



College Counseling Department

500 Van Emburgh Ave. ♦ Township of Washington, NJ 07676 ♦ Phone: 201.445.6800 ♦ Fax: 201.445.3625 ♦ www.ihanj.com

College Corner Elmira College (Elmira, NY)



Elmira College is a private, co-ed college located in Elmira, New York. It was founded in 1855 as an all-female college, but became co-ed in 1969. Elmira holds an important place in history as one of the four “Pillars of Access” to American higher education along with Harvard, Dartmouth, and Cornell. Elmira was the first college in the world to offer college education to women. The college is grounded in the liberal arts and sciences and is committed to the ideals of community service and intellectual and personal growth. Elmira offers a wide range of academic majors and minors that include communication disorders, human services, nursing, environmental science, medicinal plant chemistry, and combined medical and dental programs with Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine. The school boasts its small class sizes and individual attention to students. Its unique calendar allows for what they refer to as Term II, in which students have the opportunity to spend six weeks studying abroad, gaining field experience, or conducting research. This term was designed to enhance traditional coursework through innovative and adventurous approaches. Lastly, Elmira has many deep-rooted traditions that students hold near and dear; one of the favorites being the two-part candlelight. During fall orientation, students process by candlelight along the walkway to the Puddle and are addressed by esteemed faculty. Four years later, candlelight takes place the night before commencement and is addressed by members of their class and one honorary faculty member.

Admissions at a Glance:

- Test optional
- 10:1 student-to-faculty ratio
- 800 undergraduates
- U.S. News & World Report Top Tier National College

Elmira College at a Glance:

- Division III athletic programs
- 40% of students study abroad
- 95% of students live on campus

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Melissa O’Sullivan, Director of College Counseling • 201.445.6800, ext. 138 • mosullivan@ihanj.com
Corinne Fritzky, College Counselor • 201.445.6800, ext. 186 • cfritzky@ihanj.com