



Elgin Academy

Inspiring students to become our creative, courageous, and compassionate future.

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UPPER SCHOOL PROFILE

Chartered in 1839, Elgin Academy is the leading independent, coeducational, preschool-12th-grade college preparatory school in the western and northwestern suburbs of Chicago. Elgin Academy's commitment to taking learning personally defines every aspect of this close-knit school community.

Students are actively engaged in academics, arts, and athletics where teachers and students build trusting relationships. These interactions create empowered learners who are willing to take academic risks that enable them to grow in self-confidence. At Elgin Academy, students learn to be secure in themselves, disciplined in their thinking, creative in their collaboration, compassionate toward others, and dedicated in their efforts.

ACCREDITATION

The Academy is accredited by the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS) and is a member of the National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS).

PORTRAIT OF A HILLTOPPER

When students graduate from Elgin Academy, they go forth as productive, conscientious, and mindful young people who continue to hone their understanding of world and self—a lifelong process that stands as the abiding gift of their Elgin Academy education. Hilltoppers are:

- secure in themselves
- disciplined in their thinking
- creative in their collaboration
- compassionate toward others
- dedicated in their efforts

SCHOOL YEARS SINCE FALL 2021

Students take six classes per year on a seven-day rotating block schedule. Transcripts and grade-point averages are updated at the end of each semester.

SCHOOL YEAR 2020-2021

During School Year 2020-2021, students were able to choose between in-person and remote, synchronous learning. On average, about 80% of students were in person each day. Classes were facilitated in a trimester system during which students took up to two complete block courses each trimester and at most one course that ran year-long. The block courses are denoted on the transcript with two semester grades; the year-long course is denoted on the transcript with three grades. Cumulative GPA updates at the end of each trimester are listed on student transcripts.

FACULTY

The Academy's PS-12 faculty consists of 42 teachers and administrators. 72% of the Upper School Faculty hold advanced degrees, with 52% having at least 15 years of teaching experience and 44% having at least 20 years of teaching experience.

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

The Academy's Upper School curriculum is designed to provide students with experiences most necessary for success in college and for personal development. Freshmen and sophomores are required to take the equivalent of six courses each semester. Juniors and seniors are strongly encouraged to take six courses. Upper School graduation requires completion of 26.5 units of credit:

- English 4.0 units
- Mathematics 4.0 units
- Social Studies 3.0 units
- Science 3.0 units
- Fine Arts 2.0 units
- World Language 3.0 units (in one language)
- Electives 3.5 units
- PE 2.0 units
- January Term 2.0 units

Physical Education and health are integrated into the total education program by participation in a minimum of six (6) seasons of sports. Completion of U.S. History constitutes passage of the U.S. and Illinois Constitution exams. Successful completion of all requirements leads to graduation.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT & HONORS COURSES

Seven Advanced Placement courses are offered in the following subjects: Biology, Calculus AB, Chemistry, European History, Psychology, 2-D Art and Design, and U.S. History. Students may choose to prepare for Advanced Placement examinations in the following subjects: Calculus BC, Computer Science A, English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, French Language, Latin, Physics, Spanish Language, Statistics. Honors courses are offered in Algebra II, Chemistry, Geometry, Physics, and Precalculus.

JANUARY TERM

Upper School students participate in a three-week January Term program in which they enroll in a single course. These classes are reflected on student transcripts. Students earn a letter grade (A-F); passing grades earn 0.5 graduation credits. January Term grades are not included in grade-point average calculations.

THE HILLTOP

Seniors have the option of participating in the Hilltop Program, a Senior Capstone Experience. The Hilltop is designed to empower students to take control of their learning by allowing them to develop their *essential question*, to determine the mentors and resources necessary to explore and address that query, and to present their conclusions to the community using methods of their own choosing.



TEST SCORES AND INFORMATION

CLASS OF 2024

6th Semester GPA Information for the class of 2024

(20 students)

Highest	4.19
75th Percentile	4.00
50th Percentile	3.52
25th Percentile	3.03

Test Results

Elgin Academy's college testing program consists of participation in the PSAT 8/9, Pre-ACT, PSAT/NMSQT, SAT, and ACT.

