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Year Founded: 2017

Accreditations and Memberships: NAIS, COGNIA, SAIS, The College Board, NCAA, Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), Illinois State High School Association (Athletics)

Mission: To inspire students to discover and pursue their passions; to become exceptionally well-educated, academically and personally; to lead lives of excellence, purpose and joy.

Vision: We believe that by nurturing students to develop adventurous minds, bold spirits, and compassionate hearts, our students can change the world.

Admissions: Academy High admits students based on their academic records and application, which includes letters of recommendation and a student essay. Admitted students possess the capacity and enthusiasm to cultivate critical thinking and problem-solving skills, a collaborative spirit, and a passion for preparing themselves for college. Since 2017, Academy High has accepted students from over 30 feeder schools from within and outside of our community.

Academy High does not discriminate in its admissions on the basis of race, gender, gender identity, religion, color, sexual orientation, or national or ethnic origin and strives to be inclusive and representative of our local community.

Academic Philosophy: All courses at Academy High are college-preparatory in nature and rigorous by design, allowing our faculty to explore new teaching methods and adjust course content to reflect the cutting edge of their discipline. As an expression of our commitment to these principles, we do not offer Advanced Placement (AP) courses. However, some students opt for self-study and seek guidance from faculty for placement exams.

Semester grades for Academic Core Courses and Academic Electives taken at Academy High are used to compute the grade point average. No other courses or course grades are used in calculating grade point averages. Academy High uses a 4-point scale (A=4.0, B=3.0, C= 2.0, D=1.0, F=0) with no weighting of any kind. Academy High does not use +/- in its grading scheme (whole letter grades only), and does not rank its students.

Academy High At A Glance:

Student Teacher Ratio:	6:1
Average Class Size:	10
Faculty With Advanced Degrees:	90%
Students on Indexed Tuition:	34%
Students Who Apply to a 4 Year School Acceptance Rate	100%
Demographics: 3% Black/African American, 5% Hispanic, 76% White/Caucasian, 11% Multiracial, 5% Asian	

Graduation Requirements:

English:	4 units
Math:	3.5 units
Social Studies:	3 units
Science:	3 units
World Language:	2 units
Writing:	2 units
All Other:	6 units

Student Clubs and Activities:

Caring Crew, Fiber Arts, Dungeons and Dragons, Women Empowered, Business Club, Debate, Japanese Learning Club, Magic: The Gathering, Creative Collaborations, Film Club, People of Color Club, Yearbook, Student Newspaper, Queer-Straight Alliance, Music Composition, Rock Band, Jazz Band
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Athletics and Other Competitions:

Boys and Girls Cross Country, Boys and Girls Golf, Boys and Girls Track and Field, Girls Volleyball, Girls Basketball, Boys Tennis, Girls Softball (Co-Op)
Science Olympiad, AMC-10/AMC-12, Illinois Math League

Types of Classes

Academic Core Course: The goal of Academy High's core curriculum of academic courses is to provide every student with a solid foundation in mathematics, science, history, literature, writing, and world languages. These required classes provide students with a well-rounded education and the development of skills that will prepare them for post-secondary education and life outside of school. These classes count toward a student's grade point average (GPA).

Class of 2025 Academic Core Sequence

	9th	10th	11th	12th
Math	Geometry	Advanced Algebra	Algebra II / Pre-Calculus	Discrete Mathematics Calculus
Science	Biology	Chemistry	Experimental Design Physics	Environmental Science
Social Studies	World History	Global Studies	U.S. History	Environmental Studies
English	English I	English II	English III	English IV
Writing	Writing I	Writing II	Writing III	Writing IV
World Language	Spanish I	Spanish II	Spanish III	Spanish IV
	Chinese I	Chinese II	Chinese III	Chinese IV

Academic Elective: Academic electives are courses in which students, typically in their junior and/or senior year, expand their knowledge in specific areas of interest. These classes are outside of the core curriculum, range in duration from a semester to a full academic year, and are taught by Academy High faculty as well as visiting instructors from our local community. These classes count toward a student's grade point average (GPA).

