

The Kinkaid School | College Admission Profile 2026 - 27



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Upper School Deans Kriston Burroughs, John Friday, Diane Hursh,
Quenby Mott, James Onwuachi, Claudia Salinas, Norma Villanueva-Pears

The School and Its Mission

Founded in 1906, The Kinkaid School is the oldest independent school in Houston. From its earliest days, Kinkaid has emphasized academic attainment and character development. Today's Kinkaid remains faithful to Margaret Kinkaid, its founder, valuing its students for their potential as well as their achievement and striving always for their balanced growth - intellectual, physical, social, and ethical. The Kinkaid School's mission is to promote educational excellence and balanced growth in a **challenging, safe, and inclusive** learning environment for the benefit of intellectually capable children of a sound character whose **talents, interests, and uniqueness** will be encouraged and nurtured to prepare them to **lead, serve, and become contributing citizens** to Kinkaid, our country, and the global community.

Academics

Kinkaid provides a college preparatory curriculum to achieve its primary goal of intellectual endeavor and achievement. The School offers a robust range of on-level, Honors (H), Advanced Placement (AP), and college-level (CL) courses. Kinkaid holds membership in the Cum Laude Society, inducting students in January of their senior year. Entrance into Honors, Advanced Placement, and College-Level courses require departmental recommendation. Students enrolled in an AP course are required to take the AP exam. Students are not limited in the number of AP courses they may take. All students are required to carry a minimum of five graded courses, four of which are academic, per semester. For more information on the Upper School Curriculum Guide 2026-27, please visit: www.kinkaid.org/academics/upper-school.

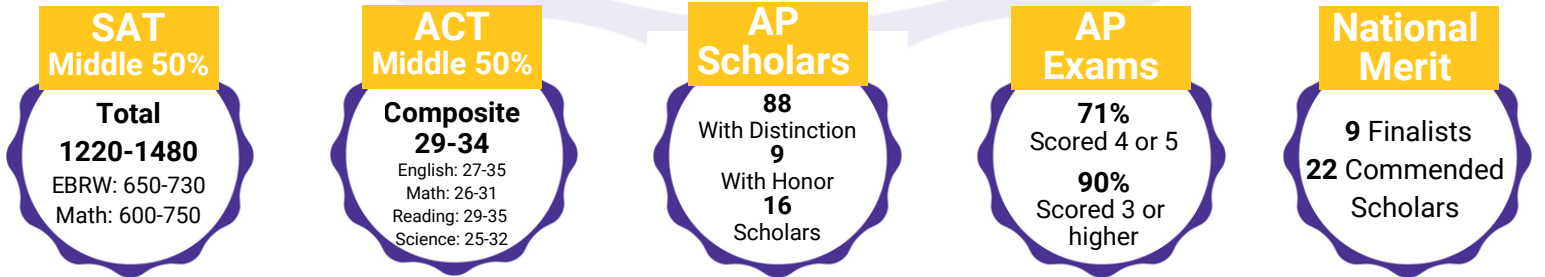
ADVANCED COURSEWORK

English AP English Literature	History AP World History II AP US History AP US Government & Politics AP Modern European History
Mathematics AP Statistics AP Calculus AB AP Calculus BC Linear Algebra (CL) Differential Equations (CL) Multivariable Calculus (CL)	World Language AP Spanish Language AP Spanish Literature AP French Language CL French Literature CL Latin V
Science AP Biology AP Chemistry AP Physics C AP Environmental Science AP Computer Science CL Algorithms and Structures	Other AP Art History AP Music Theory AP Studio Art

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Subject	Credits	Notes
English	4	No Honors or AP offered until grade 12
History	3	All core classes have Honors/AP option
Mathematics	3	All core classes have Honors/AP option
Science	3	All core classes have Honors/AP option
World Language	2	Honors offered in Level 2 of Spanish and in Level 3 of French and Latin. Spanish, French, and Latin have AP and/or CL options.
Visual & Performing Arts	2	Honors Art available after completion of 4 semesters
Interim Term	4	
Community Service	6	
Physical Education	1	
Decisions for Healthy Living & Leadership		Taken in 9th grade
Independent Study		Offered in rare cases for students who have gone above and beyond our curricular offerings

Class of 2026 Standardized Testing Profile



BY THE NUMBERS

1532

Total students (PK-12)

151

Seniors in the Class of 2026

9:1

Student to faculty ratio

2854

Community Service Hours completed in '25-26

42

Advanced Courses (19 AP, 6 CL, 17+ Honors)

16

NCAA Athletes in the Class of '26

98

Regional and National Writing Awards won by the Class of '26

24

Independent Study projects completed in 25-26

KEY FACTS FOR COLLEGE ADMISSIONS OFFICERS

- The Kinkaid School does not rank its students.
- Kinkaid uses an 11.0 weighted GPA scale described on the transcript.
- Our highest-level courses have the designation "CL" (College Level) on the transcript. These are typically post-AP courses.
- Courses designated "Honors" move at an accelerated pace and go beyond the standard curriculum requirements.
- New classes offered in 2026-27 include Data Science: Our World In Data, Entrepreneurship ACCEerator, Essentials of Personal Finance and Financial Modeling, Fundamentals of Business and Investments, Nutrition Science, US History Since 1820: Analyzing Modern America Through Jazz, and Video Game Development.
- If asked, Kinkaid reports any suspension to colleges and universities.

