



COLLEGE COUNSELORS

Jody S. Sweeney (director)
jsweeney@penncharter.com

Eric J. Furda
efurda@penncharter.com

Diona C. Nicolucci
dnicolucci@penncharter.com

Joseph J. Rim
jrim@penncharter.com

2025-2026 PROFILE



MISSION STATEMENT

Quaker principles and practice continue to guide William Penn Charter School, a Friends school founded in 1689.

Within a school community that honors difference, we seek that of God in each person. We value scholarship and inquiry. With excellence as our standard, we challenge students in a vigorous program of academics, arts and athletics. Through global connections, civic engagement and a focus on environmental sustainability, we inspire students to be thinkers, collaborators, innovators and leaders. We educate students to live lives that make a difference.

CAMPUS & COMMUNITY

Penn Charter has a long history of access and, in its fourth century, is more diverse than ever.

An urban school located on a 47-acre green campus in the East Falls neighborhood of Philadelphia, Penn Charter is just five miles from the business and cultural resources of one of the nation's largest and most complex cities. Our Center for Public Purpose, built on a rich tradition of service, engages PC students in community-based work addressing some of the city's most pressing social issues.

The school seeks to enroll young people of diverse faiths, races, backgrounds and talents. Families reside in 108 zip codes, across county and state lines and in heterogeneous neighborhoods throughout Philadelphia. More than a third of our students receive financial aid; more than a third identify as people of color. Buddhism, Catholicism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism, Protestantism, Quakerism and more are represented.

SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

Founded in 1689 by William Penn and the Religious Society of Friends, and operating under three charters granted by Penn, Penn Charter is the oldest Quaker school in the world.

- Quaker, coeducational college preparatory day school.
- Admission is highly selective and determined by school record, standardized test scores, a personal interview and teacher recommendations.
- Pre-K to 12 enrollment: 1022 students, from 108 zip codes.
- Upper School enrollment: 472, with 121 students in the Class of 2026. 32 percent of Upper School students are people of color.
- Penn Charter's financial aid budget in 2025-26 is \$16.4 million. 51 percent of Upper School students receive financial aid.
- Upper School faculty: 77. Average Upper School class size: 15. Student-teacher ratio: 6:1.
- Student conduct is guided by an Honor Code.
- Students reflect in Quaker Meeting for Worship each week.

Data as of August 13, 2025.

DISTRIBUTION REQUIREMENTS

To graduate, students must complete 40 units with this distribution. One unit equals one semester of course work.

English	8 units
Social Studies	6 units
Math	7 units
Science	6 units
Language and Culture*	6 units
Religion	2 units
Visual Arts	1 unit
Performing Arts	1 unit
Computer Science	.5 units
Health & Physical Education	2.33 units

*Majority of students fulfill 2 of 6 units in grade 8.

GRADING

- Penn Charter does not rank students.
- PC reports a weighted GPA. Advanced and Advanced Studies course weighting equals .3.
- Passing grades range from A to D-. F denotes failure.
- **HONORS:** an unweighted GPA of 3.0 with no grade lower than a B-.
- **HIGH HONORS:** an unweighted GPA OF 3.65 with no grade lower than B-.

CUM LAUDE SOCIETY

Founded in 1906, the Cum Laude Society is dedicated to honoring scholastic achievement in secondary schools; Penn Charter was one of the original seven schools invited to join. Half of the Cum Laude recipients are honored at the end of junior year. The other half receive recognition in the spring of senior year.

CURRICULUM FEATURES

ADVANCED STUDIES INITIATIVE

Penn Charter has moved beyond the College Board Advanced Placement (AP) program in favor of our own rigorous advanced courses that provide for innovative teaching and deeper exploration of content areas. In the 2025-2026 academic year, the Advanced Studies curriculum will be fully launched, replacing all AP courses. Advanced Studies courses, designated as such on the transcript, provide the most demanding instruction a student can take in the PC curriculum. This year, students no longer have access to AP courses at Penn Charter. They study curricula comprised of college preparatory, advanced and Advanced Studies.

For colleges and universities using the **SRAR**, advanced courses should be viewed as honors courses, and Advanced Studies courses should be viewed as college- or university-level courses.

