



Seek a Better Path

**HOTCHKISS**





# The Hotchkiss School Mission

MONITI MELIORA SEQUAMUR

Guided by each other, let us seek better paths.

The Hotchkiss School seeks to inspire a diverse range of students who are committed to the betterment of self and society, and to cultivate in them at the highest standards of excellence

*imagination and intellect,  
openness and personal integrity,  
empathy and responsible citizenship*

that they may discover and fulfill their potential as individuals fully engaged in our world.



# A Message from the Head of School

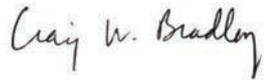
## A culture of respect, curiosity, and compassion

Hotchkiss is defined by a culture of respect: respect for oneself and one another; respect for ideas and learning, for the process of discovery and creation; respect for our well-being; and respect for nature and the planet. This culture of respect is deeply rooted in our DNA. George Van Santvoord, a graduate of the Class of 1908 who served as Hotchkiss's headmaster from 1926 to 1955, extolled the importance of intelligence, curiosity, discipline, and character. He wrote, "Tolerance is desirable, but it is rather a neutral stance. Isn't it better to prize the admirable qualities of those unlike oneself?" These are among the enduring values I see at Hotchkiss today: a culture of respect, a curiosity about all things, and an admiration for individual difference and individual talent.

We are an intentionally diverse, inclusive learning community, and we believe in the profound learning that occurs in a residential school whose members have been carefully selected for their gifts and potential.

I encourage you to visit this very special place. We look forward to welcoming you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Craig W. Bradley". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Craig W. Bradley  
Head of School



# Why Hotchkiss?

What happens when you bring together 600 students from around the world who are dedicated to being their best?

You get an education that is deepened by human connection.

The beauty of a boarding school is its immersive nature — students not only learn with each other in class, but from each other throughout the day. In the classroom, in the dormitories, and on the athletic fields, our faculty provide an exceptional, intentional support system, guiding the students in their care as they grow intellectually, socially, and emotionally. At Hotchkiss, 96 percent of our students live on campus and share their daily lives together, bringing their own strengths, talents, and points of view, and respecting each other's differences.

The Hotchkiss School is an inclusive and supportive living and learning community where students experience outstanding academic preparation and life-changing opportunities that inspire a greater understanding of themselves, others, and the world.

## WE ARE RESIDENTIAL FOR A REASON



13 DORMITORIES



trained students who  
assist with dorm life

# Hotchkiss by the Numbers

One MAIN BUILDING  
at the heart of student life

1891 founded by  
Maria Bissell Hotchkiss

---

827 acre campus surrounded by  
seven miles of wooded trails  
and Lake Wononscopomuc

---

287 acre **Fairfield Farm**, which  
provides our dining hall with  
organic produce and meats



# Our Faculty

As instructors, dorm parents, coaches, and advisors, our deeply committed faculty members guide students throughout the day.

156 faculty members

72% hold advanced degrees

23+ years of average professional experience in education



# Our Students

6 continents, 36 countries, and 34 states in the U.S.

96% boarding students

600 students from grades 9-12 and PG

16% international students

36% U.S. students of color

# 200+

courses offered

## ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

Classical & Modern Languages (Chinese, French, German, Ancient Greek, Latin, and Spanish), English, Humanities, and Social Sciences (Economics, History, and Philosophy & Religion), Mathematics & Computer Science, Science, and Visual & Performing Arts

# 12

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE STUDENTS



# 11

off-campus learning programs around the world, including Round Square and School Year Abroad

# College Matriculation

Top colleges attended by 2016-19 graduates

New York University

---

University of Chicago

---

Cornell University

---

Georgetown University

---

University of Pennsylvania

---

Harvard College | Yale University

---

Columbia University | Princeton University

---

Washington University in St. Louis



*"I couldn't imagine where I'd be if Hotchkiss didn't help me to find and foster my passion to do and to be more through computer science. My desire to learn pushed me to build my very first game at Hotchkiss, but I couldn't stop there. I went on to expand my horizons through the University of Pennsylvania's School of Engineering, with classes in cloud computing and machine learning. This year, I built the back end to a new firm-wide application as an intern at J.P. Morgan."*

— Jelani '17



## Rhodes Scholars

The oldest, most celebrated international fellowship for scholarly achievement, character, and leadership potential



## Morehead-Cain Scholars

over the past 12 years

Includes a four-year merit scholarship to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



**Schwarzman Scholars**, a master of global affairs degree program at Tsinghua University, in the past 3 years

# College Advising

Planning for what comes after graduation is an integral part of the Hotchkiss education.

