. Class visits and overnight visits hosted by Olin students for prospective seniors are available in the fall semester and for admitted students during the spring semester. Interested students should [visit the Admission website](#) for more information.

The Senior Capstone Program for Engineering (SCOPE)

Goals of the Program

The SCOPE program is one of the most important elements of Olin's hands-on, team based curriculum, enabling students to put their education to use by tackling actual engineering programs. As part of this capstone experience, Olin College seniors work to complete an authentic engineering project. Sponsored by a real engineering or technological client, students are expected to perform their work according to the best professional practices and the quality of their work is assessed according to high standards. The SCOPE project is the culminating educational experience designed to prepare students to meet these stringent demands—and to graduate as outstanding young engineers.

Overview

- A corporate partner supplies a bona fide and challenging engineering problem to the program
- Olin College provides a world-class student engineering team comprised of four to six senior students, a dedicated faculty advisor and dedicated project space, as well as access to the Olin technology base and an Olin technical expert group
- The teams work on the project over two semesters
- The teams present regular updates and provide a bound report at the end of each semester
- A corporate partner agrees to provide financial support (approximately \$55,000), access to corporate, technical and market expertise, hardware and test facilities.

For more information about SCOPE and to view past SCOPE projects, check out the [SCOPE website](#).

Study Away Program

One of the founding principles of the Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering was that each student should have the opportunity to have a learning experience “away” from the college. This ideal was articulated early in the creation of the college with the expressed objective of having students learn to be citizens of the world. The Olin Study Away Program was created to deliver on this principle, and provide students with the opportunity to broaden their perspective and views of the world.

For more information please visit [Olin’s Study Away Program website](#)

The Office of Post Graduate Planning

Mission

The Office of Post Graduate Planning (PGP) assists Olin College students in identifying and obtaining meaningful professional and co-professional experiences that enrich their lives and lead to life-long contributions to society. Resources are available to assist students in seeking experiences in internship and research, employment after graduation, graduate school, scholarships and fellowships, as well as involvement with professional associations and seminars.

Resource Center and Services

Located on the third floor of the Campus Center, the Post Graduate Planning Resource Center contains a variety of publications related to career exploration, summer internships and research projects, and further career and learning opportunities following undergraduate coursework. Additionally, there is information available to aid students in applying for grants and fellowships to continue study following graduation, as well as resources to assist students in networking with prospective employers. PGP staff host a series of career fairs, when companies and organizations come to campus to meet students and interview them for summer internships and jobs. The PGP office also helps students write their resumes, practice their interviewing skills and negotiate salaries.

Check out the [PGP website](#) for more information.

Useful Websites

Olin Curriculum

<http://www.olin.edu/academics/curriculum/>

SCOPE

<http://scope.olin.edu/about/>

Faculty Profiles

<http://www.olin.edu/academiclife/meet-our-faculty/>

Post Graduate Planning

<http://www.olin.edu/collaborate/careers-graduate-studies/>

Away Experience

<http://www.olin.edu/students/study-away/>

CORE (Council of Olin Representatives: Olin's Student Government)

<http://core.olin.edu>

Parent website (includes links to *Parent Handbook*, Prospective Parent website, Email resources & more)

<http://www.olin.edu/parents/>

Admission and Financial Aid Staff Directory

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