Santa Monica High School
Profile 2026- 2027

Administration

Marae Cruce, Lead Principal
Tristan Komlos, S House Principal
Jane Han, A House Principal
Lissette Bravo, M House Principal
Gregory Pitts, O House Principal
Nicole Nicodemus, PBL Assistant Principal
Stefani Tovar, Activities Director
Coleen Davenport-Paysinger, Athletic Director

Santa Monica High School (Samohi) employs 161 certificated staff members, including 9 student support advisors, three college and career counselors, six administrators, and three school psychologists. With a student-to-teacher ratio of 35 to 1, our dedicated faculty—comprised of both seasoned educators and newcomers—provides personalized support to students. Notably, many staff members are proud Samohi alumni, fostering a strong connection to our school community. We are accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), ensuring our commitment to high educational standards and continuous improvement.

StudentSupport Advisors/Counselors

Rachel Bereny, S House Advisor
Shirley Saykali, S House Advisor
Jessica Garrido, A House Advisor
Yunuen Valencia, A House Advisor
Maribel Pulido, M House Advisor
Lauren Takeshita, M House Advisor
Maricela Gonzalez, O House Advisor
Mele LeVeaux, O House Advisor
Bailey Fronda, Olympic/OCLC/ISP Counselor
Nicole Nicodemus, PBL Counselor
Ernesto Flores, College/Career Counselor
Julie Honda, College/Career Counselor
Rosa Mejia, College/Career Counselor

Demographics

African American - 8.0%
Asian (various Asian Countries) - 6.55%
Caucasian (European & Mid Eastern) - 43.45%
Latino (various regions of the Americas) - 32.0%
Other - 1.32%
Two or More Races - 8.66%

Federal National School Lunch Program - 32.0%

Santa Monica High School (Samohi), established in 1891, has long been a cornerstone of the Santa Monica community. With over 2,500 students from diverse backgrounds, Samohi offers a rich array of academic programs, extracurricular activities, and sports, fostering a vibrant and inclusive environment. The school emphasizes social justice and cultural responsiveness, ensuring that every student's unique personality contributes to a dynamic learning atmosphere. Our innovative House system, comprising approximately 650 students per House, provides personalized support with dedicated staff, including a House Principal and advisors, promoting strong community bonds.

Class Size 2,459

9th Grade - 603
10th Grade - 657
11th Grade - 652
12th Grade - 637

Samohi students excel academically, with numerous recognitions in national testing and advanced placement programs. Our arts programs—encompassing band, orchestra, and choir—receive accolades, as do our athletic teams, which have earned multiple championships at local, state, and national levels. With a commitment to empowering students through creativity, intellectual growth, and social responsibility, Samohi prepares them to thrive as engaged citizens. The school is supported by a robust Alumni Association and the wider Santa Monica and Malibu communities, making the Samohi experience truly unparalleled.

601 Pico Boulevard, Santa Monica, CA 90405
P: 310.395.3204 ~ F: 310.395.5842 ~ CEEB Code: 053320 ~ www.samohi.org/samohi

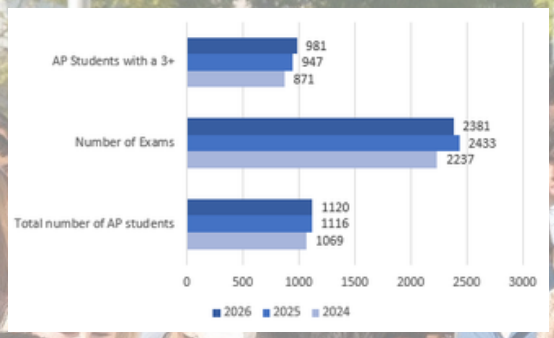
School Information

AP Courses

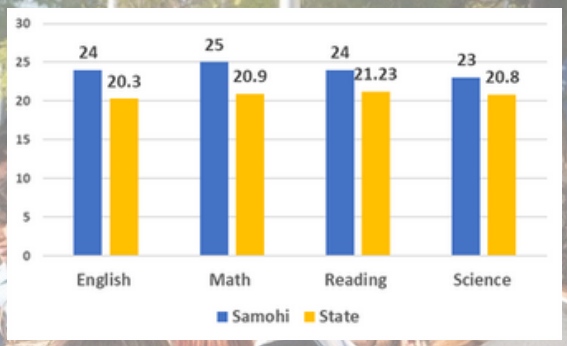
AP English Language and Composition
AP English Literature and Composition
AP French Language and Culture
AP Japanese Language and Culture
AP Spanish Language and Culture
AP Spanish Literature and Culture
AP Calculus AB
AP Calculus BC
AP Statistics
AP Biology
AP Chemistry
AP Enviromental Science
AP Physics 1
AP Physics C: Mechanics
AP Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism
AP Economics (Macro)
AP Human Geography
AP Government and Politics
AP Psychology
AP United States History
AP World History
AP Art History
AP 2D Art and Design
AP 3D Art and Design
AP Music Theory
AP PLTW Computer Science (Python)
AP Computer Science (Java)

Samohi reports an unweighted, cumulative GPA determined by all courses and grades with the exception of physical education (PE) and teacher assistant (TA). The GPA is computed using a 4-point scale (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1, F=0) while plus and minus grades are neutral. If a course is repeated, the grades are averaged. In compliance with district policy, class rank and a weighted GPA are not computed.
An academically challenging/rigorous curriculum consists of completing 3 or more APs and/or Community College courses in the 11th and 12th grades. Multivariable Calculus is our highest level math course.
During the 2022-2023 school year, Samohi adopted a new science curriculum aligned with Next Generation Science Standards, featuring Physics in 9th, Chemistry in 10th, and Biology in 11th. The Math and English departments also unified their curricula across regular and honors levels, promoting equity and enhancing student experiences, aiming to better prepare all students for Advanced Placement courses.

