

# MONTSERRAT

University Mission and Ministry

36 College Road, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

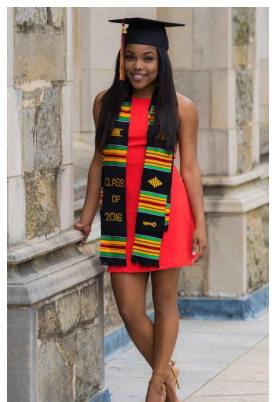
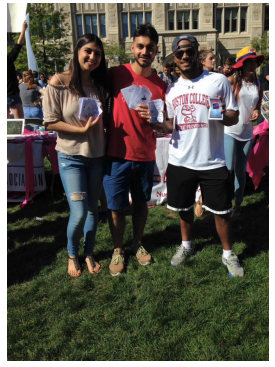


*The Parent's Guide to Soaring at the Heights*



# BOSTON COLLEGE







# MONSERRAT

UNIVERSITY MISSION AND MINISTRY

Dear Parents and Guardians,

My name is Yvonne McBarnett, the Manager of the Montserrat office. It's with great joy that I welcome your BC Freshman to Boston College and the Montserrat Community!



Their acceptance to Boston College is a great achievement, and we recognize and applaud your child's previous achievements. Our mission is to ensure that your child will have the support and resources here at Boston College in order to continue on their path of success.

Your son/daughter has been designated to be a part of our office based on the FAFSA and income information provided by your family. We will serve as a supportive network for your son/daughter for the duration of his/her undergraduate experience. Our main objective is to assist students at the highest level of financial need, so that they may participate and embrace an enriching experience at their Jesuit university. We will provide a variety of resources directly to your son/daughter and serve on their behalf as a liaison between the many different areas of the university. Our office provides a safe, confidential and comfortable environment for them to engage in authentic dialogue as a community.

I look forward to meeting your son or daughter soon!

Respectfully yours,

Yvonne McBarnett  
Manager



Rooted in the Ignatian and Catholic mission of Boston College and serving roughly 20% of the undergraduate student population, the Montserrat Office aims to assist students at the highest level of financial need to participate in and experience a Jesuit education. The program endeavors to mentor, guide and support students on an individual level in the formation of academic, social and spiritual aspects. Montserrat acts as a bridge between students and the greater Boston College community.



# *What does Montserrat do?*

*The primary mission of the Montserrat Coalition is to provide the means for students of high financial need to appreciate and participate in the formational aspects of a Jesuit education.*

- **Service and Retreat Funding:** Through collaboration with the Volunteer and Service Learning Center, Montserrat is able to provide a fellowship that covers the initial deposit fee for students intending to partake in a BC-approved international or domestic service and/or immersion program. The fellowship is non-competitive, so any student who completes and submits the form will receive funding. As a stipulation of the fellowship, students must meet with the Program Administrator or current GA to reflect on what it means to serve in addition to discussing and planning the fundraising component of the trip. Another foundational aspect of Jesuit education is the opportunity for students to reflect on their experiences in community. This unique experience is available through retreats hosted by various departments. As we encourage our students to utilize the many retreats available, we are able to cover the cost of some retreats and reduce the cost of others.
- **Work-Study Position Notifications:** All available Work-Study positions provided by BC will be listed and updated in the student section of the Montserrat website. We encourage students in need of a Work-Study job to contact us and provide us with an updated copy of their resume, and we can notify them when a position becomes available.
- **Study-Abroad Advisement:** In collaboration with the Office of International Programs, Montserrat has established a liaison between our office and OIP. Students can explore the available scholarships and grant options for funding their study abroad experiences.
- **Free Tickets:** Access to ticketed events is Montserrat's foremost initiative in assisting students of high financial need to experience the BC social culture. Students are contacted and encouraged to enter a lottery for specific events and, if selected, must come into the Montserrat Office to claim their tickets.

- **Academic and Academic-Enrichment Funding Requests:** Allocations of funds are given to students who want to participate in non-traditional academic activities and unpaid research opportunities. Students will find request forms for these activities on our website and must complete and submit all form requirements in addition to scheduling an appointment to discuss potential funding.
- **Emergency, Personal and/or Financial Support:** Our fundamental mission is to support students struggling with serious personal or financial situations. We encourage any student struggling or facing serious financial burden to come see us so that we may determine the appropriate resources.

## *How are Montserrat students selected?*



The Office of Financial Aid in Student Services designates which students qualify as Montserrat students.

Eligibility for the program is based on federal and institutional guidelines for financial need. The Office of Financial Aid is able to determine the most accurate financial aid packages and designate those students that qualify as the highest need. Because this identification process is done solely through their office, we have no access to students' personal and financial information.

It is important to note that should your student's financial aid package change from one year to the next, and they fall outside of the 'Montserrat range,' they will still remain a Montserrat student throughout their BC career.

# *A new vocabulary list*

Your experiences at BC will most certainly test you on your knowledge and willingness to embrace these terms, so we suggest you study up. 😊

- **Retreat:** We describe retreats as opportunities for students to pause and consider their experiences thus far and those to come. Often, though not always, they are a chance to escape the BC bubble and visit one of the many beautiful, serene retreat locations. Although many are religiously affiliated, there are many that are secular also. No matter his or her academic focus or individual background, there is a retreat for every student here at BC. We hope to partake in connecting them with the one that is right for them.

