



Purpose of the Academy

The Joseph Baldwin Academy offers highly talented students a head start on their future university careers by allowing them to spend three weeks as college freshmen: they move into a residence hall, adapt to living with a roommate, eat dorm food, make new friends, attend classes, and work with Truman State's faculty. One of the primary goals of the Academy is to provide highly motivated students with an educational experience that will challenge and stimulate them academically in ways that go beyond the traditional middle or junior high school curriculum. In addition, the Academy strives for students to leave with an increased appreciation for the

pleasures of intellectual engagement, higher learning and the overall college experience. Along the way we expect that they will grow both academically and socially as they interact with other high-ability students from across the country. Along the way we expect that they will grow both academically and socially as they interact with other high-ability students from across the country. Click [here](#) to go to the JBA site.

Overview of the Academy

Truman State University created the Joseph Baldwin Academy in 1985 in order to provide the benefits of a liberal arts education to students beyond its own undergraduates. Since then the Academy has grown in size from 4 classes with 60 students to 20 classes with around 500 students in 2024. The Academy provides courses in all areas of the liberal arts, including the humanities, fine arts, natural sciences, and social sciences. All of the Academy's classes are challenging, for they are designed to be the approximate equivalent of a semester-long university course offered during the regular academic year. The faculty members of the Academy's classes structure their courses to suit the interests and abilities of the talented students who make up our student body. The Dean has personally selected the JBA faculty members, choosing some of the most exceptional teachers/scholars among Truman and alumni.

JBA Dates and Information for Nominators:

- Dates: Session I will be June 7 – June 27, 2025 and Session II will be July 5-25, 2025
- Students who are nominated will complete an application to be considered for admission, which includes a short essay
- There are two \$500 scholarships available that students may complete an additional short essay to be considered to receive. *Students may only be awarded this scholarship one time.
- There is financial aid available that students can request assistance from, however our funds are limited and we do our best to provide assistance to as many families as possible. We cannot guarantee all students will receive assistance, nor can we provide full financial assistance. Our maximum award amount is typically \$400 to any one student
- On their application, students will rank the session and course(s) they are interested in. We attempt to enroll students in one of their three top choices.
- Students are enrolled in only ONE course that they will be offered during the entire 3-week session.
- Truman State University is a liberal arts school, so our courses are all designed to be Interdisciplinary work. The interdisciplinary challenge brings various ways of thinking and learning together in one course, to challenge students to find how disciplines solve problems and address creativity in different ways.
- In the past these classes have included courses such as:
 - **Natural Sciences** (astronomy, chemistry, equine science, biology);
 - **Social Sciences** (criminal justice, history, debate);
 - **Fine Arts** (creative writing, theater, ceramics, visual communication, dance);
 - **Humanities** (music, literature, foreign languages);
 - **Math/Computer Sciences** (programming, cryptology, and college algebra); and
 - **Health and Wellness** (exercise science, nutrition, leadership).
 - Summer 2025 Session classes can be accessed [here](#)

Tuition

The Joseph Baldwin Academy is an “all-inclusive” one price to attend – there will not be additional course fees, books or field trip expenses associated with some of the courses.

JBA Tuition for 2024 will be \$2,275, which includes the following:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tuition• Session JBA t-shirt• JBA Evening / Weekend Events• Closing Reception• Kirksville Airport Transportation | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Course Packs/Supplies• Residence Hall Room<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Field Trips• Outdoorsy Day Activity<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Access to the Rec Center | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Books• Dining Hall Meals• *Laundry Facilities• Session Memory Book & Poster• Letter from Faculty Member |
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As with any activity, trip or event, students will want to bring spending money. Anything that is not listed in the “All-Inclusive Fee” listed above is the responsibility of the parent or guardian signing the application such as:

Need more information? Click here for [FAQ](#).

I hope that one or more of your students will join us for the 2025 Joseph Baldwin Academy. Please call us at (660)785-5384 if you have any questions, or email us at jba@truman.edu.

Michelle Wilson

Dean, Joseph Baldwin Academy