Module: Academy High's modules are an expansive and dynamic set of courses covering topics outside of the core curriculum and ranging in duration from an academic quarter to a full academic year. These shorter classes meet once or twice a week and allow students to engage in new topics without making a large time commitment. Modules are taught by Academy High faculty as well as visiting instructors from our local community. These classes do not count toward a student's grade point average, and can be graded on a letter scale or pass/fail at the discretion of the instructor (in an instructor-led class) or the student (in consultation with faculty in an independent study).

Independent Study: Academy High's Independent Study Program is an innovative and flexible educational initiative designed to empower high school students to earn credit while exploring and developing their passions and interests. Students have the freedom to choose their own topics and projects with the support of a faculty member, who serves as a mentor to students throughout the study. Students design their own schedules, allowing them to balance their studies with other commitments. All independent studies must be approved by supporting faculty and an administrator.

Internship: Internships are exciting opportunities for our students to gain hands-on experience in fields of their choice while earning valuable academic credit. This program bridges the gap between classroom learning and real-world application, empowering students to explore their career interests, build practical skills, and make informed decisions about their future. This program offers a wide range of internship placements to accommodate diverse interests.

Classes Outside Academy High: Academy High offers an exceptional opportunity for our students to broaden their horizons and earn external academic credits by taking classes beyond the confines of their school context. Students have the flexibility to choose classes from a wide range of external providers, including online platforms, nearby colleges, or specialized academies.

Post-Secondary Profile: In May 2021, Academy High celebrated its first graduating class of thirteen students. Since then, our graduates have furthered their education at colleges and universities across the United States. Below is a snapshot of institutions to which our students applied and were accepted. An asterisk (*) indicates that a student matriculated at that college or university.

American University	Illinois College	Point Park University*	University of Idaho
Allegheny College	Illinois Institute of Technology	Purdue University	University of Illinois Chicago*
Augustana College*	Illinois Wesleyan University*	Ripon College	University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*
Babson College	Indiana University Bloomington*	Rollins College	University of Iowa
Beloit College*	Iowa State University*	Richland Community College*	University of Kansas
Boston University*	Knox College*	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology	University of Maine
Bradley University	Lawrence University	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Miami
Brandeis University	Loyola University Chicago	Rutgers University	University of Michigan*
Butler University	Maryville University – St. Louis	Saint Louis University	University of Minnesota Twin Cities
Carthage College	Miami University (Ohio)	Saint Olaf College	University of Missouri Columbia
Case Western Reserve University	Michigan State University	Southwestern University	University of Nebraska Lincoln
Clark Atlanta University	Millikin University	Southern Illinois University Carbondale*	University of Oklahoma
Colorado State University*	Missouri Univ. of Science and Technology	Stony Brook University	University of Pittsburgh
Cornell College*	Monmouth College	Tufts University*	University of San Francisco
Cornell University	Morehouse College*	Tulane University*	University of Southern California*
DePaul University	Muhlenberg College	University of California, Berkeley	University of St. Thomas
Drexel University	New York University*	University of California - Irvine	University of Wisconsin Madison
Earlham College*	Northern Illinois University	University of California - San Diego*	University of Vermont
Eastern Mennonite University	Northeastern University	University of California - Santa Cruz*	Wabash College
Fisk University	Oberlin College	University of Colorado – Boulder	Washington University in St. Louis*
Fordham University	The Ohio State University	University of Connecticut	Wheaton College (MA)
Goshen College	Oregon State University	University of Dayton	West Virginia University
Grinnell College*	Parkland College*	University of Hartford	Whitman College
		Univ. of Health Sciences and Pharmacy	Wittenberg University

Class of 2024 Profile: The cohort of 15 students in the Class of 2024 received admission offers from 54 unique colleges and universities. Ultimately, these students will attend nine different colleges and universities. 67% of the students chose to stay in-state compared to 23% opting for out-of-state institutions. Additionally, 67% of the students will attend public universities, while 23% will be at private institutions. Notably, 40% of the class enrolled at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. This impressive outcome underscores the dedication and hard work of our students, as **every single student has been accepted into and will attend a four-year program.**