The College Advising Office is dedicated to supporting students as they take the lead in their college process. Advisors focus on each student as an independent and capable individual, guiding them as they explore a range of options, prepare applications that represent their values and talents, and choose the path that suits them best.

---

## The Teaching and Learning Center

The Class of 1964 Teaching and Learning Center offers support and specific assistance with study skills, time management, reading, and writing. The Center also ensures that the needs of students with diagnosed learning disabilities are met.



# Imagination and Intellect

What happens when learning isn't about finding the right answer, but asking the right questions? Or when everyday conversations open doors to new ways of thinking? Anything is possible.

Hotchkiss offers a breadth and depth of study that most students don't experience until college. Our graduates go to college equipped with the skills and intellectual curiosity necessary for success. We also offer a host of electives, such as biomedical ethics, Greek and Latin, environmental science, design engineering for real-world problems, cyber security, and coding. If you thrive on intellectual debate with those who share your passion for ideas, you belong at Hotchkiss.

LEAD WITH CURIOSITY





# Openness and Personal Integrity

What does integrity mean to you?

Hotchkiss faculty and students are dedicated to high standards of scholarship and personal conduct. We are committed to never settling, to putting forth our strongest efforts, and to cultivating friendships that last a lifetime.

We believe that being open to ideas and beliefs — and treating each other with respect, even when we don't agree — helps us learn better. The diversity of our community is one of our strengths; through it, we develop a rich network of mentors and friends.

*“In my senior honors English class, there were moments when the teacher would leave the room...but we would continue discussing as a group. It's not because we had to, but because we all genuinely loved the material and what we were doing.”*

— Nick '18

LEARN WITH AN OPEN  
HEART AND MIND

# Empathy and Responsible Citizenship

How will you make this world better?  
Our graduates leave Hotchkiss with skills to address academic challenges and to tackle problems in the real world. Living and learning with others from around the globe promotes active engagement with some of society's most pressing issues.

Our students get involved in service projects in their daily lives and through our travel program, which is one of the most robust of any U.S. boarding school.

FOR THE BETTERMENT  
OF SELF AND SOCIETY





*“Each student was from a different part of the world and had a different cultural background, allowing for a range of viewpoints on any topic we discussed...Hotchkiss does an exceptional job of fostering an environment in which students fall into immersive situations by nature of the campus, making them more well-rounded versions of themselves through daily interactions.”*

—Justin '18

# *The* Academic Program

Hotchkiss graduates are well prepared for the academic and intellectual demands of college study and possess the social and emotional intelligence to thrive wherever they go next. Our students learn how to take risks, fail, persist, and succeed. Along the way, they pursue global literacy, are enlisted as environmental stewards, and learn the complexities of civic engagement. All academic departments offer electives, independent studies, and advanced courses at the AP level and beyond.

---

The following pages offer an overview of each area of study.



## Classical & Modern Languages

Through formal study of languages, students develop the skills to help them cross cultural barriers, grasp how language works, and see how it shapes their understanding of the world. Classical language courses in both Greek and Latin enable students to study the ancient world as intimately as possible by reading texts written by the ancient scholars themselves. Modern language courses — including Chinese, French, German, and Spanish — are designed to provide



students with as much exposure as possible through listening, speaking, reading, writing, building awareness of cultural events, values, and differences. Upper-level courses emphasize reading and literary analysis. Selected students may complete their upper mid (11th grade) or senior (12th grade) year abroad in Beijing, China; Rennes, France; Viterbo, Italy; or Zaragoza, Spain, with the School Year Abroad program.

A student may qualify for a Classics Diploma with extensive work in Latin and Greek by completing one of the following: four levels of Latin and three of Greek; five levels of Latin and two of Greek; or four levels of Latin and two of Greek in addition to a Classics independent study.

New students must take a placement test in order to enroll in any language course beyond the introductory level. Placement tests are taken in May, before the start of the new school year.

## English

English classes at Hotchkiss function with an abiding interest in language and in the power of individual and group inquiry. Whether mastering grammar, developing clear, fluid written expression, or analyzing essays, poems, plays, and novels, students learn from teachers and each other. To prepare students for a world that demands many forms of literacy,

teachers guide students to think about the many ways a text communicates, with an emphasis on vocabulary enrichment and the writing process. At every level, students learn the basics of good writing, perceptive reading, and thoughtful analysis.

