BOSTON COLLEGE

Dear Undergraduate Students:

The Academic Services team is continually searching for ways to improve our processes in order to give students the best registration experience possible. Our goal is to develop a system that is fair and transparent in terms of how registration appointment times are allotted. To that end, we are pleased to announce the following changes to the registration process.

Moving to a One-Day Registration Period

Previously, each class year would register over a two-day period. Each class year will now register on a single day, as illustrated below:

November 9, 2023	Spring registration opens for undergraduate class of 2024
November 10, 2023	Spring registration opens for undergraduate class of 2025
November 13, 2023	Spring registration opens for undergraduate class of 2026
November 14, 2023	Spring registration opens for undergraduate class of 2027

Alternating Halves of the Alphabet

Registration appointment times for the Classes of 2025, 2026, and 2027 are divided into two groups (Group A and Group B). Last names M–Z will be in Group A, and last names A–L will be in Group B.

Group A will be assigned registration appointments at random between 9 a.m. and 12:45 p.m., while Group B will be assigned slots between 1:00 p.m. and 4:45 p.m.

For each semester, we will employ an ABBA technique to alternate which group registers first. Regardless of the student's last name, the final semester of registration (during the Fall of Senior Year) will be fully randomized.

For more details, see the tables below:

Class of 2024

Semester	9:00 a.m.–12:45 p.m.	1:00–4:45 p.m.

	Registration	Registration
Spring 2024	Randomized	

Class of 2025

Semester	9:00 a.m.–12:45 p.m. Registration	1:00–4:45 p.m. Registration
Spring 2024	M–Z	A–L
Fall 2024	A–L	M–Z
Spring 2025	Randomized	

Class of 2026

Semester	9:00 a.m.–12:45 p.m. Registration	1:00–4:45 p.m. Registration
Spring 2024	M–Z	A–L
Fall 2024	A–L	M–Z
Spring 2025	A–L	M–Z
Fall 2025	M–Z	A–L
Spring 2026	Randomized	

Class of 2027

Semester	9:00 a.m.–12:45 p.m. Registration	1:00–4:45 p.m. Registration
Spring 2024	M–Z	A–L
Fall 2024	A–L	M–Z
Spring 2025	A–L	M–Z
Fall 2025	M–Z	A–L
Spring 2026	M–Z	A–L
Fall 2026	A–L	M–Z
Spring 2027	Randomized	

There was no obvious method to determine which half of the alphabet would go first, so the University Registrar flipped a coin.

In this new system, no one will have a bad pick time semester after semester, making the registration process more fair and equitable than before.

Acknowledgments

We have been in touch with UGBC to ensure students had a voice in the decision-making process. We appreciate their feedback during this process.

In addition, we'd like to thank the Economics department for their expertise in game theory, which helped us to structure and implement the ABBA system for registration assignments.

Questions?

If you have any questions, please contact Academic Services.

Sincerely,
Bryan Jones, University Registrar
and the Academic Services Team