SIGNATURE KINKAID EXPERIENCES

INTERIM TERM

Each January, Interim Term offers three weeks of faculty-designed electives, foreign study, and cultural programs. Seniors complete internships spanning industries from healthcare to finance to the arts. While most students remain in Houston, some pursue national or international placements. The program emphasizes enrichment through experience, encouraging exploration of subjects beyond the regular curriculum and fostering adaptability, independence, and curiosity. Whether through hands-on coursework, cultural immersion, or professional internships, students return to campus with new skills, broader perspectives, and the confidence to navigate challenges in both academic and real-world settings.

MCGUYER FAMILY CENTER FOR WELLBEING AND SUCCESS

The Center fosters a safe, inclusive environment aligned with Kinkaid's Mission and Core Values. It equips students with skills in resiliency, empathy, balance, and self-care while preparing them to contribute positively to society. In the Upper School, each student belongs to a Community Group which, guided by a faculty mentor, discusses topics such as stress, motivation, and leadership. Signature programs include the Peer Mentor Program for ninth graders; Decisions, a semester-long wellness course; and Countdown to College, which helps seniors prepare for healthy, balanced transitions to college life.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

Kinkaid's VPA program fosters creativity and collaboration through a sequential curriculum that allows students to explore new art forms or pursue advanced study. Students move beyond technique to create works rich in personal vision, with Honors courses for those showing exceptional skill and commitment. The program is vibrant and visible: 65 performances and events, 10 exhibitions, 10 publications, film screenings, and student readings showcase student work. Nearly 90% of Upper School students study the arts for at least three years, with recent accolades including Tommy Tune Award winners and Best in Show at the Houston Rodeo Art Competition.

ATHLETICS

The Department of Athletics & Physical Education emphasizes whole-student development and encourages multi-sport participation in alignment with Kinkaid's Mission and Core Values. Athletics serves as an extension of the classroom, teaching students perseverance, teamwork, integrity, and sportsmanship while fostering courage and individual growth. A large majority of Upper School students compete on 49 teams across 24 sports programs. In the last five years, over 80 Falcons have continued their athletic careers at NCAA Division I, II, and III programs. The Class of 2026 contributed to 12 Southwestern Preparatory Conference Championships and 3 State titles during their tenure in the Upper School.

L.E. SIMMONS FAMILY CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP, ENTREPRENEURSHIP, AND FINANCE

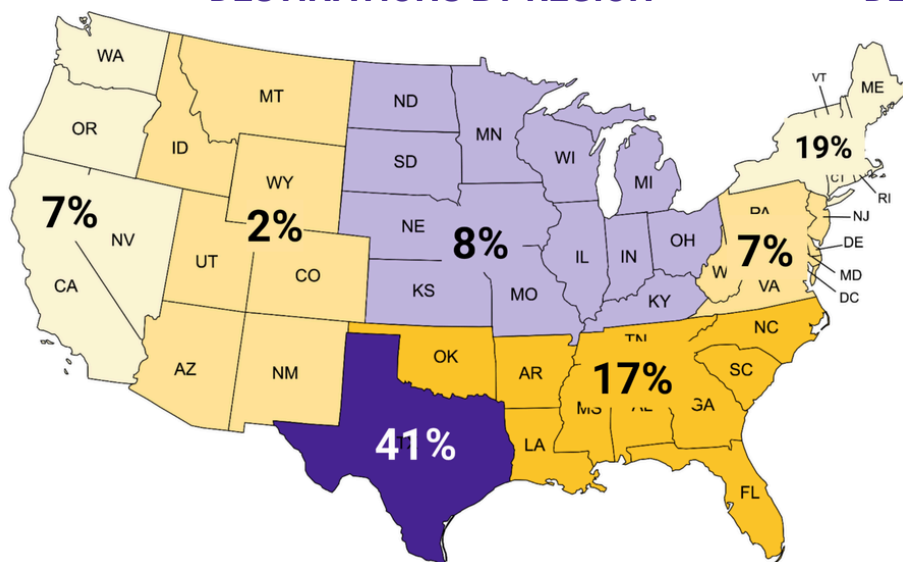
CLEF prepares students to lead in all walks of life. Rooted in enlightened capitalism, CLEF emphasizes Kinkaid's core values and Adam Smith's virtues of prudence, justice, and beneficence. Offerings include the Leadership Seminar Program and Distinction in Leadership honor; the Entrepreneurship INCubator and ACCEerator courses, enabling students to take a product from idea to market; courses in Personal Finance, Business & Investments, and Economics; and the Falcon Investment Managers, who manage a live equities portfolio. CLEF equips students with knowledge and skills to succeed in everything they do.

