

**Brown University Men’s Rugby**

**Admissions Information for**

**Class of 2029**

**(to be updated April 2024)**

Thank you for expressing an interest in Brown University and the Men’s Rugby Program. Rugby players who aspire to attend Brown have the opportunity to get a world-class education and still be able to participate in competitive rugby.

On the rugby side, Brown affords its players a unique combination of National Division 1 rugby (in both XV’s and VII’s) and Ivy League competition. Rugby in America started in the Ivies. Brown’s first rugby game was documented as November 13th, 1878. The program was more officially recognized in 1960.

Educationally, Brown University is known internationally for excellence in academics and innovative research. Brown is one of the top ranked schools here in the US offering a wide range of undergraduate concentrations, master’s programs and doctoral degrees. Brown sets itself apart from the other Ivy schools in that it is the only Ivy League institution that provides students with an “open” curriculum. Students are not required to take core classes. Instead, they have the ability to design their own majors and focus their classes toward achieving their academic goals. Additionally, Brown is the only Ivy League school that offers applicants interested in the medical field an eight-year program in liberal medical education (PLME). This program combines undergraduate and professional studies in a single program. For those with an interest in art and design, accepted students to Brown can take classes at the world-renowned Rhode Island School of Design (RISD). In addition to the wide range of undergraduate concentrations, we are currently working with Brown’s graduate school. Options exist to further one’s education through the numerous post graduate programs (such as Brown’s PRIME program), some with reduced costs if done in conjunction with an undergraduate degree.

An opportunity to attend Brown depends on a strong academic record, testing qualifications, extracurricular activities, strong letters of recommendation, compelling essays, and successfully navigating the Brown admissions process. Other factors that may assist an applicant are alumni interviews (may not be an option this cycle), a video portfolio, a broad array of other pursuits, a demonstrated interest in the university and legacy applicants.

For the graduating class of 2027, Brown received 51,302 applicants. Under the Early Decision process, Brown accepted 879 students (13% of the 6,770applicants who applied). Another 1,730 offers were made under the Regular Decision process (3.8% acceptance rate). The anticipated class size is roughly 1,700. This year, the overall acceptance rate is 5%. The projected all-in total cost for a year at Brown is roughly $84,000.

From approximately August 1, 2023, student-athletes may apply to Brown. If Brown is clearly your first choice, you may want to apply early. The application deadline is November 1, 2023 (11:59pm your local time) with acceptances sent out by mid-December. Under “Early Decision”, if you are accepted and agree to attend, the decision is binding. You can be rejected (no further chance to apply), accepted or deferred over to the general admission in the spring.



If you wish to evaluate all of your options before you make your final decision, the application deadline for “Regular Decision” admission is around January 4, 2024 (11:59pm your local time). The actual date has not been set yet. All essential application materials should be in by this date. Decisions are mailed out on or about the end of March, 2024.

***!!! Rugby applicants apply to Brown University through the same admissions process as all other students… you do not apply though Men’s Rugby !!!***

**Admissions Criteria**:

A rugby player at Brown must meet the general criteria for admission. The best way to determine if you meet the Brown standards is to discuss your academic standing with your school’s guidance, placement or careers department. Let them guide you based on their experience with Brown related to previous applicants. However, here are some general guidelines:

**Grade Point Average**: Predominance of A’s. 95% of accepted applicants are in the top 5-10% of their high school class. Strong GCSE’s (8’s and 9’s) and A-levels generally at the A and A\* level. IB scores should be 6’s and 7’s with mostly 7’s in higher-level subjects. For specifics related to other country’s grading systems, connect with coach Laflamme directly.

**Testing**:

SAT and ACT testing will be required for the graduating class of 2029.

* The average SAT Score for rugby players accepted is roughly 1500+.
* The average ACT Score for rugby players accepted is roughly 34

For students wishing to major in Chemistry, Computer Science, Engineering, Geology, Math or Physics, the Science / Engineering essay must be completed.

**Courses:** Brown expects applicants to have taken a full load of classes each term in high school. The courses should be challenging throughout your time in high school. **Academic rigor is looked at closely**. Easy or “fluff” courses are frowned upon. An acceptance at Brown can be withdrawn if a student doesn’t maintain a consistent high level of performance in his senior year. The enjoyment of learning is an important criterion for acceptance.

**Admissions Likes**: With the time commitment that sports can consume, the Admissions Office understands that athletes may not be involved with all that many additional activities, however, other interests do provide a deeper perspective on the applicant. Further Brown is interested in evidence of a candidate’s enjoyment of learning. Regarding the essay portion of the application, too many essays from athletes are on sport, understandable given the applicant’s focus, but very predictable and do not distinguish the applicant.

**Financial Aid**: Brown does not provide athletic or merit based scholarships. Instead, Brown offers “need based” financial assistance that is tailored to the student. The financial aid that is available to applicants is “need blind”. For any student admitted, Brown is committed to meeting 100% of that student’s demonstrated financial need. In 2018, Brown released “The Brown Promise”. This was a tuition-based initiative that replaced all packaged loans in all financial aid packages for undergraduates with grant funds that do not have to be repaid. For more information regarding Brown’s Financial Aid policies, including Brown’s Tuition Calculator, please visit: [**www.brown.edu/admission/undergraduate/tuition-aid**](http://www.brown.edu/admission/undergraduate/tuition-aid)

**International Applicants:** For students applying from outside the US, and whose primary language is not English, the TOEFL or IELTS test is required. More information about international students who wish to apply can be found at: [**www.brown.edu/admission/undergraduate/apply/international-applicants**](http://www.brown.edu/admission/undergraduate/apply/international-applicants)



**Interviews:** When completing the common application, or on the application itself, you will be asked if you would like to opt-in for a **Video Introduction**. Please check the admissions website for the dates by which these videos are due.

