

Bennington College

Interview Frequently Asked Questions

What's the role of an interview in the admissions process?

Interviews are optional but highly recommended for prospective students applying to Bennington College. They provide an opportunity for you to expand on your application by sharing additional insights and details. We also encourage you to use this time to learn more about Bennington, helping you make an informed decision about where to enroll.

Can an interview hurt my application?

Your interview will never make or break your application. Applicants who choose not to interview are not at a disadvantage in the admissions process.

What should I expect during my interview?

- Interviews typically last 20-30 minutes.
- Since the format is designed to be an informal conversation, there's no strict set of questions you need to prepare for. Rather than memorizing responses, focus on engaging thoughtfully in the discussion. Before your interview, it's helpful to think of questions you'd like to ask your Admissions Counselor about Bennington or the admissions process.
- Dress comfortably for your interview, as we want you to feel at ease.
- If your interview is on campus, your family and friends will be asked to wait in the visitor's lounge. For remote interviews, please ensure you are in a quiet space without interruptions.
- Rest assured, interviewers will avoid any uncomfortable or overly personal topics.

How can I schedule an interview?

We do not initiate interview requests, so if you'd like to schedule one, please reach out to the Admissions Counselor for your region. You can select a time and date that works best for you from our scheduling platform.

Interviews can be conducted in person on campus or virtually via Zoom, Google Hangouts, FaceTime, or by phone. Your counselor will follow up with any necessary links or details once your interview is confirmed.

When should I request an interview?

You may request an interview either before or after submitting your application. Students can start scheduling interviews as early as the summer before their senior year. The deadline to request an interview is March 15th, but we continue accepting applications on a rolling basis until the end of June, so interviews can also be scheduled up until June 30th.

Tips for a successful interview

- Be ready to talk about your academic interests, passions, and experiences.
- Review your application ahead of time if possible.

- Arrive on time for your interview.
- Silence your phone and other devices to minimize distractions.
- Don't rush your answers. If you need a moment to think, it's perfectly fine.
- Prepare a few thoughtful questions ahead of time—this will give your interviewer insight into your interests and priorities.
- For virtual interviews, using headphones can reduce background noise and improve audio quality.
- If something comes up and you're unable to attend, please notify us so your Admissions Counselor isn't waiting.
- Stay connected after the interview. If you think of any questions afterward, feel free to reach out via phone or email.

Who can I contact with further questions?

- Email: admissions@bennington.edu
- Phone: 800-833-6845