ECONOMIC IMPACT IN THE CITY OF BOSTON IN FY2015

$1.05b

3RD LARGEST PRIVATE EMPLOYER IN BOSTON

$6.1m

PILOT PAYMENTS TO BOSTON IN FY2016

3,396 BU EMPLOYEES LIVING IN THE CITY OF BOSTON

$159m

GOODS & SERVICES PURCHASED FROM BOSTON VENDORS IN FY2015

$10.3m

SCHOLARSHIPS TO 247 GRADUATES OF BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS IN FY2016

hundreds SOCIAL PROGRAMS GEARED TO BOSTONIANS
BOSTON UNIVERSITY AND THE CITY: A DYNAMIC FRIENDSHIP

Toss a stick toward Comm Ave and you’re bound to hit any number of groundbreaking researchers, student leaders, and inspirational professors. Our folks aren’t tucked behind gates or walls. From Packard’s Corner to the South End, Boston University’s 45,000 students, faculty, and staff members are tightly woven into the fabric of this amazing city. Since our founding in 1839, through our growth into Boston’s largest educational institution (and the nation’s fourth-largest private nonprofit university), we’ve never lost sight of our commitment to conduct research, scholarship, artistic creation, and professional practice in the service of the surrounding community.

Like any true Bostonian, we care for our community and take pride in shouldering our own load. Every year, the University makes substantial financial contributions to the city in the form of real estate taxes, payments in lieu of taxes (PILOT), and linkage payments. Through direct employment, purchased services, and student, faculty, and staff spending, the BU community pumps millions of dollars into the local economy. We run social programs that serve Bostonians and invest heavily in the city’s youth through scholarship programs.

We’re proud not only to call ourselves Boston University, but Boston’s university. Keep reading to learn more about our special, long-standing partnership with the Hub.

DOLLARS AND SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY

As a nonprofit educational institution, Boston University is tax exempt. But as one of Boston’s largest employers and landowners, we’ve always been motivated by a sense of responsibility and commitment to giving back to the community.

- BU was the first educational institution to make payments to the City of Boston in lieu of taxes, starting in the 1980s.
- Since FY1981, we have kicked in $86.5 million in PILOT payments.
- In FY2016, at $6.1 million, we led our higher-education nonprofit peers in PILOT payments.
- Since 1973, we’ve provided over $163 million in scholarships to more than 2,200 Boston Public Schools (BPS) high school graduates through the Boston Scholars Program.
- As the longest-running and largest scholarship program of its kind in the country, Boston Scholars provides four-year, full-tuition scholarships through the Thomas M. Menino Scholarship, and, as of 2009, meets the full financial aid needs of any BPS graduate through the Community Service Award Program. In December 2016, Mayor Walsh and BU announced yet another expansion of the Community Service Award Program to include incoming transfer students who are Boston public high school graduates.

WALKING THE TALK

Financial payments are one thing, but rolling up your shirtsleeves and changing lives is another. We’ve been organizing social programs specifically geared toward Boston-area residents for 175 years, from helping the city’s elderly, homeless, and refugee populations to offering free dental and fitness services for area children. That sense of civic responsibility courses through BU’s student body as well, with Alternative Service Breaks projects taking place around the city and a 1.5-million-hour student volunteering campaign currently underway.
We’re proud to be part of the city’s cultural landscape, from running the BU Arts Initiative to sponsoring the Youth Symphony Orchestra to operating WBUR, the award-winning, nationally acclaimed NPR station.

Below is a sampling of BU-led services and programs that benefit city residents.

- Alzheimer’s Disease Center
- Trotter Elementary School partnership with the BU School of Education
- Refugee and Immigrant Health Program
- Summer Athletic Camp Scholarships
- BU STEM Inspiration Ambassadors
- Framingham Heart Study
- Prevention Research Center
- The Center for Excellence in Sickle Cell Disease
- BU Geriatric Services
- Smart Smiles at Boston Public Schools
- Horizons for Homeless Children
- Black Women’s Health Study
- BU Fitwell at BCYF-Blackstone
- Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center (MGHPCC)
- Sustainable Neighborhood Lab

Our open-campus mentality extends to our physical plant as well, and how it impacts the surrounding urban landscape. In 1987, Boston University was the first institution in the City of Boston to create an Institutional Master Plan, which detailed our vision for the development of our two campuses. We have worked closely with the Boston Redevelopment Authority (currently known as the Boston Planning & Development Agency) and created a joint task force that, among other things, keeps the master plan up-to-date and transparent, and the lines of communication open. You can read the most recent version at our website, [www.bu.edu/community](http://www.bu.edu/community).
The **BUILD** program pairs Terrier tutors with young public school students across Boston to foster literacy; BU’s long-standing partnership with the **Trotter Elementary School** has contributed to a remarkable turnaround; the University opened a fitness and wellness center at the **Blackstone Community Center** in the South End; and BU’s **Sustainable Neighborhood Lab** conducts research to enhance energy efficiency for urban housing in partnership with the Madison Park Development Corporation in Roxbury.

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**BU AND BOSTON: BY THE NUMBERS**

- **$2.8B** in total economic impact in Massachusetts in FY2015
- **$6.1M** in PILOT payments in FY2016
- **$191.9M** in real estate tax, PILOT, and linkage payments since FY1981
- **3rd** largest private employer in Boston
- **$212M** in total salaries and benefits to faculty and staff living in Boston in FY2016
- **$10.3M** in financial aid to 247 Boston Public High Schools alumni on campus in FY2016, primarily through Thomas M. Menino Scholarships and Community Service Awards
- **$300.9M** in federal research and training grants in FY2016, with an additional **$67.9M** from non-federal and private sources
- **$159M** in goods & services purchased from Boston vendors in FY2015
- **1,069** Boston-based vendors on BU vendor list
- **$381M** in student and visitor spending in FY2015
- **$100,000+** contribution by BU in 2016 to a partnership initiative with the City of Boston and Project Place to beautify and provide public health outreach on “Recovery Road” at the intersection of Melnea Cass Boulevard and Massachusetts Avenue in Boston’s South End neighborhood.