It is strongly recommended that potential applicants complete the Video Introduction. While not required, submitting the Video Introduction one can have a positive bearing on the outcome the admissions decisions. It is an easy way to help demonstrate to Brown why you are interested in attending as well as what you will contribute if given the opportunity.

**Admissions Process:** If you are convinced that Brown is a school that provides you the right combination of academic and athletic challenges, then go [**www.brown.edu/admissions**](http://www.brown.edu/admissions)and begin the process. Questions regarding admissions can be sent to [**admissions@brown.edu**](mailto:admissions@brown.edu) or by calling (401) 863-2378.

**Brown Rugby**: It is the goal of the Brown Rugby Program to recruit student athletes who can maximize their educational goals and make an impact on the rugby field. We are committed to finding these student athletes and assisting them throughout the admissions process. Brown University Admissions works directly with Head Coach Laflamme. He has the ability to discuss each applicant and highlight their value to both the university and to the rugby program. While the rugby program does not have dedicated recruitment supports, the acceptance percentages support a collaborative effort to identify future Brown students and rugby players. In recent years, Brown has averaged approximately a 5% acceptance rate (5-year average). For that same time period, Men’s Rugby has averaged a 24.6% acceptance rate. For the graduating class of 2027, Brown had 7 players accepted ED (of 18 that applied) and 7 accepted RD (of 39). Having 14 players accepted exceeds the other Ivies by far.

Starting in July, Coach Laflamme can review academic information (transcripts, testing, and other academic pieces) and provide feedback as to an applicant’s viability. This allows a person to better understand where they might stand in relation to previous applicants and those applying in that current cycle. There are never any guarantees however, Coach Laflamme’s understanding of what it takes to get into Brown can help players understand better how to proceed. Typically, the next question relates to both the Early Decision process and the Regular Decision process.

The first step is to get your information into the Brown Men’s Rugby Recruitment Database. A link to this database can be found on the Men’s Rugby website ([www.brownrugby.com](http://www.brownrugby.com)) under “Prospective Players”. It is important to try and complete this form as fully as possible. Information can be added or changed later however; our feedback will be based on how you answer the questions. This form will not lock you in to applying. It’s merely a way for us to help you understand better if Brown is the right fit.

As mentioned above, accurate feedback on the viability of an applicant will first be assessed through your academic merit. Please provide the following as that information becomes available…

1. Most recent **High School Transcript / Academic Records** (all courses through 11th grade or equivalent; all transcripts if attended more than one school; mid-year reports for students who will finish in December alone with their previous 3 years of academic records). School guidance or US University persons can email them directly to coach Laflamme. It is beneficial to have this record on one page as opposed to multiple pages for each year.
2. Entire **Senior Year Courses** (Semester 1 & 2, Trimester 1 & 2 & 3).
3. Your **School Profile** (can be obtained from HS Counseling / Guidance office) if your school publishes one.
4. **Test Results** (SAT / ACT / SAT Subject Tests / AP scores) – Optional for the application class of 2027 but highly suggested. If there are testing dates scheduled, please list the dates and what tests you are taking.



Once you have identified that Brown is a school you would like to apply to, it is important to further supply additional items that are beneficial in this admissions process…

1. Any **Video Highlights Film.**
2. **Recommendations** from coaches, teachers or other persons in support of your desire to attend Brown (they should email these to Coach Laflamme directly).
3. Any **Additional Supporting Documentation** that you feel highlights what contribution you may add to either the university or the rugby program.
4. Please review **Brown’s Admissions Website** (<https://admission.brown.edu/>) or the Common App website (<https://www.commonapp.org/>) for important information, helpful advice and timelines for when things should be submitted.
5. Copies of your personal statement and essay questions. I pull from these in my admissions write up.
6. A **Resume / CV** – his is not a normal bullet-point type of resume listing items and dates. This is more of a personal glimpse into who you are as a student, athlete and person. This document should have a bit more narrative than your normal resume. The reason being is that we need to know more about the specifics than simply a name. What was it that you did? What did it involve? What did you get out of this? There are no wrong answers here. It is your time to not be shy about what you have done. The more we understand the what and the why, the better we can advocate. Think of this as adding more color to your application. Particularly, if there are any areas that demonstrate a deep intellectual spark, Brown should know about it.

Some areas that might help you get started are:

- any sports teams played on (both in school and out)

- any leadership positions on those teams

- any awards received in those sports like All-American athlete or Academy player

- any other school clubs involved in

- any leadership positions in those non-sports clubs/teams

- any school awards academic or non-sports related

- any awards at the national level such as a nationally ranked debater

- any music achievements like All-State Orchestra

- any community service or volunteer work done (include detail)

- any work with your church

- Student body president / Dux

- any languages that you can speak, read or write

- any business you are involved in (include detail)

All of this is really an opportunity to add value to why Brown should give you a spot here.  These are things that may not be able to be conveyed on the application.

We look forward to learning more about you and hope that Brown may be in your future.

Sincerely,



David Laflamme

Brown University Men’s Rugby

Head Coach / Director

(401) 741-5659

[david\_laflamme@brown.edu](mailto:david_laflamme@brown.edu)