ADVANCED COURSES

Enrollment in **advanced courses** requires faculty approval.

Due to the structured nature of the freshman and sophomore year curriculum, students typically do not have the opportunity to take **Advanced Studies** courses until their junior year. Enrollment in these courses requires faculty approval. History, English, and Language and Culture courses require assessment test for placement.

In 2023-2024, PC offered Advanced English X for those students who qualified. The senior year English sequence includes English XII or Advanced English XII for first semester (1 credit) and English Special Topics (with no Advanced option) for second semester (1 credit).

ART

Advanced Ceramics
Advanced Graphic Design
Advanced Documentary Filmmaking
Advanced Studies: Art Portfolio

ENGLISH

Advanced Creative Writing: Short Form
Advanced Creative Writing: Long Form
Advanced English XII
Advanced Studies: American Literature (11)

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Advanced Studies:
Computer Programming Python
Advanced Studies:
Computer Programming Java
Advanced Studies:
Computer Science Principles

SOCIAL STUDIES

Advanced Evolution of the Global World
Advanced Studies: African American Studies
Advanced Studies: American Political History (11)
Advanced Studies: Art History
Advanced Studies: East Asian Studies
Advanced Studies: Inventing Rome's Past
Advanced Studies: Modern American History (11)
Advanced Studies: Psychology
Advanced Studies: U.S. Government and Politics

RELIGIOUS STUDIES AND PHILOSOPHY

Advanced Studies: Philosophy

LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Advanced Spanish, Level III
Advanced Spanish, Level IV
Advanced Spanish, Level V
Advanced Studies: Spanish-Speaking World Today
Advanced Chinese, Level V
Advanced French, Level V
Advanced Latin, Level V
Advanced Latin, Level VI

MATHEMATICS

Advanced Geometry
Advanced Algebra II
Advanced Precalculus A
Advanced Precalculus AA
Advanced Studies: Calculus AB
Advanced Studies: Calculus BC
Advanced Studies: Linear Algebra
Multivariable Calculus
Advanced Studies: Statistics and Data Science

SCIENCE

Advanced Biology
Advanced Chemistry
Advanced Physics
Advanced Studies: Environmental Science
Advanced Studies: Experimental Biology
Advanced Studies: Engineering
Advanced Studies: Modern and Classical Physics
Advanced Studies: Physics – Electricity and Magnetism

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

Three certificate programs – **Global Studies, Environmental Stewardship & Sustainability**, and **Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Justice** – offer engaged students the opportunity to integrate different aspects of the Upper School program around a particular focus and passion in their junior and senior years. The main components of certificate work are approved coursework, major projects, minimum number of hours of activity credit and a Senior Comprehensive Project. Enrollment requires faculty approval. A completed certificate demonstrates high academic achievement and is awarded during graduation ceremonies.

INDEPENDENT STUDY & SYMPOSIUM

Qualified students may opt to take independent study courses in subjects not covered in the curriculum. They present their work at an annual symposium attended by teachers, classmates and guests. Independent study courses may not be used to fulfill graduation requirements and must be approved by the student's parent, advisor, the department head involved and the director of Upper School.

SENIOR COMPREHENSIVE PROJECT

The Senior Comprehensive Project (SCP) provides students the opportunity to participate in a program that integrates traditional academic disciplines with “real world” settings, issues and topics. It is required and occurs during May of senior year. During the SCP, students work approximately 20 hours per week, read related material, maintain a daily journal, serve the Philadelphia community, and make a final presentation to the Upper School community.

EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

When students exhaust the curriculum offerings in a particular discipline they are able to access more advanced courses through One Schoolhouse, a nonprofit accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. For course credit fulfillment, students may enroll in online courses through Educere, a local virtual learning platform.

ARTS, ATHLETICS & CLUBS

Arts and athletics are cocurricular programs, engaging every student at points in their high school career. Upper School has four **visual arts** studios, including a digital lab, plus an IdeaLab makerspace. More than 200 students are active in the **performing arts**; Upper School offers 11 instrumental and choral ensembles and theater productions in a 625-seat theater. Penn Charter competes in the **Inter-Academic League**; founded in 1887, the Inter-Ac is the oldest interscholastic athletic league in the United States. The PC Quakers field 18 sports. Nearly 40 student-led and student-inspired **clubs** provide exploration in a range of topics, including cultural identity, food security, environmental stewardship, ethical behavior, microfinance, service, social justice, student publications and more.