## Human Development

Human Development (HD) is a two-year program for preps and lower mids designed to help them understand their own personal growth and development and provide a safe, supportive environment for discussions about physical and emotional well-being, drugs and alcohol, and healthy relationships. The goal of the program is to help our students learn how to live in a community and prepare for the challenges of becoming independent young adults. No academic credit is given for this course, and students are graded on a pass/fail basis.

## Humanities & Social Sciences

Humanities and social science courses examine how people throughout history have tried to understand and organize their worlds. Courses in economics, global and U.S. history, philosophy, and religion emphasize critical and analytical thinking, as well as clear written and oral expression. In addition, an increasing number of courses are interdisciplinary, and global themes suffuse many of our offerings.

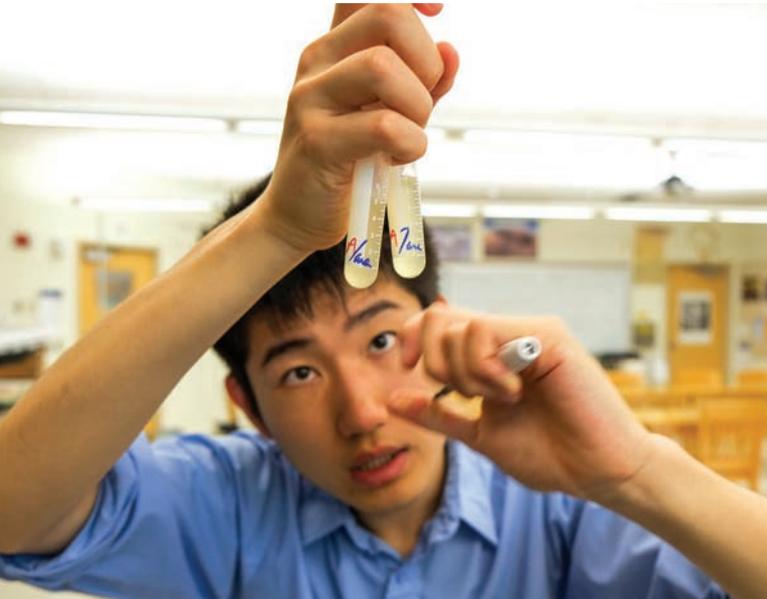
The Humanities Program is a coordinated curriculum comprised of courses in English, history, the arts, and philosophy and religion. Students gain an understanding of how people in diverse times and places made sense of themselves and the world around them by examining essential questions about knowledge, the “good” life and society, and the role of human beings in the natural world.





## Mathematics & Computer Science

Mathematics and computer science courses help students discover and appreciate the power, logic, and beauty of mathematics. Students learn to read, write, and discuss mathematics with clarity and confidence as they solve problems with creativity and perseverance. At all levels of math, students explore functions, iteration and recursion, transformations, proof and reasoning, algebraic properties and notation, statistics, and shape and space, while learning to use technology thoughtfully and effectively. New students must take a placement test before enrolling in a math course.



## Science

All Hotchkiss science courses are built on the belief that science is creative, innovative, and dynamic. Teachers emphasize the importance of observation and analysis, oral and written communication, the scientific method, and creative problem-solving. Laboratory experimentation and hands-on activities are the basis for nearly all science courses. Field-based courses allow students to explore the habitats and environments that comprise our campus through the lens of scientific inquiry and global ecology. In addition to standard track courses in biology, chemistry, environmental science, and physics, the elective program allows students to explore a variety of interests in courses such as astronomy, robotics, anatomy, and biochemistry.

The department also offers independent study and research opportunities for students who are motivated to study a particular area of science on their own.

## Visual & Performing Arts

The Visual and Performing Arts Program thrives on the collaborative energy of dance, music, photography, theatre, and visual arts. Each department offers courses designed to support and engage both the curious beginner and the committed art student. Through the arts, students develop the tools for authentic self-expression, gain confidence, and expand their capacity for reflection. The program celebrates multiple perspectives, emphasizing the connection between the arts and other disciplines. In addition to the fully credited academic program, the department offers a breadth of opportunities outside the class day that foster creativity, collaboration, and independent exploration.



*“I went from being a pretty quiet, introverted kid at my old school, to becoming class president within my first year. I learned how to be confident and independent — and I wouldn’t trade it for anything.”*

— Harry '18



#HeyBearcat

# Unique Educational Opportunities Beyond the Classroom

## The Campus is Your Classroom

Some of our classrooms don't have walls. We offer myriad ways to learn outdoors — limnology, environmental science, *plein air* art, photography, working with the local community, and astronomy with light-pollution-free skies.

