

Melissa Edwards

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Education

Harvard University

Intended AB in Molecular & Cellular Biology
Secondary in Global Health & Health Policy

Cambridge, MA

2024-2028

Cinco Ranch High School

GPA: 4.0000/4.0000 (4.745 Weighted). SAT: 1550
Class Rank: #15 of 863. High Honors

Katy, TX

2020-2024

Experience

Harvard OpenBio Laboratory

Cambridge, MA

Finance Team

Sep 2025–Present

- Guide financial strategy for a student-led biotech organization expanding access to science and entrepreneurship.
- Support initiatives funding undergraduate research, incubating biotech ventures, and linking academia and industry.
- Assist in developing a student-managed investment fund to accelerate early-stage life science innovation.
- Coordinate and promote the Beyond the Bench career series, spotlighting career pathways in bio finance, patent law, and biotech commercialization.

Harvard College Consulting Group (HCCG)

Cambridge, MA

Analyst

Sep 2024–Dec 2025

- Selected to join competitive consulting group with less than 10% acceptance rate.
- Developed actionable recommendations for various industry clients informed by 12 weeks of in-depth research.
- Worked on a six-person team to strategize a global public engagement campaign and develop a cost quantification framework aimed at achieving contrails elimination for a leading climate solutions accelerator.
- Analyzed the UK-US cross-border venture capital investment landscape and created actionable implementation plans for a cross-border fund for a leading UK institution.

Executive Service Corps of Houston

Houston, TX

Project Developer

Jun 2025– Aug 2025

- Led the design of a digital engagement platform to enhance collaboration between Houston-area nonprofits and pro bono consultants, expanding access to strategic support and peer learning.
- Led needs assessments to uncover key communication and capacity-building gaps.
- Built equity-driven user segmentation to center under-resourced or culturally specific organizations.
- Launched pilot of a scalable, no-cost digital hub with onboarding, moderation, and community infrastructure.

Agnitio College Counseling

Katy, TX

Co-Founder

Jun 2024- Aug 2025

- Initially led and developed a college counseling program, working fully pro-bono, for over 22 high school seniors from the Greater Houston area applying to competitive colleges.
- Assisted students from underrepresented backgrounds, such as FGLI, international, and under resourced.
- Provide guidance counseling and application consultations, essay revisions, and overall guidance and support.

Skills & Interests

Language: Native Speaker of Russian, Limited Proficiency in Spanish

Laboratory: Western Blot, Cell Culture, Microscopy

Interests: Law, Pharmaceuticals, Volunteer Work, Horseback Riding, Travel