



**University of Chicago
Laboratory Schools
High School**

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**Learning and
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CEEB 141-335

MISSION STATEMENT

The Laboratory Schools are home to the youngest members of the University of Chicago’s academic community. We ignite and nurture an enduring spirit of scholarship, curiosity, creativity, and confidence. We value learning experientially, exhibiting kindness, and honoring diversity.

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

In 1896, shortly after the University of Chicago was founded, Professor John Dewey established the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools to explore and implement his progressive theories on childhood education. Today, Our **2,211 students** in nursery through high school continue to benefit from his vision and principles.

U-High students have access to unmatched resources because of our unique relationship with the University of Chicago as an academic division. They also have full access to and are taught to use the University’s vast library system. University faculty—scientists, physicians, public policy experts, economists, historians—routinely visit U-High classes.

More than half of our families are affiliated with the University of Chicago. Remaining families come from all over the city of Chicago, the suburbs, and northern Indiana.

GRADING AND ACADEMIC CALENDAR

U-High uses a **4.00 unweighted grading scale** with no class rank calculated. The school year is divided into two semesters. All credit-bearing courses are included in the cumulative GPA, including PE, art, drama, music, computer science, and journalism. U-High does not track students academically; any student may take any class if prerequisites are met.

Students receive a letter grade (A, B, C, D, or F). A grade of D- is a passing grade. Plusses and minuses (+ and -) appear on the U-High transcript with grades in courses and are used in calculating the GPA. The GPA scale is noted on the transcript. U-High does not use a block schedule. Grades for the fall and spring semesters are available in mid-February, and mid-June, for grade 12 only.

Only courses taken at U-High are listed on the transcript and included in the GPA. Other relevant transcripts are sent as attachments to the student’s U-High transcript, including courses taken at the University of Chicago and high schools from which a student may have transferred.

GPA RANGE

At the end of their junior year, the GPA range for the Class of 2025 was 4.00 TO 2.42.

The median GPA is 3.85 and the average GPA is 3.74.

MEAN

MIDDLE 50%

	class of 2024	class of 2023	class of 2022	class of 2024	class of 2023	class of 2022
SAT						
EBR/CR	711	704	697	660-750	660-750	660-750
Math	717	722	707	670-780	670-780	640-780
ACT						
English	31.8	32	32.5	26-35	29-35	30-35
Math	30.8	31	30.4	28-34	28-34	27-35
Reading	32.2	32.5	32.6	30-35	31-36	30-36
Science/Reasoning	30.3	31.5	30.8	26-34	29-35	29-35
Composite	30.9	31.5	31.5	28-34	29-34	30-35

RIGOR AT U-HIGH

All academic courses at U-High are college preparatory and should be considered equivalent to honors-level courses. Lab's most rigorous courses are noted by AP® or AT (Advanced Topics) on the transcript, but are not weighted in the GPA calculation. Students taking AT courses in the Fine Arts, History, and Science Departments may choose to take AP® exams. There is no limit set for the number of AP®/AT courses a student may take. Students who take AP® courses are not required to sit for the AP® exam. [Click here to access our Program of Studies.](#)

AP® COURSES

Chinese
French
German
Spanish
Calculus AB
Calculus BC
Statistics
Computer Science
2D Art & Design
Drawing

AT COURSES

African American History
Art History
Comparative Politics & Global Relations I and II
Global Cold War
Imperial Dreams
Latinx Histories
Modern European History
Modern World History
Native American Histories
War and Violence
Worlds of Asia I and II
US History
Biology
Chemistry and Accelerated Chemistry
Physics I and II

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

4 years

English

3 years

History

Early World United States
Modern World or European

Science

Biology Chemistry
Third year of any science

Mathematics

Physical Education

2 years

World Language

Two consecutive years of the same language

1 year

Computer Science

One year for a half credit

Service Learning

40 hours & reflection papers

Music

Fine Arts

DEMOGRAPHICS

The Laboratory Schools' student body reflects differences in race, ethnicity, religious, gender, sexual orientation, age, ability, and socioeconomic status.

38% White

20% Asian/Asian American

17% Multiracial

11% Black/African American

11% Latinx*

7% Unspecified

2,211
STUDENTS
in 15 GRADES

627 High School students

60 languages spoken in students' homes

*2% Middle Eastern, Pacific Islander, Native American

POST GRADUATION

Between 95% and 100% of U-High grads attend four-year colleges immediately after graduation. Some graduates choose to travel, pursue a gap year, or work prior to continuing their education. [Click here](#) for a list of colleges and universities attended by Lab graduates.

VISITING U-HIGH

College representatives may make visit reservations for the fall of each school year using RepVisits at counselorcommunity.com. U-High does not host spring college rep visits.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

Discipline infractions are not noted on the transcript. Serious discipline is reported on college applications by both the student and the college counselor, per the stipulations of the application.

ACCREDITATION

Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS) and North Central Association (NCA)

MEMBERSHIPS

Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools (ACCIS), College Board, the National and Illinois Associations for College Admissions Counseling (NACAC and IACAC)

*Self Identified as ethnicity, and may also choose a racial identity