

HOTCHKISS

SCHOOL PROFILE

SCHOOL YEAR 2025-26

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Our Mission:

**Guided by each other,
let us seek better paths.**

The Hotchkiss School seeks to inspire a diverse range of students who are committed to the betterment of self and society, and to cultivate in them at the highest standards of excellence

*imagination and intellect,
openness and personal integrity,
empathy and responsible citizenship*

that they may discover and fulfill their potential as individuals fully engaged in our world.

Our Students

The Student Body: 2025-26*

ADMISSION		ENROLLMENT			
Applicants	2,100	Total on-campus enrollment	627	States and territories represented	35
Admitted	336	In Residence	587	Countries represented	32
Matriculated	194	Day	40	Students of color	41%
		Grade 12 (Seniors/PGs)	182	International students	17%
		Grade 11 (Upper Mids)	164	Students receiving financial aid	34%
		Grade 10 (Lower Mids)	156	Students on aid attending Hotchkiss tuition-free	28%
		Grade 9 (Preps)	128		

*Data as of 8/15/25

Range of Cumulative GPAs: Class of 2026

4-YEAR SENIORS

AVG. 10.26 (123 STUDENTS)

RANGE OF CUMULATIVE GPAS	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
11.00 and Above	19
10.50 to 10.99	31
10.00 to 10.49	32
9.50 to 9.99	28
9.00 to 9.49	6
Below 9.00	7

3-YEAR SENIORS

AVG. 10.16 (22 STUDENTS)

RANGE OF CUMULATIVE GPAS	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
11.00 and Above	4
10.50 to 10.99	5
10.00 to 10.49	5
9.50 to 9.99	3
Below 9.50	5

2-YEAR SENIORS

AVG. 9.94 (21 STUDENTS)

RANGE OF CUMULATIVE GPAS	NUMBER OF STUDENTS
11.00 and Above	3
10.50 to 10.99	4
10.00 to 10.49	6
9.50 to 9.99	2
Below 9.50	6

Standardized Test Scores: Class of 2025

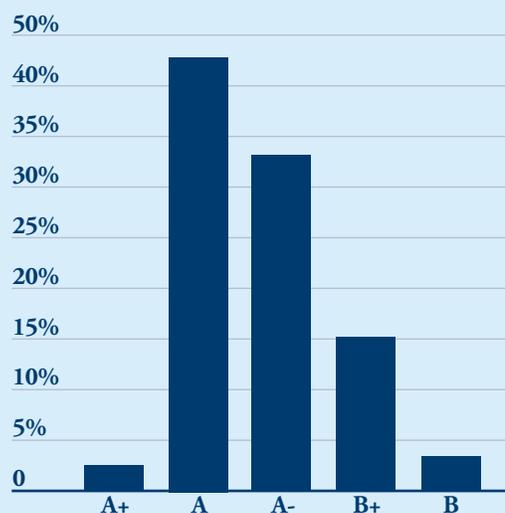
	MIDDLE 50%	AVERAGE
SAT	1320-1540	1424
ACT	28-34	31

The Hotchkiss Transcript

Hotchkiss does not report class rank on its transcript. As a matter of policy, the School does not weight grades. The School's grading scale is based on letter grades, A+ to F.

11.50-12.00	A+	97-100	4.50-5.49	C	73-76
10.50-11.49	A	93-96	3.50-4.49	C-	70-72
9.50-10.49	A-	90-92	2.50-3.49	D+	67-69
8.50-9.49	B+	87-89	1.50-2.49	D	63-66
7.50-8.49	B	83-86	0.50-1.49	D-	60-62
6.50-7.49	B-	80-82	0.00-0.49	F	Below 60
5.50-6.49	C+	77-79			

Single-year averages for upper-mid year (11th grade)
Class of 2026, June 2025



Curriculum

Hotchkiss learners strive for the deepest possible understanding of challenging concepts, skills, and content. We cultivate self-directed learners, confident researchers, critical thinkers, expressive creators, and effective communicators. Our upper-level offerings demand rigor, promote personal growth along with common purpose, and root students in a local context while drawing attention to the wider world.

Course Numbering

- The first two letters in the course designation refer to the discipline (e.g., the “SS” in SS454F refers to the social sciences).
- The first number in a course indicates the year of the students or the number of years in the discipline, as appropriate (e.g., the “1” in HS150Y indicates the course is for first-year students).
- The second number in the course indicates the challenge level, with 0-2 at the foundational level, 3-7 representing typically challenging courses, and 8-9 representing honors courses (e.g., the “8” in BI380Y indicates it is an honors course).
- The final number distinguishes one course from another, and the letter at the end indicates when the course was taken (F = fall semester, S = spring semester, Y = full academic year).

COURSE RIGOR PER ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT

Honors courses represent the most in-depth and conceptually challenging work available to students. To ensure the rigor of honors courses, departments establish expanded prerequisites, follow a competency-based selection process, and focus on the demonstration of learning for audiences within and beyond the Hotchkiss community. The most advanced courses in each academic discipline are as follows:

English: Honors Senior English (EN490Y) is available only for seniors who complete an application, and the department selects based on a writing sample, teacher recommendations, and grades. Additionally, MacLeish Scholars enroll in Honors Literary Research (EN481Y) as their senior year English course. No other honors or advanced classes are offered.