ACT Data for the Classes of 2019-2023

English	Mean: 28	Top Quartile: 33-36
Math	Mean: 25	Top Quartile: 28-35
Reading	Mean: 28	Top Quartile: 34-36
Science:	Mean: 26	Top Quartile: 31-36
Composite	Mean: 27	Top Quartile: 31-35

SAT Data for the Classes of 2019-2023

EBRW	Mean: 612	Top Quartile: 690-780
Math	Mean: 602	Top Quartile: 650-800

GRADING: 4.0 SCALE (UNWEIGHTED)

Elgin Academy uses a traditional unweighted A-F grading system with the opportunity for students to earn pluses and minuses. Grade-point calculations range from 4.3 points for an A+ grade to 0.0 points for an F grade. Student transcripts include a section that outlines all letter grade ranges and grade-point equivalencies.

CLASS RANK

Since Elgin Academy is an intentionally small-scaled, solely college preparatory school with competitive admissions, class rank is not used.

ILLINOIS STATE SCHOLARS

In recent years between 25% and 30% of the senior class has been recognized as Illinois State Scholars by the Illinois State Assistance Commission in recognition of their high test scores and GPAs.

AP SCORES

96% of the members of the classes of 2019-2023 took at least one AP exam, with an average of 4.96 exams taken per graduate. 63% of these exams were scored with a grade of 3 or higher.

COLLEGE PLACEMENT

The following is a partial list of schools to which Elgin Academy students from the Classes of 2019-2023 received offers of acceptance. Bold type indicates that one or more graduates matriculated at that school.

Adelphi, **Alabama**, Albion, American, Arizona, **Arizona State**, Auburn, Augustana, Ball State, Bard, Baylor, Belmont, **Beloit**, **Benedictine**, Bentley, Binghamton, Boston U, **Bradley**, **Bridgewater**, **BYU**, Butler, **CA Coll of the Arts**, Cal Poly, **UC Davis**, UC Irvine, **UC San Diego**, **UC Santa Barbara**, **UC Santa Cruz**, Carleton, **Carthage**, Case Western, **Chapman**, Cincinnati, Clark, Clemson, Coe, **Colby**, **College of Charleston**, **U Colorado Boulder**, Colorado State, Columbia College, U Conn, **Connecticut College**, **Cornell College**, Dayton, Delaware, **Denison**, **Denver**, **DePaul**, DePauw, **Dickinson**, **Drake**, Drexel, **Duke**, **Earlham**, **Eckerd**, **ECC**, Elmhurst, Elon, Emory, Florida, Franklin and Marshall, Georgia, Gettysburg, Hampton, Haverford, Hawaii, **High Point**, Hobart William Smith, **Hope**, **U Illinois Chicago**, **U Illinois Urbana-Champaign**, **IIT**, Illinois Wesleyan, **Indiana**, **Iowa**, Iowa State, Ithaca, **Judson**, Kalamazoo, Kentucky, **Kenyon**, **Knox**, **CLC**, Lake Forest, **Lawrence**, Lewis & Clark, LSU, **Loyola**, Macalester, Maine, **Marquette**, Maryland, U Mass, McGill, **Miami - Ohio**, **U Miami**, Michigan State, **U Michigan Ann Arbor**, **Michigan Tech**, MSOE, Minnesota, Missouri, UMKC, Nebraska, New College FL, **NYU**, **North Carolina State**, North Central, **North Park**, **Northern Arizona**, Northern Illinois, **Northern Michigan**, **Northwestern**, **Oberlin**, **Occidental**, Ohio State, Ohio U, Oregon, Pace, Penn State, **Pittsburgh**, **Pitzer**, **Purdue**, Queen's, Redlands, Reed, Richmond, Ripon, RIT, **Rochester**, Rollins, Rutgers, Saint Louis, **Saint Mary's IN**, **Saint Mary's CA**, **U San Diego**, **San Diego State**, USF, SFSU, Sarah Lawrence, **SCAD**, **School of the Art Institute of Chicago**, Seton Hall, Skidmore, **South Carolina**, **USC**, SIUC, **SMU**, **Spelman**, **St. John's College**, St. Lawrence, Stetson, **Stevenson**, Syracuse, **Tampa**, **TCU**, Truman State, Tufts, **Tulane**, **United States Naval Academy**, Utah, Valparaiso, **Vanderbilt**, Vassar, Vermont, Villanova, Virginia, **Washington University**, U Washington, **Wentworth Institute of Technology**, West Virginia, Western Illinois, **Western Michigan**, Wheaton, Whitman, Whittier, **Wisconsin Madison**, **Wisconsin Milwaukee**, Wooster