# 2026-2027 Profile for College & University Admissions


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**Friends' Central School**
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**CEEB Code: 393315**

We Go Further

Established in 1845 by the Religious Society of Friends, Friends' Central School (FCS) is an independent, co-educational Quaker day school for nursery through grade 12. Our Quaker values influence every aspect of our school life, including our curriculum. We promote a learning environment that encourages and values inquiry, reflection, discovery, and action.

**Mission:** We cultivate the intellectual, spiritual, and ethical promise of our students.

**Vision:** To awaken courage and intellect - and peacefully transform the world

The City Avenue campus is just beyond Philadelphia's western border and draws students from the city, four surrounding counties, and southern New Jersey.

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|---|---|---|---|
| **874** | Total School enrollment | **44%** | of students self-identify as students of color |
| **403** | Upper School enrollment | **100%** | of graduates attend college |
| **103** | Class of 2027 enrollment | **41%** | of families granted need-based financial aid |
| **1330** | Average SAT | | |
| **31** | Average ACT | | |

**NAIS Accredited**

## ACADEMICS AT FCS

Friends' Central does not calculate a grade point average or class rank.

Friends' Central does not offer Advanced Placement (AP) courses; our highest academic level is Advanced, which equals or exceeds the rigor of AP classes.

Non advanced courses are taught at the Honors level.

The English department does not offer an advanced level. All students are required to complete the four-year literature curriculum.

The standard course load is five major courses per year.

## CURRICULAR AND PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**United States History Advanced:** U.S. History Advanced is a document-based course. Each student completes a capstone, 10-page, thesis-driven, primary source-based research project during the spring semester.

**Natural Lands:** Natural Lands is a non-credit certificate program that focuses on ecological monitoring and field research. In addition to observation and taking field notes, students also explore the regional policy issues that impact conservation. The program involves extensive outdoor work - from studying insects to habitat restoration.

**May Term:** May Term is a six-day program at the end of the academic year. Students in grades 9-11 participate in interdisciplinary courses, many of which will include community engagement and service beyond the FCS campus. May Term is required and appears on students' transcripts.

**Core Teams:** Upper School students may join the Humanities or Science Core Teams. Modeled after college-level seminars, Core Teams explore problem solving, collaboration, and inquiry through the lens of their topic. Core Teams invite distinguished speakers and guest lecturers to campus for conversation with our full community.

**Travel Abroad Opportunities:** Each language's classroom experience is supplemented by opportunities for travel abroad. Latin students may travel to Italy to see the monuments of the Romans – ancient and modern – and read their Latin inscriptions. French and Spanish students may take part in exchange opportunities with schools in Lyon, France, and Seville, Spain. A summer trip to Québec City, Canada is available every two years for French students.

# Upper School Academic Program

Friends' Central Upper School Curriculum Planner 2026-2027

## ENGLISH (4 YEARS REQUIRED)

English I: The Journey Begins*
English II: In Pursuit of Justice*
English III: Literature of the United States*
English IV: Gods and Monsters: What is it to be Human?*
Writers' Workshop Advanced: Essay and Memoir
Writers' Workshop Advanced: Creative Writing

**Advanced English Seminars *(For seniors and by teacher recommendation and departmental approval)***
Love in the Anthropocene Adv
Short, Sharp Shock: An Introduction to the Novella Adv
The World Inside This One: Literature of Dreams Adv

## MATHEMATICS (3 YEARS REQUIRED)

Algebra I
Algebra II, Algebra II Adv
Geometry, Geometry Adv
Precalculus, Precalculus Adv
Statistics, Statistics Adv
Calculus I, Calculus I Adv
Calculus II Adv
Multivariable Calculus
Linear Algebra Adv
Intro to Economics

## HISTORY (2 YEARS REQUIRED)

US History*, US History Adv*
Contemporary Global History*
Religions and Revolutions*

**Partial list of History Electives:**

- Capitalism and Consumption
- Constitutional Identity Adv
- Counternarratives: Centering Resistance Adv
- Creating Africa
- International Relations, International Relations Adv
- Introduction to Philosophy
- Modern Chinese History
- Modern US History, Modern US History Adv
- Philadelphia Black History from Reconstruction to the Present
- The Sociological Imagination: Social Inequality

*During the 2026-2027 academic year, all advanced History courses will be offered in the fall semester. Students are permitted to take one advanced History course per semester..*

## SCIENCE (2 YEARS REQUIRED)

Physics I, Physics I Math Intensive
Astronomy
Atmospheric Science & Climate Change
Biology I, Biology I Adv
Biology II Adv: Biodiversity
Biology II Adv: Designing Experiments in Microbiology
Biology of Bodies
Botany
Chemistry I, Chemistry I Adv
Chemistry II Adv: Chemical Equilibrium
Chemistry II Adv: Kinetics and Electrochemistry
Physics II Advanced
Physics III Adv: Astrophysics
Physics III Adv: Electricity and Circuits
Physics III Adv: Magnetism and Waves
Advanced Topics in Organic Chemistry

