STUDENTS SAY “. . .”

Academics
“A medium-sized school with the personality of a large “state” Division I school,” students say. Bradley boasts the affordability of an in-state education with “the prestige and community” of a small-school atmosphere due to its “intimate class settings” and “devoted professors.” Often noted for its “great nursing program,” Bradley and its academic offerings are united by “passion, tradition, and a striving for consistent improvement and excellence.” With a focus on providing students with “everything they need to be successful out in the real world,” Bradley is “great at making students feel welcome” while providing alums with “lessons to build upon for a lifetime.” “Bradley is all about teaching the individual student” and “developing one’s intellect for what comes next.” Students are often drawn to Bradley for its “job placement, good facilities, diverse areas of study, student/teacher relationships, and class sizes.” Professors are “very knowledgeable and have a vested interest in every student’s learning.” Many students champion the school’s new president and administration for the scope of their vision as well as their renewed commitment to soliciting student opinion. President Glasser “makes an excellent role model for young women.” She is “very in tune” and “makes [students] her number 1 priority.”

Life
Life at Bradley provides “the resources of a large university with the familiarity that comes from a small liberal arts school.” With a student body of approximately 5,000, “Bradley has a wide variety of students. If you need study partners we have those; if you want to party on Friday night, we have those students; if you want to stay in and watch a movie, we have plenty of those. You can easily find someone with the same interests.” “Bradley is all about community.” As one student says, Bradley provides a “‘salad bowl’ environment because people from all backgrounds generally get along.” Due to “the variety of campus clubs, activities, and organizations,” “everyone finds a niche.” “Almost everyone on campus is associated with some sort of Greek organization or athletic team. Spending time with the group of friends that each person develops is the most common idea of fun.” When it comes to facilities, though students remark that “the library needs to be updated with more and better computers,” the recreation center is the “beauty of the campus” and “offers hundreds of activities to join.” “The new Markin Fitness Center is very popular.”

Student Body
When it comes to describing the typical Bradley student, one shoe does not fit all. Benefiting from its size and diversity, there is a “huge variety in student types at Bradley,” including “some students from big city suburbs [and] some from small farm towns, with the income base varying greatly no matter where they came from.” The “typical student is intelligent, but yet very sociable and easy to get along with,” and “involved in at least one outside organization.” Though variety seems to be the norm, others note that in general “there are two types [of students]: The suburban type—usually from St. Louis or Chicago. This type is more trendy and into the latest fads and such. Then there is the small-town type. These tend to be very interesting people who are laid-back yet conservative.”
The Princeton Review Says

Admissions

Very important factors considered include: Academic GPA, rigor of secondary school record. Important factors considered include: Class rank, standardized test scores. Other factors considered include: Application essay, recommendation(s), alumni/ae relation, character/personal qualities, extracurricular activities, geographic residence, interview, level of applicant’s interest, racial/ethnic status, talent/ability, volunteer work, work experience. SAT or ACT required. TOEFL required of all international applicants. High school diploma is required and GED is accepted. Academic units required: 4 English, 3 mathematics, 2 science (2 science labs), 2 social studies. Academic units recommended: 5 English, 4 mathematics, 3 science (3 science labs), 2 foreign language, 3 social studies, 2 history.

Financial Aid

Students should submit: FAFSA. The Princeton Review suggests that all financial aid forms be submitted as soon as possible after 1/1. Need-based scholarships/grants offered: Federal Pell, SEOG, state scholarships/grants, private scholarships, the school’s own gift aid. Loan aid offered: Direct Subsidized Stafford, Direct Unsubsidized Stafford, Direct PLUS, FFEL PLUS, Federal Perkins, federal nursing scholarships. Federal Work-Study Program available.

The Inside Word

With much regional appeal, the vast majority of students at Bradley originate from Illinois. With an active eye toward broadening the student body’s geographic demographics, the school presents an opportunity for out-of-staters seeking to attend an excellent university without having to endure the grueling admissions process of many private universities. Above-average students should find that gaining admission here is a relatively painless experience.

The School Says “. . .”

From The Admissions Office

“Unlike many smaller private colleges, Bradley offers the academic variety of more than 100 undergraduate and 30 graduate programs of study. In addition to the traditional liberal arts and sciences, academic programs include business, communications, education, engineering, fine and performing arts, and health sciences. Unique programs include entrepreneurship, multimedia, and a doctorate program in physical therapy. While students have the academic choices of a larger university, they also have the guidance and mentoring of faculty. Unlike many larger institutions, the Bradley academic experience happens in faculty-taught classes that average just 23 students. One-on-one interaction with professionals is the expectation at Bradley.

“Beyond a great academic experience, what really makes Bradley exceptional is campus life. Bradley students are involved in more than 220 student organizations, including more than 50 dedicated to student leadership and community service. Integration of career development is central to the Bradley experience. One measurable outcome of this career development integration is that 96 percent of graduates begin work, graduate school, or other postgraduate experiences within 6 months of graduation.

“The Peoria area is the largest metropolitan region in Illinois south of Chicago and is home to more than 360,000 residents. The sizeable city provides ample opportunities for internships, practicums, cooperative education, and volunteer experiences.

“In summary, the Bradley experience is unlike most other universities. A Bradley student will experience a blend of quality academics, focused career preparation, extensive activities, and leadership opportunities.

“Bradley requires freshman applicants to submit scores from the SAT or the ACT, with or without the Writing component.”

Financial Aid:

- Federal Pell
- Federal SEOG
- State scholarships/grants
- Private scholarships
- Bradley's own gift aid
- Federal Direct Subsidized Stafford
- Federal Direct Unsubsidized Stafford
- Federal Direct PLUS, FFEL PLUS
- Federal Perkins
- Federal nursing scholarships
- Federal Work-Study Program

Academic Units Required:

- 4 English
- 3 Mathematics
- 2 Science (2 Science Labs)
- 2 Social Studies

Academic Units Recommended:

- 5 English
- 4 Mathematics
- 3 Science (3 Science Labs)
- 2 Foreign Language
- 3 Social Studies
- 2 History

Financial Aid Rating: 72

Annual Tuition: $22,600

Room and Board: $7,350

Average Cumulative Indebtedness: $18,398

Bradley University

Financial Aid: 309-677-3089 • E-Mail: admissions@bradley.edu • Website: www.bradley.edu

THE BEST 371 COLLEGES  ■ 99