CLASS OF 2026 JUNIOR-YEAR GRADE DISTRIBUTION

TITLE	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F	Total
AP Computer Science Principles	5	5	3	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	16
English XI	23	33	17	9	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	85
Advanced Studies: American Literature	11	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
American Studies, English	5	5	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
Advanced Creative Writing: Long Form	2	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Latin, Level I	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Spanish, Level II	45	10	6	3	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	68
French, Level III	10	2	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19
Chinese, Level III	13	6	2	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	26
Latin, Level III	7	5	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	16
Spanish, Level III	39	8	8	6	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	64
French, Level IV	6	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
Chinese, Level IV	5	0	0	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	9
Latin, Level IV	3	0	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Spanish, Level IV	15	7	9	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	36
Advanced Spanish, Level IV	6	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Advanced Latin, Level V	15	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19
Advanced Spanish, Level V	5	3	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
Advanced Latin, Level VI	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
AP Spanish	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Geometry	13	9	6	13	2	2	5	1	1	0	1	0	53
Algebra II	6	10	8	8	9	6	4	1	0	0	0	0	52
Functions and Trigonometry	1	2	2	2	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	10
Precalculus	16	7	8	13	6	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	55
Advanced Precalculus A	11	15	6	7	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	44
Advanced Precalculus AA	12	7	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
Calculus	12	15	8	11	5	3	3	0	1	0	0	0	58
AP Statistics	10	5	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	27
AP Calculus (AB)	9	6	7	7	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	33
AP Calculus (BC)	13	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
Multivariable Calculus	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Advanced Biology	32	11	10	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56
Chemistry	23	7	6	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	40
Advanced Studies: Environmental Science	3	9	3	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Earth and Space Science	3	4	3	12	4	1	3	0	2	0	0	0	32
Engineering, Design, and Assistive Technology	11	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	13
AP Biology	4	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Advanced Studies: Experimental Biology	19	4	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26
Human Anatomy and Physiology	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	25
AP Chemistry	4	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Botany: The study of plants	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Physics	13	7	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	24
Advanced Physics	17	12	17	12	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	61
AP Physics C: Mechanics	11	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Advanced Studies: Engineering	11	0	2	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
U.S. History	18	7	2	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31
American Studies: Social Studies	5	5	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
Advanced Studies: American Political History	13	17	8	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39
Advanced Studies: Modern American History	11	3	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
Advanced Studies: African American Studies	5	4	5	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
Penn: His School, State and City	0	1	4	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	9
Introductory Economics	9	8	7	5	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	32
American Foreign Policy (21st Century)	8	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	11
Global Issues	8	0	0	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	12
The Human Experience of War	4	3	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	12
Peace, Justice and Social Change	14	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
Advanced Studies: East Asian Studies	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
AP Art and Design	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8

TITLE	A	A-	B+	B	B-	C+	C	C-	D+	D	D-	F	TOTAL
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Penn Charter's college list reflects the diversity of interests in our student body.

The Class of 2025 enrolled at 76 colleges and universities across the United States and Scotland. Ninety-three percent of the students are attending a top-choice college.



FIVE-YEAR COLLEGE MATRICULATION (2021-2025)

