



# Carnegie Vanguard High School

for the Gifted and Talented

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A Top High School in the US

CEEB Code: 443541

## CARNegie VANGUARD AND MISSION

Carnegie Vanguard High School was established in the fall of 2002 as the successor to the highly successful school-within-a-school Vanguard program at Jesse H. Jones Senior High which was created in 1977. Today Carnegie is the only Vanguard high school in the Houston Independent School District (HISD) with 100% of the students identified as gifted and talented in academics. The mission of Carnegie Vanguard High School is to provide a unique and challenging learning environment to prepare the diverse gifted and talented students of HISD for leadership in a global society.

## STUDENT BODY

Carnegie Vanguard's students seek academic excellence in a community that values diversity, acceptance, and close relationships with faculty. Our 881 current students come from every area of the Houston Independent School District. Carnegie Vanguard's overall federal race and ethnicity demographic breakdown is as follows:

• Black or African American	10%
• Asian	33%
• White	16%
• Hispanic or Latino	33%
• American Indian or Alaska Native	0%
• Two or more Race Categories	9%
• Other or Unspecified	0%

During the 2025-2026 school year, about 35% of students at Carnegie Vanguard will be eligible for free/reduced lunch programs.

## COLLEGE PLACEMENT

- 100% acceptance at 4-year colleges or universities
- 95% matriculate at 4-year colleges or universities
- 5% matriculate at 2-year colleges (honors programs)
- 30% matriculate at out-of-state colleges
- 1% matriculate abroad

## NATIONAL RANKINGS

- **US News and World Report:** #42 in National Rankings; #5 in Texas High Schools; #1 in Houston, TX Metro Area High Schools; #1 in Houston Independent School District High Schools
- **Niche!:** #1 in Best College Prep High Schools in Texas and Houston Area; #1 in Best Public High School in Texas and Houston Area; #5 in Best High Schools for STEM in Houston

## GRADING SYSTEM AND STUDENT RANKING

All students have a rank published on their final senior transcript; however, Carnegie Vanguard only publishes ranks on preliminary transcripts for those students who are in the top 10% of their class. A student's grade point average is computed on a 4.0 weighted scale. The theoretical maximum GPA is above 4.9 on a 4.0 weighted scale, reflecting the number of required unweighted regular courses as well as HISD Advanced, AP, and Honors courses, which carry an additional grade point.

The cumulative GPA includes all courses except high school courses taken in middle school. For the class of 2025, the highest GPA score was 4.91 on a 4.0 weighted scale and the mean GPA score was 4.0843 on a 4.08 weighted scale.

Letter grades and grade points are assigned as shown below:

## Grade-Point Assignment

Letter Grade	Grading Scale	AP, Honors, and HISD Advanced Courses	On-Level and Regular Courses
A	90 – 100	5	4
B	80 – 89	4	3
C	75 – 79	3	2
D	70 – 74	2	1
F	Below 70	0	0

## CURRICULUM

Carnegie Vanguard offers only HISD Advanced (HADV), Pre-AP, and Advanced Placement (AP) courses in English, Math, Science, and Social Studies as well as Honors elective courses in core subject areas. The curriculum for every course is above and beyond state and district standards. Each Carnegie Vanguard student generally takes at least 10 AP courses before graduation including the following: AP English Language and Composition, AP English Literature, AP Physics 1, AP Capstone (Seminar and Research), AP Human Geography, AP World History, AP US History, AP Macroeconomics, AP US Government and Politics, and others. The highest level of math classes offered are Statistics 2 and Post-Calculus Applications, which we titled Independent Study Math 1 and 2, respectively.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A minimum of 26 credits are required for graduation under the Distinguished Level of Achievement plan. Required credits include:

- 4 credits of English that include AP English Language and AP English Literature
- 4 credits of social studies that include 5 AP courses
- 4 credits of science that include Biology, Chemistry, AP Physics 1, and another advanced science
- 4 credits of mathematics that include Algebra 1, Geometry, Algebra 2, and either AP Pre-Calculus or AP Statistics
- 1 credit of a research-based course, either AP Research or GT Independent Study
- 2 credits or more of one foreign language
- 1 credit of fine arts
- 1.5 credits of physical and health education
- 4.5 credits or more of electives

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT DATA (2024 - 2025 academic year)**

Students at Carnegie Vanguard are required to take the following courses and tests:

- Freshmen take AP Human Geography.
- Sophomores take AP World History.
- Juniors take AP English Language and AP US History.
- Seniors take AP English Literature, AP US Government, AP Macroeconomics, and any others they elect to take.