## Discovery and Innovation

The Hotchkiss Observatory, our DNA sequencer, and the Class of 2017 EFX Lab (Engineering, Fabrication, and Exploration) are just a few of the amazing resources we offer for experimentation and collaboration in the sciences.



## Learning in the World

Hotchkiss students have the opportunity to live and learn through many faculty-led cultural exchange and study programs, most recently in Iceland, Australia, China, Colombia, Cuba, India, France, Kenya, Israel, Russia, New Zealand, Sweden, and Sri Lanka.



## A Distinctive Music Program

Hotchkiss offers extensive instruction and performance opportunities — master classes with professionals, state-of-the-art practice and performance facilities, and a range of ensembles and instruments. New in the 2019-20 school year is the Hotchkiss Philharmonic Orchestra.

## Fairfield Farm

The 287-acre farm, set in the Berkshire-Taconic hills, serves as both a working farm and a place of learning. From *plein air* painting to outdoor piano concerts, environmental science labs, and astronomy, the Farm offers incredible opportunities for students to take advantage of our unique natural setting. In the co-curricular farm program, students get hands-on experience in sustainable agriculture and harvesting produce that they eat in the dining hall.

## Independent Study

Students can design their own course of study with the guidance of a faculty member.

## A Tradition of Writing

From Daily Themes and the Teagle essay to writing for *The Record* or other student publications, our students are trained in the craft of writing.

# Graduation Requirements By Subject and Entrance Year

## Entering as a Prep **Total credits: 19**

English	Prep and Lower Mid Humanities Upper Mid and Senior English
Humanities & Social Sciences (H&SS)	Prep and Lower Mid Humanities
Art	Prep and Lower Mid Humanities
Languages*	Through the third-year level of a four-year language offered at Hotchkiss by placement or study
Mathematics	Through the third level, including geometry or the equivalent, by placement or study
Science	Prep Science Core plus one year laboratory science
Human Development	Taken prep and lower-mid years

## Entering as a Lower Mid **Total credits: 14**

English	Lower Mid Humanities Upper Mid and Senior English
Humanities & Social Sciences (H&SS)	Lower Mid Humanities plus one credit in H&SS
Art	Lower Mid Humanities
Languages*	Through the third-year level of a four-year language offered at Hotchkiss by placement or study
Mathematics	Through the third level, including geometry or the equivalent, by placement or study
Science	Two years of laboratory science, which may include credit earned prior to enrollment
Human Development	Taken lower-mid year

## Entering as an Upper Mid **Total credits: 9**

English	Upper Mid and Senior English
Humanities & Social Sciences (H&SS)	U.S. History and one credit, which may include H&SS credit earned prior to enrollment**
Art	None
Languages*	Through the third-year level of a four-year language offered at Hotchkiss by placement, or through the second year of a four-year language offered at Hotchkiss by study
Mathematics	Through the third level, including geometry or the equivalent, by placement or study
Science	Two years of laboratory science earned at Hotchkiss or prior to enrollment

## Entering as a Senior or Postgraduate **Total credits: 4**

English	Senior English (Postgraduates may petition for waiver)
Humanities & Social Sciences (H&SS)	U.S. History** (Postgraduates exempt)
Art	None
Languages*	Through the third-year level of a four-year language offered at Hotchkiss by placement, or by earning one credit (Postgraduates exempt)
Mathematics	Through the third level, including geometry or the equivalent, by placement or study (Postgraduates exempt)
Science	None

\*Hotchkiss requires that the language requirement be completed in successive years, unless granted special permission.

\*\*Entering students who have taken a year of U.S. History can apply to the H&SS Department for a waiver of this requirement. If this waiver is granted, then the students are required to take another year of history or art history in place of U.S. History and to write a research paper to Hotchkiss standards within that year.



# Be True

Since its founding, Hotchkiss has recognized the importance of combining academic pursuits with a strong physical education. The goal of our athletic program is to help student-athletes become more confident, both physically and mentally, because that confidence carries over into all areas of campus life.

