

YEAR IN REVIEW

2025





And say:

“ My Lord, increase me in knowledge. ”

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Supporters, Partners, and Members of Our Community,

It is with sincere gratitude that I welcome you to this year's Annual Report of Boston Islamic Seminary.

By the grace of Allah and through your continued partnership, this year has marked meaningful progress in strengthening our academic programs, supporting our students, and advancing our institutional development. Each milestone reflects our shared commitment to building a seminary that serves both faith and future.

At Boston Islamic Seminary, we remain rooted in a clear conviction: our communities deserve religious leaders who combine sacred knowledge with spiritual depth and ethical clarity. Leadership, in our understanding, is not merely the transmission of information; it is the formation of character. It is a scholarship guided by humility, service grounded in sincerity, and authority anchored in moral responsibility.

Throughout the past year, we have continued refining our curriculum, enhancing academic rigor, and advancing our accreditation efforts.

Our graduates are serving as imams, chaplains, educators, and community leaders, carrying forward the trust of knowledge and multiplying its impact across diverse communities.

These accomplishments are made possible by Allah's favor and by your trust. Your generosity sustains scholarships, strengthens faculty excellence, and supports the infrastructure necessary for long-term institutional stability. More importantly, your support invests in people, men and women committed to preserving and teaching the sacred tradition with balance, wisdom, and integrity.

As you review this report, I invite you to see not only numbers and milestones, but lives shaped, communities served, and a legacy strengthened. Together, we are building an institution dedicated to preserving authentic Islamic scholarship while responding thoughtfully to contemporary challenges.

May Allah reward you for your partnership and bless your continued support.

We look forward to the year ahead with renewed resolve and sincere reliance upon Him. May Allah bless you and your family abundantly for your commitment and generosity.

With gratitude and du'a',

Dr. Basyouny Nehela
President
BIS





BIS VALUES



Continuity & Authenticity

The Boston Islamic Seminary is committed to the authentic, balanced spiritual and intellectual heritage of Islam, deeply rooted in the compassionate teachings and wisdom of the Qur'an and the Prophet.



Relevance & Practicality

We are committed to work together to develop practical Islamic solutions at the individual, family and community levels that also enrich our broader environment.



Responsiveness & Righteousness

We train competent Muslim religious leaders who have the knowledge and skills to help communities navigate new issues and unforeseen circumstances with wisdom, integrity and dignified human interaction.





CORE FOCUS AREAS

SACRED TEXTS

**CONTEMPORARY
CONTEXT**

SKILL-BUILDING

**SPIRITUAL
DEVELOPMENT**

MASTER'S OF ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP (MIRL)