## WORLD LANGUAGES (2 YEARS OF THE SAME LANGUAGE REQUIRED)

Chinese (Mandarin) I,II
French I, II, II Adv, III, III Adv, IV
French Literature Adv
Greek I
Latin I, II, II Adv, III, III Adv
Latin Literature Adv: Vergil
Spanish I, II, II Adv, III, III Adv, IV
Spanish: The Latino Immigrant Experience
Spanish: History & Culture of Latin America & Spain Advanced
Spanish Literature Advanced:
Gabriel García Márquez, Isabel Allende & Miguel de Unamuno

## ARTS (4 SEMESTERS REQUIRED)

**Partial list of Arts Electives:**

- Art & Activism
- History of African American Music
- Introduction to Graphic Arts and Design
- Mixed Media: Connections to the real world
- Studio Art I: Foundations of Studio Art
- Studio Art II: Advanced Topics in Studio Art
- Wearable Art: Pattern to Precious Metal Clay

## NON-DEPARTMENTAL COURSES

Advanced Computer Science
Introduction to Computer Hardware
Introduction to Computer Programming
Topics in Psychology

## WELLNESS COURSES

Quaker School Life
Human Sexuality

***Indicates a required course***

# 2022-2026 College Acceptances & Matriculations

Bolded school names represent colleges where at least one Friends' Central student has enrolled.

Albright College
Alfred University
**Alvernia University**
**American University (5)**
**Amherst College (2)**
**Arcadia University**
Arizona State University
Auburn University
Babson College
**Bard College (2)**
**Barnard College**
**Barry University**
**Bates College (2)**
Baylor University
**Beloit College**
Bentley University
Berklee College of Music
**Boston College**
**Boston University (4)**
**Bowdoin College (5)**
**Brandeis University**
**Brown University (2)**
**Bryant University**
**Bryn Mawr College (4)**
**Bucknell University (5)**
**Butler University**
Cal Poly
California Institute of the Arts
Carleton College
**Carnegie Mellon University**
**Case Western Reserve Univ. (3)**
**Champlain College (3)**
Chatham University
**Cheyney University (3)**
Clark Atlanta University
**Clark University**
**Clemson University**
**Coastal Carolina University**
Colby College
Colgate University
College of Charleston
**College of the Holy Cross**
Colorado College
Colorado School of Mines
Colorado State University
**Columbia University**
Commonwealth University (Bloomsburg)
Commonwealth University (Mansfield)
**Connecticut College (2)**
**Coppin State University**
**Cornell University (5)**
CUNY Brooklyn College
**Dartmouth College (2)**
**Davidson College**
**Delaware State University**
Delaware Valley University
Denison University
**DePaul University**
**Dickinson College (3)**
Drew University
**Drexel University (12)**
**Duke University**
Duquesne University
East Stroudsburg University
**Eastern Mennonite University**
**Eastern University**
**Elizabethtown College**
**Elon University (2)**
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Daytona Beach)
Emerson College
Emory University
**Fairfield University**
Fairleigh Dickinson University (Florham)
Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University
Florida Atlantic University
Florida Southern College
**Fordham University**
**Franklin and Marshall College (5)**
Furman University
**Gannon University**
**George Mason University**
**George Washington University (4)**
**Georgetown University**
Georgia State University
Georgia Tech
**Gettysburg College (2)**
**Goucher College**
**Grinnell College**
Guilford College
Gwynedd Mercy University
Hamilton College
**Hampton University (5)**
Harrisburg University of Science and Technology
**Harvard University**
**Harvey Mudd College**
**Haverford College (4)**
**High Point University (2)**
**Hobart and William Smith Colleges (2)**
**Hofstra University (2)**
**Howard University (7)**
Immaculata University
**Indiana Univ. (Bloomington) (6)**
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
**Ithaca College (3)**
**Jacksonville University**
**Johns Hopkins University**
Johnson & Wales University
**Juniata College (3)**
Keiser University (Fort Lauderdale)
**Kenyon College (2)**
Kutztown University
**La Salle University (2)**
**Lafayette College (6)**
Lawrence University
Lehigh University
Lewis & Clark College
Lincoln University (Pennsylvania)
Long Island University (Brooklyn)
Long Island University (Post)
Louisiana State University
**Loyola Marymount University**
**Loyola University Chicago**
**Loyola University Maryland**
**Loyola University New Orleans**
Macalester College
**Marist University (3)**
Marquette University
Marymount Manhattan College
McDaniel College
**McGill University (3)**
Miami University
Michigan State University
**Middlebury College**
Millersville University
Misericordia University
**Monmouth University**
**Morehouse College (2)**
**Morgan State University (2)**
Mount Holyoke College
Mount St. Mary's University
**Muhlenberg College (3)**
Neumann University
**New York University (4)**
Nichols College
**Norfolk State University**
North Carolina A&T State University
North Carolina Central University
**Northeastern University (8)**
**Northwestern University (3)**
Notre Dame of Maryland Univ.
**Oberlin College (2)**
**Occidental College**
Ohio University
Ohio Wesleyan University
Oregon State University
**Pace Univ. (New York City)**
**Parsons Paris at The New School**
**Parsons School of Design at The New School (2)**
**Penn State University (18)**
**Penn State Univ. (Abington)**
**Penn State Univ. (Altoona) (2)**
Penn State University (Berks)
Penn State University (Brandywine)
**Penn State University (Harrisburg) (2)**
**Pepperdine University**
Philadelphia University
**Pitzer College**
**Pratt Institute**
**Princeton University**
Providence College
**Purdue University**
Quinnipiac University
Randolph College
**Randolph-Macon College**
**Reed College (2)**
Regent's University London
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
**Rochester Inst. of Technology (4)**
Rose-Hulman Inst. of Technology
Rowan University
**Rutgers University (New Brunswick) (3)**
**Saint Joseph's University (5)**
Salve Regina University
**San Diego State University**
Santa Clara University
**Sarah Lawrence College (2)**
**Savannah College of Art and Design**
**School of Drama at The New School**
Scripps College
**Seton Hall University**
Shippensburg University
**Siena University**
**Skidmore College (8)**
**Smith College (6)**
Southern Methodist University
Spelman College