---

**60+** athletic teams, including varsity, junior varsity, thirds, and club

---

**212,000** square-foot athletic center

---

10-lane swimming pool, 2 ice hockey rinks (NHL and Olympic-size), 8 international-size squash courts, a fitness center, and training rooms

**Additional facilities:** 2 synthetic turf fields, 9-hole golf course, 15 outdoor tennis courts, 6-lane track and stadium, paddle tennis courts, climbing walls, 4 additional fields, a boathouse on Lake Wononscopomuc for competitive sailing, and indoor tennis courts

**BEARCAT ATHLETICS**



# The Arts at Hotchkiss

The arts program at Hotchkiss offers a multitude of opportunities for students to express themselves creatively and pursue their passions. In each discipline, students train with working artists — both artists-in-residence and Hotchkiss faculty — and hone their craft in state-of-the-art facilities.

---

## Esther Eastman Music Center

16 practice and ensemble rooms, 10 classrooms, a digital recording studio, a radio station, and a 715-seat auditorium

---

2 performance spaces for dance and theatre

---

## The Tremaine Art Gallery

A museum-quality exhibition space  
for students and guest artists

---

The renovated Cullman Art Center (2018)

---

Hotchkiss Film Festival



*“I would use the word ‘divine’ to describe how it feels when music brings people together. In a sense, music is a service...I sang in the a cappella group, Calliope, I played in the orchestra, and I volunteered for Songs for Smiles, which brought music to the local nursing home...These experiences allowed me to feel how much power I had as a musician.”*

— Sarah '18



# Fun and Exploration

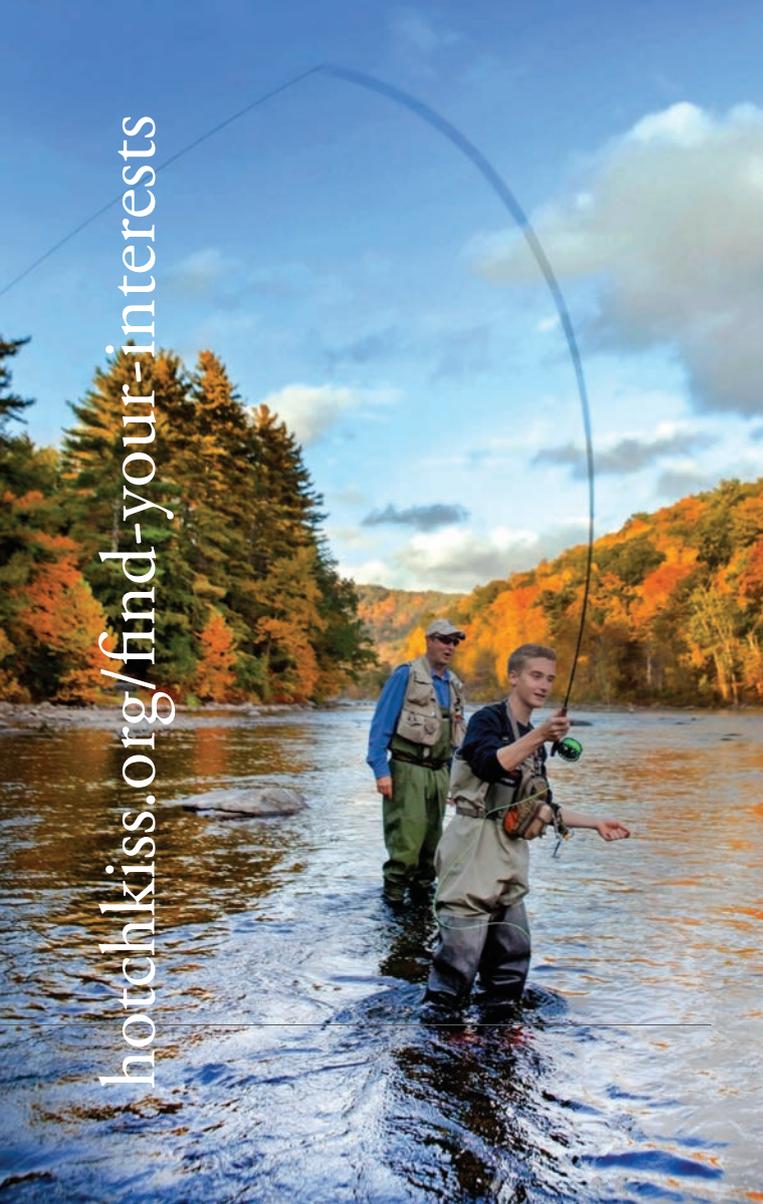
60+

student-run activities and clubs

*A cappella* groups, dance, academic teams, Bow Tie Bowl, Innovation Club, Speech and Debate, St. Luke's and service groups, arts groups, Fairfield Farm Ecosystem and Adventure Team (FFEAT), Astronomy Club, Math Team, Robotics Club, *The Record*, art and literary magazines, music ensembles, affinity and cultural groups, Woods Squad, Real Food, Habitat for Humanity, Hotchkiss Dramatic Association, Hotchkiss Film Festival, Student-Faculty Council, and many more offerings.