The information in the following table is for the entire school, NOT just juniors and seniors.

Subject	Total Exams	Average Score	% of 3, 4, 5
2D Art and Design	16	3.3	75%
African American Studies	23	4.3	91%
Art History	21	3.2	76%
Biology	116	3.7	89%
Calculus AB	104	4.4	96%
Calculus BC	35	4.8	100%
Chemistry	85	4	94%
Chinese Language	8	4.4	100%
Computer Science A	44	4.3	93%
Computer Science Principles	17	3.2	65%
Drawing	9	3.9	100%
English Language	194	3.8	90%
English Literature	187	3.7	89%
Environmental Science	67	3.9	91%
European History	32	4.2	94%
French Language	21	3	71%
Human Geography	225	3.8	85%
Italian Language	1	5	100%
Japanese Language	2	5	100%
Macroeconomics	184	3.3	73%
Microeconomics	2	4	100%
Physics 1	194	3.2	71%
Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism	57	3.3	75%
Physics C: Mechanics	59	3.6	78%
Precalculus	154	4.3	97%
Psychology	56	3.8	93%
Research	177	3.3	82%
Seminar	223	3.2	84%
Spanish Language	47	4.1	98%
Spanish Literature	11	3.7	100%
Statistics	165	3.4	75%
US Government and Politics	186	3.9	90%
US History	193	3.8	91%
World History	232	3.9	87%
Total Exams	3,148	3.7	86%

**NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARS CLASS OF 2025 (N = 187)**

National Recognition	Number of Students	Percent of Class
National Merit Semifinalists	16	8.6%
Commended Scholars	26	13.9%

**SAT SCHOOL DAY 2025 TEST RESULTS (N = 187 tests)**

SAT Reasoning Test Scores	Mean Total Score 400-1600	Mean EBRW Score 200-800	Mean Math Score 200-800
Carnegie Vanguard HS	1308	651	656
District	916	466	450
State of Texas	958	488	470

**ACT TEST RESULTS 2024 - 2025 (N = 128 tests)**

ACT Summary	Mean Score
English	29.5
Math	29.3
Reading	30.7
Science	29.1
Composite	29.8

**DISTRIBUTION OF ACT SCORES 2024-2025 (N = 128 tests)**

ACT Score	# of Carnegie Students	Percent Rank at Carnegie
36	3	2.3%
35	12	9.4%
34	17	13.3%
33	10	7.8%
32	15	11.7%
31	9	7%
30	9	7%
29	9	7%
28	12	9.4%
27	5	3.9%
26	5	3.9%
25	8	6.3%

**ATHLETIC PROGRAMS**

Because of our constrained urban location and budget limit, Carnegie is able to offer only limited athletic opportunities to our students. Current athletic offerings include UIL baseball, cross country, track and field, tennis, girls volleyball, and soccer. Lack of athletic resources puts a constraint on our students' athletic pursuits, and our students have to work much harder than their peers at other high schools to pursue their athletic passions.

## COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY MATRICULATION 2021 – 2025

16% of Class 2025 matriculated at the most selective colleges with acceptance rate below 25%.