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**St. John's Univ. (New York)**
**St. Lawrence University (2)**
St. Mary's College of Maryland
**Stanford University**
Stevens Institute of Technology
**Stevenson University (3)**
**Stony Brook University (2)**
Suffolk University
SUNY Albany
SUNY Buffalo
SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
SUNY New Paltz
SUNY Purchase College
**Swarthmore College (2)**
**Syracuse University (5)**
**Temple University (13)**
Texas Christian University
**The Catholic University of America**
The College of New Jersey
The College of Wooster
**The New School**
**The Ohio State University (3)**
The University of Edinburgh
**Thomas Jefferson University (2)**
**Towson University**
Trinity College
**Trinity College Dublin**
Trinity University
**Tufts University (14)**
**Tulane University (4)**
Tuskegee University
**Union College**
United States Coast Guard Academy
University College Dublin
**University of Alabama**
University of Alabama (Huntsville)
University of Arizona
**Univ. of California (Berkeley) (3)**
University of California (Davis)
University of California (Irvine)
**University of California (Los Angeles)**
University of California (Merced)
University of California (Riverside)
**University of California (San Diego) (3)**
**University of California (Santa Barbara)**
University of California (Santa Cruz)
**University of Chicago**
University of Cincinnati
**Univ. of Colorado (Boulder) (2)**
University of Connecticut
**University of Delaware (3)**
University of Denver
**University of Florida**
University of Georgia
**University of Glasgow**
University of Hartford
University of Hawaii (Hilo)
University of Hawaii (Manoa)
**University of Illinois (Urbana-Champaign)**
University of Maine
University of Mary Washington
**University of Maryland (College Park) (3)**
Univ.y of Massachusetts (Amherst)
Univ. of Massachusetts (Dartmouth)
University of Memphis
**University of Miami**
**University of Michigan (4)**
University of Minnesota
University of Mississippi
University of Mount Union
University of New Hampshire
University of New Haven
University of North Carolina (Chapel Hill)
Univ. of North Carolina (Charlotte)
Univ. of North Carolina (Wilmington)
University of Oregon
**University of Pennsylvania (21)**
**University of Pittsburgh (17)**
University of Pittsburgh (Bradford)
**University of Pittsburgh (Greensburg)**
University of Pittsburgh (Johnstown)
University of Portland
University of Puget Sound
University of Rhode Island
**University of Richmond (3)**
**University of Rochester**
**University of San Diego**
**University of San Francisco**
**University of Scranton**
**University of South Carolina**
**University of South Florida**
**Univ. of Southern California (5)**
**University of St Andrews (5)**
**University of Tampa**
University of Tennessee
University of Texas (San Antonio)
**University of Toronto (2)**
**University of Vermont (5)**
**University of Virginia (3)**
University of Washington
**University of Wisconsin (3)**
**Ursinus College (3)**
**Vanderbilt University**
**Vassar College (2)**
**Villanova University (7)**
**Virginia Commonwealth University**
**Virginia State University**
**Virginia Tech**
Wagner College
**Wake Forest University (3)**
**Washington & Jefferson College**
**Washington College**
**Washington Univ. in St. Louis (5)**
**Wellesley College**
**Wesleyan University (6)**
**West Chester University (3)**
West Virginia University
Wheaton College (Massachusetts)
Whitman College
**Widener University (3)**
**William & Mary (3)**
Williams College
**Worcester Polytechnic Institute (2)**
Xavier University
**Xavier University of Louisiana (2)**
**Yale University**
**York College of Pennsylvania**