

CAMPUS BOUND

PREMIER COLLEGE ADMISSIONS
and FINANCIAL AID SERVICES

Colby-Sawyer College

541 Main Street, New London, NH 03257-7835

FAST FACTS

Website: www.colbysawyer.edu
Public or Private: Private
Campus Setting: Rural
Total Enrollment: 954
Undergraduates: 954
Male/Female: 40% / 60%
SAT CR Range: 460 - 540
SAT Math Range: 460 - 560
ACT Range: 17 - 22
Applicants: 1,712
Accepted: 79%
Enrolled: 22%
Returning Freshmen: 84%
Living on Campus: 91%
Admissions Contact:
603-526-3700
csadmiss@colby-sawyer.edu

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[Franklin Pierce College](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Campus Bound

617.769.0400 (in Mass.)
888.843.5560
1266 Furnace Brook Pkwy.
Suite 212
Quincy, MA 02169

info@campusbound.com
www.campusbound.com

The Quick Overview

Just over thirty years ago, Colby-Sawyer transitioned into a four-year school—and their success is clear. As a fully residential campus, Colby-Sawyer offers students the opportunity to “learn among friends.” Academics at this school build on students’ existing skills through small classes and individual attention.

History, Mission, and Geography

While Colby-Sawyer was originally founded as a women’s junior college in 1837, the school became a four-year institution in 1975 and just sixteen years ago, the college opened their doors to men. Located ninety minutes north of Boston in New London, New Hampshire, Colby-Sawyer is also not far from Dartmouth College, several ski mountains, and tourist areas in New Hampshire and Vermont. This rural, 200-acre campus spends much of the academic year covered in snow, but that in no way takes away from its attractive features. Many of the structures on campus are Colonial or Georgian-style red brick buildings with white Doric columns at the entrances and green shutters on the windows. Beautiful rolling hills and mountains act as a scenic backdrop in the distance, adding even more to the picturesque view.

Academics

At Colby-Sawyer, students can pick from a variety of majors and concentrations. In addition to their major, students must also choose a “pathway” of study to be followed. Usually selected during a student’s freshman or sophomore year, a student’s pathway is chosen to ensure that all students can walk away from their time at Colby-Sawyer with the ability to integrate information from several different disciplines. One sophomore athletic training major explains his pathway: “During my freshman year, I chose the pathway of ‘Money and the Meaning of Life.’ I took three stepping-stone courses in economics, sociology and philosophy—and by the end of the program, I will have to write a meaningful paper that ties all three of these subjects together.” While

Campus Quick Looks™

Colby-Sawyer College

the pathway requirement is undoubtedly a lot of work for most students, many find it to be one of the best academic attributes about Colby-Sawyer. One senior remarks, "So many of the tasks or jobs we will have to do in the real world are integrated disciplines. My pathway taught me about the world of business while also instilling important people skills and principles of ethics."

While working on their pathways and majors, students receive individual attention from professors. The student-to-teacher ratio is twelve-to-one, and the average class size is purposely maintained between ten and twenty students. "All my professors give out their home and cell phone numbers. They would rather have you call them than have you come to class without understanding the work." Many students enjoy working in the library which notably looks like a farmhouse, complete with a large silo when you first walk in. Reading lofts and a "lodgey feel" provide students with a comfy place to spend a few hours studying or reading. Beyond the library, Colby-Sawyer has been given recognition for their "smart classrooms" that are each equipped with the latest technology to make learning as easy as possible for students. At the Herrington Center students can get help from both peer and professional tutors any time they need assistance or want to have a paper proofread.

Student Body

While high school wasn't easy for many Colby-Sawyer students, they certainly work hard and care about their academics. As one admissions officer points out, "Many of our students take the individual attention that we are able to provide and thrive from it. Where students can get lost in large university environments, here at Colby-Sawyer we are able to guide students through their academic life." Seventy-one percent of students come from states outside of New Hampshire making it a campus that has become increasingly residential in recent years. Students report that overall most students are very nice, but at times, "The campus can be cliquey because most high schools are bigger than this college." Another student notes that Colby-Sawyer's small size can be an advantage: "By junior year I knew everyone in my class!"

Campus and Residential Life

With 87% of students choosing to live on campus, students actively attend campus events or take advantage of area attractions. Virtually all students ski or snowboard at Mount Sunapee; only minutes away from the campus, the ski resort offers all Colby-Sawyer students a free season pass. Beyond skiing there are several state parks, lakes, and beaches that students can explore. On campus there is plenty to do and one student says, "Students rarely go home on weekends here. There's just too much going on." Students enjoy going to the school-sponsored comedians, socials, and dances that the Student Activities Committee organizes. Colby-Sawyer students who are 21 and older are allowed to drink and have alcohol in their dorm rooms. Underage students face disciplinary action if they are caught drinking on campus. One favorite school-wide tradition is Mountain Day, which typically occurs in the fall. When students awake to ringing bells, classes are cancelled and all students are invited to trek up to Mount Kearsarge where there are all-day activities and a barbeque. If students are looking for a weekend getaway, Montreal is three hours north and Cape Cod is just two hours south.

There are eleven residence halls on campus, with some offering traditional dorm-style living and others offering suites and apartment-style living for upper classmen. Dorm rooms are comfortable, but many students complain that they do not yet have wireless capabilities. The main dining hall is located in the Wear Campus Center, and students who live on campus are required to obtain a meal ticket that includes twenty-one meals per week. One student praises the cafeteria food, "The food is great and there are a lot of options. We also have great pizza and sub shops if you ever need to change it up."

Campus Quick Looks™

Colby-Sawyer College

Students and campus administrators are currently working together so that Colby-Sawyer's "Smart Card" will also be accepted at these local eateries.

Athletics

Colby-Sawyer is part of the Commonwealth Coast Conference (CCC) which competes in Division III athletics. Attending sporting events to cheer on "The Chargers" is very popular and the women's basketball and swimming teams have done particularly well in their conferences recently. Fitness buffs enjoy working out and competing in the Dannon Center where one can find anything from weights and ellipticals to racquetball courts and free aerobic classes. If you aren't a competitive athlete, intramurals are extremely popular and offer students the chance to play sports for fun.

The College in a Nutshell

Colby-Sawyer is for the student that works best in a small, community setting. If you are looking to be in a city or a large, fast-paced university, this college is not the place for you. Instead, Colby-Sawyer has made tremendous changes in the last few decades to become a place that nurtures each individual student so that they are academically and socially ready for the next phase of life.

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