\$300,000+
AWARDED IN SCHOLARSHIPS



20
GRADUATE
COURSES



25+
EXPERT FACULTY



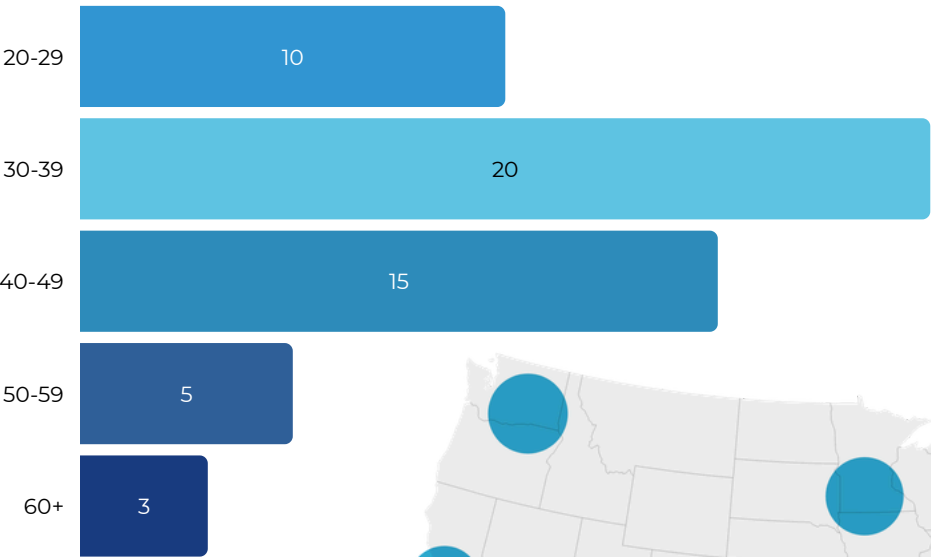
7:1
STUDENT RATIO



52%
of students have
received scholarships

MIRL IN NUMBERS

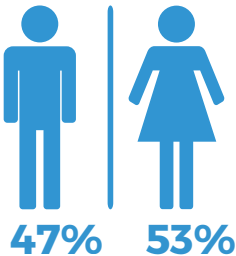
AGE WHEN JOINING MIRL



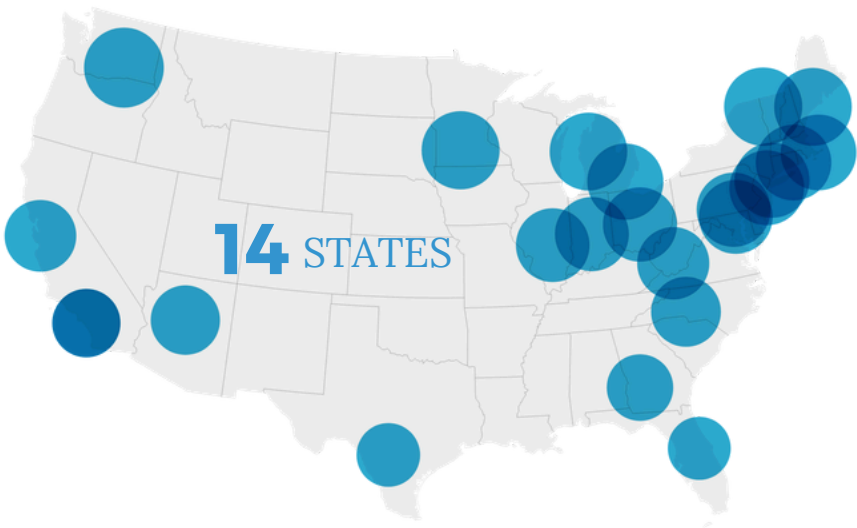
53

MIRL STUDENTS

GENDER



THE NATIONAL REACH OF BIS



MIRL ADMISSIONS DATA

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Applications Started	19	40	63	60	73
Applications Submitted	15	19	21	16	13
Interviewed	14	19	15	13	12
Total Accepted Offers	13	10	13	9	11

“

The classes I take clarify contextual issues and how to address them on campus, and discuss solutions to problems, and overall be a support system for my role as a chaplain.

SR. NADA MIQDADI EL-ALAMI

Class of 2026
MIT Muslim Chaplain to the Institute

”

60+
GRADUATE STUDENTS



GRADUATE CERTIFICATE COURSES

Masjids and Islamic organizations across the country are run by dedicated volunteers who teach, organize, and plan community programs. Many of these individuals hold other full-time jobs and are not able to dedicate three years to a master's program, but still eagerly seek training to deepen their Islamic knowledge and build their community service skills. It is for these people that BIS offers a wide selection of semester-long graduate certificate courses.



IQRA FELLOWSHIP

Iqra Fellowship is a weekly program for college students and young professionals through which they build conviction in their faith through a process of critically examining the intellectual and philosophical traditions that have shaped the modern world. Iqra fellows work to challenge the societal assumptions and norms they may have grown accustomed to, instead seeking to realign their inner compass with the message of Islam. Fellows learn to approach the world through an Islamic lens and gain skills to serve effectively as community servants. The fellowship program is free of charge to participants to make it more accessible to all.



“

Iqra has helped me realize the power of community and how it can help evolve the growth of mindset. The various mentors with their deep visions, taught beautiful and soul-shaking aspects of our deen and the world we live in. Iqra was always a faith booster and it helped me clear up doubts I would have had before I even had them.

ANONYMOUS IQRA FELLOW

”

140+
IQRA FELLOWS





RASHAD ABDULAZEEM

Class of 2027

“

BIS has expanded my understanding of Islam and the great tapestry that makes us Muslim. It has encouraged me to continue to learn, forgive, and be willing to let Allah transform my state under His desired conditions and timing.

”

STUDENTS' ANNUAL RETREAT

This year's retreat was historic because it was planned, managed, and led by our MIRL graduates. The intention was to give our graduates a platform to put into practice the religious leadership skills and knowledge they had learned over the last three years at the BIS, engaging with their classmates and faculty to execute a complete, self-contained project. Students engaged in interactive workshops, group reflections, and recreational activities, fostering empathy and understanding. The diverse voices of the speakers enriched the experience, helping attendees understand the nuances of various current issues, faiths and traditions.





2025 MIRL GRADUATION

On August 9, 2025



We proudly hosted our second graduation ceremony, marking a historic milestone that reflects years of dedication, growth, and collective effort. The ceremony celebrated the success of our graduates, emphasizing their perseverance, commitment, and passion for learning. Their journey represents more than just completing an academic program; it is a testament to the Seminary's mission of cultivating scholars and leaders who embody faith and action. As BIS looks to the future, we remain dedicated to nurturing the next generation of Muslim leaders, scholars, and community builders.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

BIS brings value to the Boston Muslim community by regularly offering enrichment programs at local masjids and community organizations. These public-facing programs are for general Muslim audiences to gain religious knowledge, spiritual nourishment, and a sense of community. Community outreach programs include workshops, lectures, Friday sermons, and Ramadan reminders.