Albright College (1)	George Washington University (9)	Oberlin College (2)	University of Hawaii at Manoa (1)
American University (7)	Georgetown University (2)	Ohio State University (3)	University of Louisville (1)
Amherst College (3)	Georgia Institute of Technology (2)	Pennsylvania State University (24)	University of Maryland–Baltimore County (1)
Arcadia University (1)	Goucher College (1)	Pratt Institute (1)	University of Maryland–College Park (1)
Arizona State University (3)	Hampton University (1)	Princeton University (3)	University of Miami (2)
Bates College (1)	Harcum College (1)	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (3)	University of Michigan (6)
Boston College (6)	Harvard University (4)	Rochester Institute of Technology (1)	University of Minnesota (2)
Boston University (5)	Haverford College (5)	Rollins College (1)	University of Mississippi (2)
Bowdoin College (2)	High Point University (2)	Rutgers University (3)	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (3)
Brandeis University (2)	Hobart and William Smith (1)	Sacred Heart University (1)	University of North Carolina Wilmington (1)
Brown University (2)	Holy Family University (1)	Saint Joseph's University (6)	University of Notre Dame (3)
Bryn Mawr College (1)	Howard University (6)	Savannah College of Art and Design (1)	University of Oregon (1)
Bucknell University (9)	Indiana University–Bloomington (2)	Skidmore College (1)	University of Pennsylvania (39)
Carleton College (1)	Ithaca College (3)	Smith College (3)	University of Pittsburgh (10)
Case Western Reserve University (1)	James Madison University (1)	Southern Methodist University (2)	University of Richmond (7)
Catholic University of America (2)	Johns Hopkins University (3)	Springfield College (1)	University of South Carolina (2)
Chapman University (2)	Kenyon College (1)	St. Olaf College (1)	University of Southern California (2)
Chestnut Hill College (1)	Kutztown University of Pennsylvania (2)	St. John's University (1)	University of St. Andrews (1)
Clemson University (1)	Lafayette College (6)	St. Thomas Aquinas College (1)	University of Tampa (3)
Coastal Carolina University (2)	Lehigh University (9)	Stanford University (3)	University of Texas at Austin (1)
Colby College (2)	Liberty University (1)	Stetson University (1)	University of Toronto (1)
Colgate University (2)	List College–JTS (1)	Swarthmore College (3)	University of Utah (1)
College of Charleston (1)	Long Island University–Post (1)	Syracuse University (7)	University of Vermont (7)
College of the Holy Cross (2)	Louisiana State University (1)	Temple University (6)	University of Virginia (2)
College of Wooster (1)	Loyola Marymount University (2)	Trinity College (2)	University of Wisconsin (3)
Columbia University (4)	Loyola University Maryland (4)	Trinity College Dublin (1)	Ursinus College (8)
Commonwealth University of PA (2)	Lycoming College (1)	Tufts University (5)	Villanova University (8)
Connecticut College (2)	Lynn University (1)	Tulane University of Louisiana (11)	Virginia Tech (5)
Cornell University (8)	Marist University (1)	Union College (1)	Wagner College (1)
Dartmouth College (5)	Maryland Institute College of Art (1)	United States Air Force Academy (2)	Wake Forest University (11)
Davidson College (3)	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1)	United States Military Academy (1)	Walnut Hill College (1)
Denison University (1)	McGill University (2)	United States Naval Academy (1)	Washington and Lee University (1)
DePaul University (1)	Merrimack College (1)	University of Alabama (2)	Washington University in St. Louis (2)
DeSales University (1)	Michigan State University (1)	University of Arizona (2)	Wellesley College (1)
Dickinson College (2)	Middlebury College (1)	University of British Columbia (1)	Wesleyan University (3)
Drew University (1)	Millersville University of Pennsylvania (1)	University of California–Davis (1)	West Chester University (13)
Drexel University (16)	Monmouth University (1)	University of California–Los Angeles (2)	West Virginia University (1)
Duke University (9)	Moore College of Art and Design (1)	University of California–Riverside (1)	Widener University (5)
Duquesne University (1)	Mount Holyoke College (1)	University of California–Santa Cruz (2)	William & Mary (3)
Edinburgh Napier University (1)	Muhlenberg College (2)	University of Chicago (1)	Williams College (3)
Emerson College (1)	New York Institute of Technology (1)	University of Colorado Boulder (4)	Winthrop University (1)
Fairfield University (4)	New York University (4)	University of Connecticut (3)	Xavier University of Louisiana (1)
Fairleigh Dickinson University (3)	Niagara University (1)	University of Delaware (5)	Yale University (1)
Florida Institute of Technology (1)	North Carolina A&T State University (2)	University of Florida (3)	York College of Pennsylvania (2)
Fordham University (2)	Northeastern University (3)	University of Georgia (1)	
Franklin and Marshall College (8)	Northwestern University (4)	University of Glasgow (2)	