Humanities and Social Sciences: Seniors and upper mids can select from several honors-designated courses offered in the humanities and social sciences, a number of which emphasize interdisciplinary themes. Departmental approval is required after completing an interest form for students seeking enrollment in any honors classes. Hersey Scholars enroll in senior year advanced-level electives, HI490F Advanced Research Methods in the H&SS, and HI491S Hersey Scholars Seminar.

Languages: Honors-designated courses are offered in third through sixth-year Chinese, French, German, Latin, and Spanish. Greek offers honors courses in second through fourth year. Placement is based on teacher recommendations and department approval.

Math: Honors sequencing in math begins with Geometry and continues through several post-calculus options. MA551Y Honors Calculus is the equivalent of AP Calculus AB, and MA581Y Honors Advanced Calculus is equivalent to AP Calculus BC. All 600-level math courses, including Multivariable Calculus, Linear Algebra, and multiple further math electives, are significantly rigorous post-calculus classes. Placement is based on teacher recommendations and department approval.

Science: Honors-designated courses are offered across all the primary science disciplines, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, and Environmental Sciences. Placement is based on teacher recommendations and department approval. Students interested in taking BI490 Honors Scientific Research: *Drosophila melanogaster*, colloquially known as Fly Lab, must complete an application and sit for a 45-minute exam centering on topics of molecular and cellular biology.

DISCIPLINARY REPORTING POLICY

It is a School expectation that students will respond truthfully to all questions on college applications regarding their disciplinary records. Reportable offenses include any disciplinary infractions that result in probation or dismissal. The College Advising Office will confirm the disciplinary history of Hotchkiss candidates who have faced probation and dismissal to colleges upon request from the college or university.

Special Programs of Note

MacLeish Scholars Program

Ten members of the Class of 2026 were selected for the MacLeish Scholars Program, which allows participants to undertake archival research on a literary subject, complete a substantial creative writing project, and practice classical papermaking, bookbinding, and letterpress printing forms. This summer, MacLeish students studied archival manuscripts at Yale's Beinecke Library. The MacLeish summer program is followed by the year-long Honors Literary Research (EN481Y) course in which participants build their summer research into a 40-page senior thesis.

Hersey Scholars Program

This program, named in honor of Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, historian, and author John Hersey '32, provides nine rising seniors the chance to undertake archival research in Harvard University's libraries. The summer work prepares students for a yearlong course where they incorporate their research into a substantial senior thesis on a topic from history, political science, culture, and/or philosophy. During the senior year, Hersey scholars will continue their research and synthesize their findings into a 20+ page analytical essay that contributes in a significant way to current scholarship around their subject.

Euclid to Einstein Program

In its inaugural year, the Euclid to Einstein program offered twelve members of the Class of 2026 the opportunity to study the history of mathematics at Cornell University. Partnering with Cornell's renowned Mathematics Library and Department of Science and Technology Studies, the scholars conducted research on a wide range of mathematical and scientific topics while collaborating with mathematicians, physicists, and librarians. Their projects examined influential figures such as Archimedes, Aristotle, Descartes, Einstein, Newton, and Pascal, as well as lesser-known pioneers including Ada Lovelace, often regarded as the mother of computing, and François Viète, the father of symbolic algebra. Building on this experience, students will enroll in a senior-year honors course and complete a substantial research project informed by their summer work.

Classics Diploma

Students at Hotchkiss who enjoy Latin or Greek often pursue the Classics diploma, the only special diploma offered by the School. A student may qualify for a Classics diploma by completing four years of Latin and two of Greek.

Stan-X Program

The honors molecular genetics course is part of the STAN-X initiative, a research program run by the lab of Professor Seung Kim of Stanford University. Students collaborate with the Kim Lab to create novel *Drosophila* (fruit fly) strains that can be characterized and shared with research institutions worldwide. Laboratory work covering traditional genetics, various molecular techniques, and advanced microscopy is prioritized, and students work independently to breed their unique fly strains. Close reading of primary literature helps prepare students for a symposium with peer schools where they present their research work.

Gap Years

Hotchkiss encourages students to consider a gap year, a year between high school and college to enable reflection on goals for college and focus on further intellectual or personal pursuits. Students choose from opportunities such as internships, service, employment, and continued learning — in the U.S. or abroad — while living independently and taking responsibility for their choices. Over 50 students have chosen to take a gap year in the past four years.

The MacArthur International Fellowship

Each year, The MacArthur Fellowship offers three Hotchkiss graduates (graduating seniors and recent alumni who are current undergraduates) a grant to fund 100 percent of an international gap year opportunity. Fellows spend a year outside of their home country engaged in a project that includes but is not limited to, service, learning, internships, cultural immersion, and adventure. The Fellowship is designed to support ongoing growth and education by instilling competence in goal-setting, developing independence and confidence, enhancing problem-solving skills, supporting greater cultural competency, and helping Fellows gain a deeper and more nuanced understanding of what and how they want to learn in their post-secondary studies.

College Matriculation

To view a list of the colleges and universities where Hotchkiss graduates enrolled over the last four years (Classes of 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025), please visit: hotchkiss.org/academics/college-advising/matriculation