working together

The Government and Community Relations team is the university’s primary liaison for our neighbors, community partners, and government officials. We help Tufts use its resources, expertise, and knowledge to benefit the people of Boston, Grafton, Medford, and Somerville.

Whether we’re strategizing with local leaders to grow our economic impact, collaborating with schools and nonprofits to meet local needs, hosting movie nights, or simply sitting down with neighbors to offer support, the best part of what we do is the opportunity to meet so many incredible community members.

We’re always eager to connect. We invite you to follow us on social media, subscribe to our newsletter, or reach out directly. Whether you’d like to audit a class, find a free program for your kids on campus, propose a new partnership, or get help with a neighborhood issue, we’re here to serve and support you.

By connecting people and organizations with university resources, we’ll continue to make our communities stronger, healthier, and more successful together.

Rocco DiRico
Executive Director, Tufts University
Government and Community Relations

TUFTS UNIVERSITY is fortunate to be located in four extraordinary communities: Boston, Grafton, Medford, and Somerville. Our students, faculty, and staff, many of whom reside locally themselves, are passionate about making the world a brighter place through civic engagement, research, and scholarship. This commitment begins right in our own neighborhoods, where Tufts joins many local partners to create vibrant communities and a better future.”

—President Anthony P. Monaco
Prosperring Together

Tufts is an economic engine and a catalyst for growth in Massachusetts and its local host communities.

Discovery & Innovation
A major research institution, Tufts University attracted $190 million in research funding to Massachusetts in 2020, much of which was spent locally. Research at Tufts focuses on breaking down walls—between fields, between faculty and students, between what is and what could be—in order to solve the most pressing global challenges of our time.

Visitor & Student Spending
More than 70,000 people visit Tufts during a typical year, spending more than $57 million in Massachusetts.

$5.5M+
Need-based financial aid given to undergraduates from host communities in FY21

$106M
In employer payroll taxes, health insurance, and other benefits

$2.6M
Property taxes and voluntary payments to host communities in 2020

195
Tufts undergraduates enrolled from host communities

Employment
Ranked one of the Top 10 Massachusetts Employers by Forbes, Tufts University is also one of the largest employers in Grafton, Medford, and Somerville. During fiscal year 2020, Tufts employed approximately 5,000 people across our four campuses.

$570M
In salaries paid to all Tufts employees

$12M
Value of partnerships and other contributions to host communities in 2020

Housing is a top priority for the university. Tufts added more than 450 beds over the past 5 years and plans to add more in the near future, including a new high-density, on-campus residence hall.

DID YOU KNOW?
Tufts University partners with small businesses in its host cities to offer programs like the Cherish Chinatown Challenge, Discover Davis, Find Fenway, and Meet Medford, which directly connect more than 1,000 students to local restaurants, shops, and fitness studios. Off-campus spending by students, faculty, and staff provides a vital contribution to local economies.
SAFER TOGETHER

The COVID-19 pandemic produced extraordinary collaborations between Tufts and its local communities. The university offered support, resources, expertise, and knowledge from the earliest days, taking every opportunity to keep its neighbors safe and healthy.

Tufts was the first university in Massachusetts to offer campus facilities for relief efforts, housing first responders, health-care workers, and COVID+ patients; providing cold storage and food donations to hunger-relief organizations; and awarding emergency grants to local nonprofits.

Recognizing the importance of testing in densely populated communities, Tufts also administered 1,400 free COVID-19 tests to our neighbors and worked with Medford and Somerville to launch one of the first public school pooled testing programs in the state, serving 8,831 students. This partnership, the only one like it in Massachusetts, enabled local schools to reopen safely.

“Our partnership brought peace of mind to students, staff, and families while there were still so many unknowns. I firmly believe that the success of last year’s collaboration has allowed us to start this school year off on a strong note with everyone’s health and safety as our continued highest priority.”

—Superintendent Dr. Marice Edouard-Vincent, Medford Public Schools
Each year more than 1,000 Leonard Carmichael Society undergraduate students volunteer for over 30 local organizations.

**HEALTHIER TOGETHER**

Tufts University’s reputation for health sciences innovation extends to many unique community partnerships, from free medical care at The Sharewood Project to Jumbo’s Kitchen cooking classes for kids led by nutrition and medical students.

**COMMUNITY DENTISTRY**

$28M saved by community members annually through discounted services at the Tufts Dental Clinic

400+ kids receive dental care from Tufts at their school through the Boston Public Schools Dental Program

**TUFTS CHINATOWN WELLNESS INITIATIVE (TCWI)**

Tufts medical students partner with the Asian Community Development Corporation and Greater Boston Chinese Golden Age Center to lead workshops for community residents that promote health literacy and disease prevention in English, Mandarin, and Cantonese.

“EVERYONE DESERVES EQUAL HEALTHCARE ACCESS AND IT STARTS WITH GETTING PEOPLE THE INFORMATION THEY NEED ABOUT THEIR HEALTH.”

—Jocelyn Vuong, M24, TCWI Volunteer

**COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT 2021-2022**

**1,000+**

Students, faculty, and staff from across the health sciences provide free medical care, health education, and nutrition programming for our neighbors.
LEARNING TOGETHER

Transformative educational experiences are central to the Tufts mission. Through partnerships and collaborations, vibrant community events, and perks for local residents, the university strives to offer lifelong learning opportunities for our neighbors. Tufts wants to ensure that every child has access to educational opportunities that inspire them. To that end, Jumpstart volunteers help local preschoolers get ready for kindergarten while Let’s Get Ready provides SAT Prep for teens. High school students can apply for a Tufts University Pre-College Scholarship to take a class for credit, and neighbors can audit classes at a discounted rate. STOMP Fellows use their engineering expertise to mentor K-12 teachers, and Big Brothers, Big Sisters volunteers mentor young community members.

Youth Arts are also well-supported. City Studio offers Boston teens free access to art studios, equipment, and artist mentoring; the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts hosts the Massachusetts Scholastic Art and Writing Awards; and summer camp scholarships are available through Tufts Children’s Theater for local students.

GATHERING TOGETHER

Tufts offers numerous programs and perks for our neighbors.

Free Family Events
- Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine Annual Open House
- Give Kids a Smile
- Kids’ Day
- Read by the River
- Super Arts Saturday
- Tufts Community Day

Free Lecture Series
- Friedman School Speaker Series
- Hoeh Cunningham Environmental Lecture Series
- Tisch College Solomont Speaker Series

Free or Discounted Health Care
- Sharewood Project
- Tufts Dental Clinic

Arts & Entertainment
- Community Movie Nights
- Community Music Programs
- Tufts Children’s Concert Series
- Magic Creek Theater
- Sunday Concert Series
- Tufts Art Galleries

Fitness
- Swimming Lessons
- Youth Athletic Clinics

STEM Education
- Adventures in Veterinary Medicine Center for Engineering Education and Outreach
- Mini-Med School
- Tufts Pre-College

Continuing Education
- Community Audit Program
- Other Lifelong Learning Institute
- STEAM Program
- University College Workshops
- Short Courses

Transportation
- Tufts Shuttle (Davis Square, Medford Square, Somerville)

LEARNING TOGETHER

Tufts undergraduate and graduate students love to spark Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education excitement for kids through hands-on community programming in schools and at campus events.

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Medical and dental students recently launched Cherish Chinatown, an initiative that educates students about the history of Boston’s Chinatown, the home of Tufts’ Health Sciences Campus, and encourages students to engage in community outreach projects like neighborhood clean-ups.