1000s
of ATTENDEES



25+
COMMUNITY
PROGRAMS



16
MASJIDS
ENGAGED



MEET OUR FACULTY



Dr. Basyouny Nehela



Dr. Suheil Laher



Dr. Sharif El-Tobgui



Dr. Harun Spevack



Ustadha Zaynab Ansari



Dr. Sahar Khamis



Dr. John Robbins



Dr. Sh. Hassan Lachheb



Dr. Othman Mohammad



Dr. Marwa Assar



Dr. Mufti Ikram al-Haq



Dr. Younus Y. Mirza



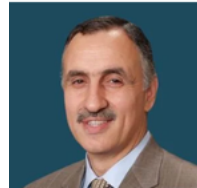
Dr. Furhan Zubairi



Dr. Noor Hashem



Dr. Celene Ibrahim



Dr. Mohamed Lazzouni



Dr. Mohamed AbuTaleb



Ustadha Hadia Bendelhoum



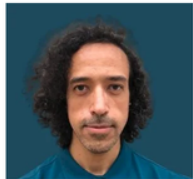
Dr. Main Alqudah



Dr. Umar F. Moghul



Dr. Ovamir Anium



Dr. Mohammed Bushra



Dr. Asif Hirani



Dr. Adnan Rehman



Dr. Ermin Sinanović



Ust. Shareef Muhammad



Dr. Sami Shamma



Dr. Mohammed Ghaly

OUR FINANCES:

SUMMARY OF FISCAL YEAR 2025

The financial statements for the Boston Islamic Seminary's Fiscal Year 2025 reflect continued progress in program development and financial sustainability. With a significant increase in tuition revenue and the successful elimination of outstanding loans, the Seminary has strengthened its financial position while maintaining its commitment to accessible education.

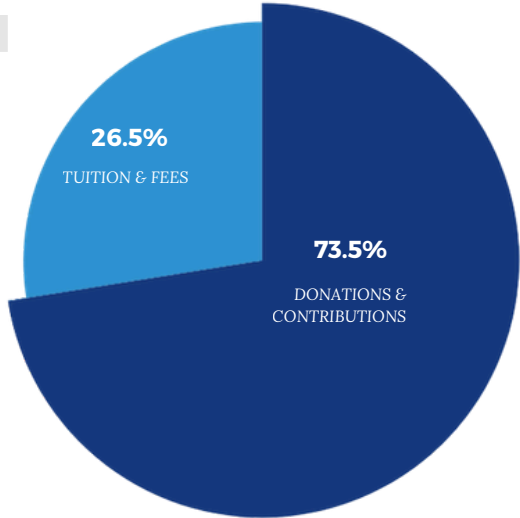
Operational Highlights:

- Total revenues increased by 8.9% to \$703,533.
- Net tuition and fees (after financial aid) increased by 4.8% to \$186,279.
- Total expenses were optimized, decreasing by 21.3% to \$534,268.
- Cash and cash equivalents grew by 28.3% to \$686,538.
- Net assets (without donor restrictions) increased by 29.7% to \$767,572.

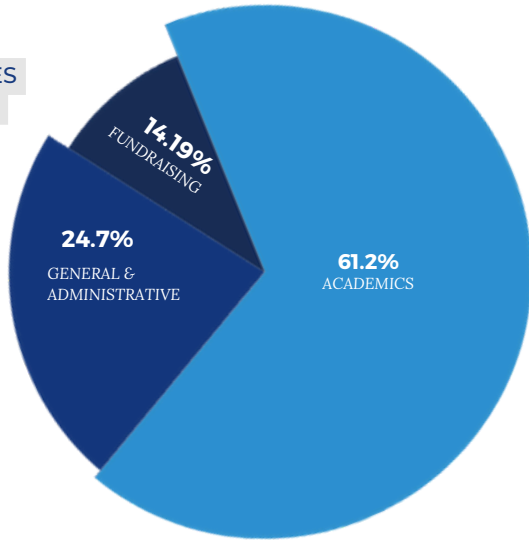
Statement of Financial Position (Total Assets)

- Total assets stood at \$783,327 reflecting a 29.9% increase (\$180,275) from the previous fiscal year.

REVENUE
\$703,533



EXPENSES
\$534,268



MIRL ADMISSIONS

Application Process

1 Eligibility Criteria

Applicants must show promise of their ability to pursue advanced study and research in Islamic Studies and Leadership by meeting the admissions criteria.

2 Application

Applications should be submitted through the **online application portal**. The applicant should follow the application's form instructions to complete the application. The application fee is \$50.

3 Materials & Documents

Applicants should submit all **supporting materials** online, as per the instructions. However, in circumstances where that is not feasible, printed documents will be accepted*.

4 Candidate Interview

Applicants may be contacted by the Admissions Committee for a remote interview during the initial phase of review.

5 Evaluation of Qualifications

Written and oral evaluations may be administered to assess Islamic knowledge, Quran memorization and Arabic proficiency.

6 Decision

After a holistic review of all the submitted materials, interviews, and evaluations, the MIRL Office of Admission will inform the applicant of their decision. This would normally be within two weeks after the interview.



BOSTON ISLAMIC SEMINARY

Preparing the next generation of American Muslim Religious Leaders

www.bostonislamicseminary.org



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