



Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation

2024-25 Quick Facts

ROLL TECH!

- MIT's athletic teams are known as the Engineers. The term "Engineers" has been affectionately used to describe MIT's athletic teams since the turn of the 20th century, as the Institute was developing its roots as a technology-based university.
- The term "Tech" is even older and dates to the 1880s when the Institute was simply known as "Technology."
- Cardinal Red and Silver Gray were adopted as the official colors for MIT in 1876. Cardinal Red stood for 1,000 years on land and sea in England's emblem; it comprises half of the stripes on America's flag; it has always stirred the heart and mind of man; and it stands for 'red blood' and all that 'red blood' stands for in life. Silver Gray was chosen to evoke the quiet virtues of modesty, persistency and gentleness.
- MIT's official mascot is "Tim" the beaver. Simply put, the beaver is nature's engineer and was chosen as the official mascot for the Institute in 1914 because of its remarkable mechanical skills and habits of industry.

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

- With 33 varsity sports, MIT supports one of the broadest intercollegiate athletic programs in the world.
- MIT competes primarily as a member of the NCAA Division III and the New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (NEWMAC). The NEWMAC is widely considered one of the top Division III conferences in New England.
- The Engineers' four crew programs compete at the NCAA Division I level. While crew is the only program classified as Division I, several other programs, including cross country, fencing, rifle, sailing, squash, track and field, and water polo, regularly compete against Division I opponents.

ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE

- MIT athletes have won 26 team national championships and 71 individual national championships.
- In Fall 2022, the men's cross country team captured the first NCAA Division III team championship in Institute history. It didn't take long for MIT to win a second, as men's outdoor track and field claimed the NCAA Division III national title in Spring 2023.
- MIT student-athletes have earned at least 70 All-America honors every season since 2009, including a record 141 in 2023-24.
- MIT has won at least one the NEWMAC Presidents Cup, recognizing the top overall men's and women's programs in the conference, each year since the award was established in 2012-13. The Engineers have captured both the Men's and Women's Cups in the same year six times, the Women's Cup nine out of the past ten years, and the Men's Cup on six occasions.
- The Engineers lead the NEWMAC in conference championships with 199.
- 30 Graduates have participated in the Olympic Games, winning three Gold, three Silver, and four bronze medals. In addition, Ron Harvey '93 and Emelie Eldracher '22 '25 represented the Engineers in the Paralympics, with Eldracher winning a silver medal as a member of the para rowing mixed four at the Paris 2024 games.
- MIT had two student-athletes selected in the 2017 Major League Baseball Draft, as Austin Filiere '17 was selected by the Chicago Cubs in the eighth round and David Hesslink '17 was picked by the Seattle Mariners in the 34th round. Filiere and Hesslink joined Jason Szuminski '00 (2000 – San Diego Padres; 27th round) and Alan Dopfel '72 (1972 – California Angels) as the only Engineers to ever be drafted. Szuminski was the first MIT graduate to play in one of America's four major professional sports as a pitcher for the Padres in 2004.

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

- MIT is the all-time NCAA leader in College Sports Communicators (CSC) Academic All-America award recipients with 444.
- In 2023-24, MIT received 25 CSC Academic All-America honors, while Kailas Kahler '24 was named the CSC Academic All-America Division III Men's Tennis Athlete of the Year.
- Three-sport and four-time Academic All-America honoree Louise Jandura '84 was inducted into the Academic All-America Hall of Fame in 2019. She joined Jennifer (Harris) Trosper '91, who was inducted in 2001.
- MIT leads the NCAA Division III in Elite 90 Award selections with 22 and is second only to Stanford (28) among all NCAA institutions. The Elite 90 award is presented to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade-point average participating at the finals site for each of the NCAA's 90 championships.
- MIT is the only NCAA Division III institution with multiple recipients of the NCAA Woman of the Year Award. The program honors the academic achievements, athletics excellence, community service and leadership of graduating female college athletes from all three divisions. Margaret Guo '16 was the first MIT student-athlete, and fourth Division III student-athlete, to earn the honor in 2016. Karenn Groff '22 received this honor in 2023.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND WELLNESS

- Each quarter, MIT offers over 50 sections and more than 25 types of instructional physical activity courses. Each course at MIT teaches health and wellness concepts as well as specific skill instruction. There are also specialty courses in Outdoor Education (backpacking, kayaking, Parkour, rock climbing, SCUBA).
- The six-week quarter schedule allows students to try two courses per semester. Approximately 4,500 registrants participate each year. Courses are also offered during IAP and in the summer.
- As part of the General Institute Requirements, each student must earn eight points through courses and complete the swim requirement. A student earns two points per course.
- Being a member of a varsity team or the ROTC counts toward the fulfillment of the Physical Education and Wellness requirement.