### Colleges in Texas

Austin College  
Baylor University  
Blinn College  
Houston Christian University  
Houston Community College  
Lamar University  
LeTourneau University  
Lone Star College  
Prairie View A&M University  
Rice University  
St. Edward's University  
St. Mary's University  
Sam Houston State University

San Jacinto Community College  
Schreiner University  
Southern Methodist University  
Southwestern University  
Stephen F. Austin University  
Texas A&M University, College Station  
Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi  
Texas A&M University, Galveston  
Texas A&M, Texarkana  
Texas Southern University  
Texas State University  
Texas Tech University  
Texas Woman's University

The University of Texas at Arlington  
The University of Texas at Austin  
The University of Texas at Dallas  
The University of Texas at San Antonio  
The University of Texas at Tyler  
Trinity University  
University of Houston  
University of Houston, Clear Lake  
University of Houston, Downtown  
University of North Texas  
University of St. Thomas  
University of the Incarnate Word  
Wharton County Junior College

### Out-of-State Colleges

Amherst College  
American University  
Arizona State University  
Auburn University  
Bentley University  
Binghamton University  
Boston College  
Boston University  
Bowdoin College  
Brandeis University  
Brigham Young University, Provo  
Brown University  
Bryn Mawr College  
California Institute of Technology  
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo  
Carleton College  
Carnegie Mellon University  
Case Western Reserve University  
Centenary College of Louisiana  
Claremont McKenna College  
Clark College  
Clarkson University  
Colby College  
College of William and Mary  
Colorado School of Mines  
Colorado State University  
Columbia University  
Cornell University  
CUNY Borough of Manhattan Community College  
Dartmouth College  
DePaul University  
Drake University  
Drexel University  
Durham University  
Duke University  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach  
Emerson College  
Emory University  
Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University  
Fordham University  
George Mason University  
George Washington University  
Georgetown University

Georgia Institute of Technology  
Grand Canyon University  
Grinnell College  
Hampton University  
Harvard College  
Harvey Mudd College  
Haverford College  
Hobart & William Smith Colleges  
Howard University  
Indiana University  
Iowa State University  
Johns Hopkins University  
King's College London  
Knox College  
Lehigh University  
Lewis & Clark College  
Louisiana State University  
Loyola Marymount University  
Loyola University Chicago  
Loyola University New Orleans  
Mary Baldwin University  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
McGill University  
Miami University - Oxford  
Middlebury College  
Mount Holyoke College  
Muhlenberg College  
New Mexico State University  
New York University  
Northeastern University  
Northwestern University  
Oberlin College  
Ohio State University  
Oklahoma State University  
Pennsylvania State University  
Portland State University  
Pratt Institute  
Princeton University  
Purdue University  
Queen's University, Belfast  
Reed College  
Regis University  
Rhodes College  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Rhodes College

Rochester Institute of Technology  
San Diego State University  
Santa Clara University  
Sarah Lawrence College  
Savannah College of Art and Design  
Skidmore College  
Smith College  
Spelman College  
St. John's University  
St. Olaf College  
Stanford University  
Stony Brook University  
Suffolk University  
SUNY at Purchase College  
Syracuse University  
The University of Alabama  
The University of Edinburgh  
The University of Oklahoma  
Trinity College  
Tufts University  
Tulane University  
United States Air Force Academy  
United States Military Academy  
University of Alberta  
University of British Columbia  
University of California, Berkeley  
University of California, Irvine  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of California, San Diego  
University of California, Santa Barbara  
University of California, Santa Cruz  
University of Canterbury  
University of Chicago  
University of Colorado at Boulder  
University of Denver  
University of Evansville  
University of Exeter  
University of Florida  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

University of Maryland, College Park  
University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
University of Miami  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
University of Mississippi  
University of Missouri, Columbia  
University of New Mexico  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
University of North Carolina School of the Arts  
University of Notre Dame  
University of Oregon  
University of Oklahoma  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Portland  
University of Puget Sound  
University of Richmond  
University of Rochester  
University of Southern California  
University of St Andrews  
University of the Highlands and Islands, Inverness College  
University of Toronto  
University of Tulsa  
University of Virginia  
University of Washington, Seattle  
University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Vanderbilt University  
Villanova University  
Virginia Tech  
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam  
Washington and Lee University  
Washington University in St Louis  
Wellesley College  
Wesleyan University  
Williams College  
Xavier University of Louisiana  
Yale University