PURSUE YOUR PASSIONS  
DISCOVER HIDDEN TALENTS  
TRY SOMETHING NEW

[hotchkiss.org/find-your-interests](https://hotchkiss.org/find-your-interests)



*“When I first came as a prep, I really believed I was a STEM (math and science) person. When my proctor asked me to write for the school paper, I thought he was crazy, but I gave it a try. I ended up becoming an editor and my love of journalism and business leadership jumped from there — who knew? All Hotchkiss students have something outside of class that they are genuinely passionate about, and they love to share — whether it’s being an award-winning pianist or simply loving to cook.”*

— Nick '18

# An Extraordinary Landscape

The northwest corner of Connecticut is located just two hours from New York City and three from Boston. We have access to breathtaking natural resources, such as the Berkshire-Taconic mountains, Housatonic River, and Fairfield Farm, from which we source more than 30 percent of food served in the dining hall. The natural setting of our campus, in its beauty and biodiversity, provides sanctuary and inspiration. Students can take advantage of miles of trails, explore Beeslick Woods, swim in Lake Wononscopomuc, and enjoy clear views of the stars.

---

**827** acres surrounded by the Litchfield Hills and the Berkshire-Taconic landscape

---

The Nature Conservancy calls the Berkshire-Taconic landscape one of

**200**

“Last Great Places” in the world.

**287**  
acres at  
Hotchkiss’s  
Fairfield Farm

[hotchkiss.org/visit](https://hotchkiss.org/visit)





# Making Hotchkiss Affordable

Our commitment to financial aid goes back to 1891, when School founder Maria Bissell Hotchkiss insisted on providing scholarships to local students. Today we remain steadfast in our commitment to making Hotchkiss accessible, and to helping all students on financial aid participate fully in the Hotchkiss experience.

The most common surprise about financial aid is who qualifies for it — 44 percent of our families on financial aid have household incomes of over \$150,000. Our financial aid awards meet 100% of a family’s demonstrated need and do not include loans. Over \$310,000 is allocated each year to our aid students to alleviate the cost of books, supplies, transportation, travel programs, and other expenses. We encourage families to use our easy online financial aid estimator to discover how accessible and affordable a Hotchkiss education is for your family.

**FINANCIAL AID IS MORE  
ACCESSIBLE THAN YOU THINK**

**\$310,000**

in aid granted for books,  
travel learning grants,  
and supplies

**\$10.12**

million  
in financial aid  
available

**\$11,360**

average contribution from  
families receiving aid

**31%**

students on aid  
attending Hotchkiss  
tuition-free

## Percentage of Financial Aid Families by Household Incomes

0-\$50,000.....	17%
\$50,001-\$100,000 .....	22%
\$100,001-\$150,000 .....	17%
\$150,001-\$200,000 .....	12%
\$200,001-\$250,000 .....	10%
\$250,001-\$300,000 .....	10%
Over \$300,001 .....	12%



# How to Apply

**Step 1** **TELL US ABOUT YOU**  
Fill out an inquiry form

---

**Step 2** **VISIT**  
Schedule an on-campus tour and interview

---

**Step 3** **LEARN ABOUT STANDARDIZED TESTING**  
Find out when and where to take standardized tests

---

**Step 4** **COMPLETE APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION**  
Submit online through Gateway to Prep Schools

**APPLY FOR FINANCIAL AID** through Schools and Student Services (SSS), if applicable

[hotchkiss.org/apply](https://hotchkiss.org/apply)

# Consider Summer Portals

Join us and explore astronomy, debate, robotics, leadership, environmental science, and a variety of other distinctive and innovative courses. Each summer, students from the ages of 12-18 come to Hotchkiss to pursue their academic passions, learn alongside inspirational teachers, immerse themselves in a residential experience, and make friends from all over the world.

---

Learn more at

[hotchkiss.org/summer](https://hotchkiss.org/summer)

or by calling (860) 435-3173.

EXPERIENCE LEARNING





THE HOTCHKISS SCHOOL  
11 Interlaken Road  
Lakeville, CT 06039  
[www.hotchkiss.org](http://www.hotchkiss.org)