RECREATION

- DAPER serves nearly 16,000 members and records nearly 900,000 individual visits during the year.
- Over 200 programs are offered throughout the year, including: aquatic and fitness training including group exercise classes, private and group instructional classes, American Red Cross safety training, specialty events, and wellness offerings including nutrition and massage therapy.
- MIT Recreation collaborates with over 18 academic and administrative departments on campus to provide fitness and wellness programming, leadership opportunities, and a learning laboratory environment for research.
- The recreational sports program is committed to improving the quality of life and building community on the MIT campus through the development of campus-wide collaborative programs such as getfit@MIT, MindHandHeart, Step Your Way, EngineerYourHealth plus, Orientation, Staff Engagement Advisory Board (SEABoard), Margaret Cheney Room and many more wellness-related events and programs.

CLUB SPORTS

- MIT features one of the nation's most expansive club sports programs, with over 2,000 participants and more than 30 teams, several of which are martial arts clubs.
- There are two categories of clubs: instructional and competitive. Instructional clubs offer formal training under the supervision of professional instructors. Competitive clubs participate in regional and national-level tournaments, with many ranking in the top ten nationally.
- All club teams are led and organized by MIT students and are governed by the student-led Club Sports Council.
- Club sports typically include two to three practices per week, but time commitments are flexible based on student's preferences, providing a great opportunity for students to try a new activity and connect with a group on campus.

INTRAMURALS

- MIT's intramural sports program offers 20 sports each year, with multiple divisions to accommodate various skill levels.
- Approximately 3,000 students, faculty, staff, alumni, and spouses participate in intramurals each year. Approximately 25 percent of all undergraduate students participate in at least one intramural sport each year.
- Teams and leagues at MIT are student-led, with the most popular intramural sports including soccer and basketball.
- The time commitment is approximately one game per week lasting about one hour.

FACILITIES

- With 10 buildings and 26 acres (0.11 km²) of playing fields, MIT boasts one of the most expansive athletic complexes in New England.
- The Al '51 and Barry Zesiger Sports and Fitness Center on the west side of campus features two swimming pools, a fitness center, international-scale squash courts, and a multi-activity court.
- Steinbrenner Stadium, Roberts Field and Jack Barry Field (lighted sports-turf venues), as well as the DuPont Outdoor Tennis Courts, are adjacent to the Zesiger Center. The outdoor fields also include Fran O' Brien Field (baseball) and Briggs Field (softball).
- The east side of campus is served by the Alumni Pool and Wang Fitness Center, located in the Stata Center at the edge of Kendall Square.
- Henry G. Steinbrenner '27 Stadium was dedicated in 1978 by former New York Yankees owner George Steinbrenner and his two sisters and was rededicated in 2009 after the addition of a new entryway. The gift was made in honor of their father, who won a national championship in track as an MIT undergraduate. Dedicated in October 2008, Bob and Eveline Roberts P '10 Field, the home for MIT's football, men's lacrosse, and soccer teams is located within Steinbrenner Stadium and features a Field Turf artificial playing surface and lights.
- In 2016, newly-constructed grandstands which seat 1,100 spectators at Steinbrenner '27 Stadium were dedicated "In Appreciation of the Generosity from the Families and Alumni of Men's and Women's Soccer." In addition, a new press box was installed, the sound system was replaced, and bathrooms were installed just inside the gates of Steinbrenner '27 Stadium.
- In 2017, DAPER renovated its track and field complex and was named the Sherie and Don (1961) Morrison Track. A member of MIT's track and field team from 1958-61, Don ranks among the program's all-time leaders in the long jump. The home of MIT's track and field program, Morrison Track features a Beynon BSS 2000 surface.
- Jack Barry Field is one of the finest facilities of its kind in New England and is the home of the MIT field hockey and women's lacrosse teams. The field surface was replaced in Summer 2024.
- The David Flett DuPont Athletic Center is equipped with a pistol and rifle range, fencing room, wrestling room, squash courts, the Paul Rudovsky '66 Indoor Golf Range, and additional instructional rooms for dance and martial arts. The basketball and volleyball teams practice and compete in Rockwell Cage.
- The renovated Sports Performance Center opened in the DuPont Athletic Center in 2024. Tripled to 8,000 square feet, the space features a sprint track, an open turf area, new state-of-the art strength training and A/V equipment, educational spaces, and offices.
- MIT's athletic facilities extend to the water where the Engineers helped make the Charles River the birthplace of intercollegiate sailing and a historic site for intercollegiate crew. The banks of the Charles are home to the Walter C. Wood Sailing Pavilion, the oldest university sailing pavilion in the world, and the Richard J. Resch Boathouse.

DAPER WEBSITES

- [Athletics](#)
- [Physical Education and Wellness](#)
- [Recreational Sports](#)
- [Club Sports](#)
- [Intramurals Sports](#)