- **48 Hours:** FYE will certainly introduce and describe 48 Hours far better than we ever could. The important part to note is that all Montserrat students are eligible for financial assistance to attend, freshmen to consider attending.



- **Kairos:** One of the most popular retreats offered on campus. Students must visit [bc.edu/kairos](http://bc.edu/kairos) to enter a lottery and then wait to be “called” to attend the retreat. Once accepted, campus ministry will contact and inform them that they are eligible for financial assistance. Then, they can come into our office to pick up their registration form.



- **Service trip:** You know that the Jesuits root themselves in a mission based on service, but you should also know that the atmosphere of service is heavy on students as well. At BC you will find students applying and interviewing to participate in some service trips. Some programs are selective and not all who apply will be asked to attend.



- **Service trip cont'd:** Some service trips are in the U.S., while others are international. Though it is not required, we suggest students explore their options for service and get involved in a program that interests them.
  - **Deposit fee:** Most programs require students to pay a deposit fee. Our fellowship covers the full cost of this deposit fee meaning any interested student can participate.
  - **Fundraising campaign:** Most programs also require students to fundraise a certain amount to contribute to the costs of traveling and lodging. This fundraising is typically done through letter campaigns. A part of our fellowship requires that students meet with us to go over techniques of fundraising as well as to build the actual letter. In these meetings we stress to students that they should send letters to all members of their community, both at home and here at BC. The major point we try to convey is that these letters are an opportunity to invite people to join them in this experience of service. Though the goal of the letter is to meet the fundraising goal, the higher aspiration is to accumulate support and create conversation.
- **“Men and Women for Others”:** One of the key mottos of the university, ‘men and women for others’ is a notion that, at BC, means we strive to be our own personal best so that we can most adequately serve our surrounding communities and the greater world.
- **Study Abroad:** More than 50% of undergraduates have an experience abroad during their time at BC. Some are through service programs, but most are through study abroad. These experiences are crucial to helping students realize their roles as global citizens. For BC-approved programs, the student’s BC financial aid will transfer directly over to the foreign institution. There are also multiple scholarships for which Montserrat students are eligible. Although this sometimes requires some extra effort on the student’s part, we do feel that study abroad is a pivotal chance for growth and learning.



# *Know the resources!*

Academic Advising:

[bc.edu/offices/acadvctr.html](http://bc.edu/offices/acadvctr.html)

The Academic Advising Center is focused on providing guidance for students in selecting a major/minor, assistance in selecting courses, and individual support for academic success.

Thea Bowman AHANA and Intercultural Center:

[bc.edu/offices/ahana/](http://bc.edu/offices/ahana/)

The mission of the AHANA and Intercultural Center is to support all students; however, their focus is especially on AHANA students. Providing service programs, advising, a wealth of academic year programs and activities, and work-study opportunities, the AHANA Center acts as a central source of support for students.

Career Center:

[bc.edu/offices/careers.html](http://bc.edu/offices/careers.html)

The Career Center performs a wide array of services from guidance in selecting a major to interview training and resume building.

Campus Ministry:

[bc.edu/offices/ministry.html](http://bc.edu/offices/ministry.html)

The Office of Campus Ministry, intent on acting faithful to the Jesuit, Catholic heritage, attends to the sacramental and pastoral needs of the Boston College community through daily, weekend, and campus-wide Masses, numerous retreats, faith communities, spiritual direction, and service programs.



Connors Family Learning Center:

[bc.edu/libraries/help/tutoring.html](http://bc.edu/libraries/help/tutoring.html)

The mission of enhancing the learning experience of Boston College students, the CFLC provides special services to students with learning disabilities, tutoring for all students in various subjects, and workshops on study skills.

First Year Experience:

[bc.edu/offices/fye.html](http://bc.edu/offices/fye.html)

The goal of First Year Experience is to both introduce students to and teach them how to utilize the resources available at BC, as well as assist them in their transition through orientation, retreats, and academic-based programs.

Learning to Learn:

[bc.edu/offices/ltl.html](http://bc.edu/offices/ltl.html)

LTL aims to help students excel academically by developing skills that enable them to balance academics with other activities and work through the Application of Learning Theory Course. The office also provides advising, mentoring, and hosts several events throughout the year.

Residential Life:

[bc.edu/offices/reslife.html](http://bc.edu/offices/reslife.html)

Resident Directors (RD) and Assistants (RA) are housed in the resident halls to provide students with convenient and constant access to support.

University Counseling:

[bc.edu/offices/counseling/](http://bc.edu/offices/counseling/)

Counseling is available to all students but especially for those facing personal and/or academic challenges or seeking an outlet for issues.





# MONTSERRAT

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WELCOME TO OUR FAMILY



## Montserrat Office

36 College Road, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

617-552-3140

[montserrat.coalition@bc.edu](mailto:montserrat.coalition@bc.edu)

[bc.edu/montserrat](http://bc.edu/montserrat)