SHEEDY FAMILY CENTER FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, & MATH

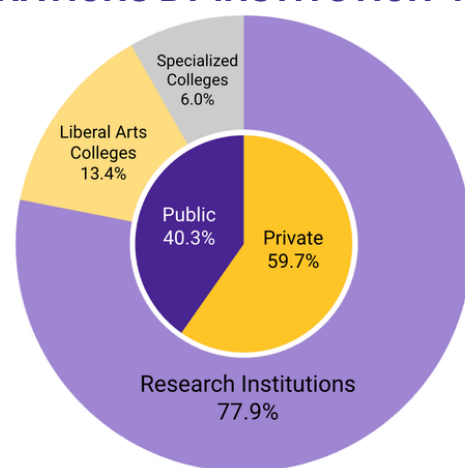
Launched in 2025-26, the Center aligns curriculum from Pre-K through grade 12 to cultivate leaders who approach problems with innovation, ethics, and data-informed decision-making. The Center empowers students to think critically, problem solve, and collaborate through immersive STEM experiences. In the Upper School, students pursue courses, partnerships, and research with Houston's medical, technology, and higher education communities. Kinkaid's state-of-the-art facilities include maker spaces, advanced labs, and classrooms that support innovation while leveraging Houston's role as a global hub for STEM education.

COLLEGE MATRICULATION INFORMATION, CLASS OF 2026

DESTINATIONS BY REGION



DESTINATIONS BY INSTITUTION-TYPE



*Specialized: Community Colleges, Conservatories, Service Academies, HBCUs..

IN ALL, KINKAID SCHOOL GRADUATES FROM 2023-2026 HAVE ATTENDED 138 SEPARATE INSTITUTIONS IN 37 DIFFERENT STATES/TERRITORIES AND THREE INTERNATIONAL DESTINATIONS.

Amherst College

Arizona State University

Auburn University

Austin Community College

Babson College

Bates College

Baylor University

Belmont University

Beloit College

Berklee College of Music

Blinn College

Boston College

Boston University

Bowdoin College

Brown University

Bucknell University

Carnegie Mellon University

Case Western Reserve University

Centre College

Chapman University

Claremont McKenna College

Clemson University

Colby College

Colgate University

Colorado School of Mines

Columbia University

Cornell University

Dartmouth College

Davidson College

Delaware State University

Delta State University

Denison University

DePaul University

Duke University

Elon University

Emory University

Flagler College

Fordham University

Georgetown University

Georgia Institute of Technology

Hamilton College

Harvard College

Houston Christian University

Houston Community College

Indiana University

Johns Hopkins University

Lehigh University

Louisiana State University

Loyola Marymount University

Macalester College

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Missouri State University

Morehouse College

New York University

Northeastern University

Northwestern University

Pitzer College

Princeton University

Purdue University

Reed College

Rhodes College

Rice University

Roanoke College

Rochester Institute of Technology

Savannah College of Art and Design

Smith College

Southern Illinois University

Southern Methodist University

Southwestern University

Spelman College

Stanford University

Stephen F. Austin State University

Syracuse University

Texas A&M University

Texas Christian University

Texas Southern University

Texas State University

Texas Tech University

The College of Wooster

The Ohio State University

The Pennsylvania State University

The University of Edinburgh

The University of Texas at Austin

The University of Texas at Dallas

The University of Texas at San Antonio

The University of the Arts

The University of the South

Trinity College Dublin

Trinity University

Tufts University

Tulane University

United States Air Force Academy

United States Military Academy at West Point

United States Naval Academy

University of Alabama

University of Arkansas

University of California, Davis

University of California, Los Angeles

University of California, Santa Barbara

University of Chicago

University of Colorado

University of Delaware

University of Denver

University of Florida

University of Georgia

University of Houston

University of Illinois

University of Iowa

University of Kansas

University of Miami

University of Michigan

University of Mississippi

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

University of North Carolina at Charlotte

University of Notre Dame

University of Oklahoma

University of Oregon

University of Oxford

University of Pennsylvania

University of Pittsburgh

University of Richmond

University of South Carolina

University of Southern California

University of Tennessee

University of Virginia

University of Washington

University of Wisconsin

Ursinus College

Vanderbilt University

Vassar College

Villanova University

Wake Forest University

Washington and Lee University

Washington University In St Louis

Wellesley College

Wesleyan University

Williams College

Yale University

Students from the Class of 2026 are attending colleges in bold print