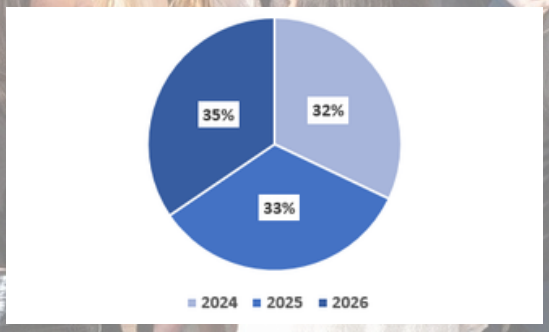
AP Test Information



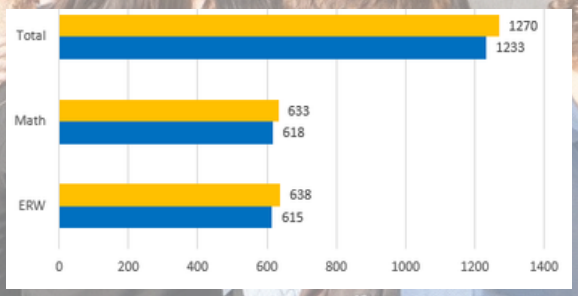
ACT Mean Test Score



% AP Students 3+



SAT Mean Test Score



Honors

Honors French 4
Honors Japanese 4
Honors Latin 5
Honors Algebra 2
Honors Pre Calculus/Calculus
Multivariable Calculus
Honors Chemistry
Honors PLTW Digital Electronics
Honors PLTW Engineering Design and Development

Transcript Legend

AP - Advanced Placement
HP - Honors
CC - College Class
P - College Prepartory
IM - Immersion Program
R - Repeated

Graduation Requirements

Social Studies	30 Credits
English	40 Credits
Mathematics	30 Credits
Science	20 Credits
Foreign Language	10 Credits in a foreign language or fine art
Fine Arts	10 Credits in a visual or perf. art or foreign language
Physical Education	20 Credits
Electives	60 Credits
Other	10 Credits Freshman Seminar or 5 credits Health

Pathway Programs

Career Technical Education (CTE) Pathways and Academies are programs of study which feature rigorous academics with technical, design, entrepreneurial, and global competency skills culminating in real-world, capstone projects. CTE helps students gain valuable academic and technical skills for postsecondary institutions and high-wage, high-skill, high-demand careers. Samohi's seven CTE pathways offer sequential coursework and activities aligned with academic standards and local Silicon Beach industry demands. Meanwhile, Samohi Academies integrate CTE courses with core academic courses giving students a dynamic project-based experience. These unique supplemental educational opportunities may come at a slight cost for students. For example, for PLTW Engineering, students take a hybrid, English/Science collaboration course that requires enrollment in two specific class periods during senior year. Unfortunately, such an endeavor encounters schoolwide master schedule issues that lead to student class limitations, such as access to certain AP courses (e. g., AP English Lit, AP Physics).

Career Technical Education

The Automotive Pathway offers a foundation systems diagnostics, service and repair. It leverages real-world, occupationally relevant experiences of significant scope and depth. The standards are designed to integrate core academic and technical preparation and focus on relevant environmental technology, career awareness and exploration, and the attainment of industry certifications. Integral components include classroom, laboratory, hands-on contextual learning, project/work-based instruction and leadership development. The standards in this sector prepare students for continued training, postsecondary education, and direct entry to industry.





Students in the Computer Science Pathway learn programming languages (Java & Python) and focus on the design of solutions to problems, the use of data structures to organize large sets of data, the development and implementation of algorithms to process data and discover new information, the analysis of potential solutions, and the ethical and social implications of computing systems. Students prepare for taking Computer Science AP exams and learn valuable industry skills like clear communication, effective collaboration, and project management.

The Engineering Design Pathway offers students a foundation in engineering - specifically aerospace and circuitry (digital design). Students are engaged in academic and technical preparation through classroom, laboratory, and hands-on contextual learning, project- based instruction, leadership and soft-skills development. Currently, Samohi offers the Engineering Academy where students take Engineering Design and Development, Applications of Physics in Engineering, and English 12 for Engineering.





Through the Law & Public Policy Academy, students engage with English and Government/Economics curriculum in ways that feel relevant and practical. Coursework emphasizes applying ideas to real-world challenges, while partnerships with law firms, local government agencies, and public service organizations give student meaningful exposure beyond the classroom.

Pathway Programs

Through our Sports Medicine Pathway, students are introduced to industry through the study and application of Sports Medicine and patient-driven health care. Students learn about athletic injuries specifically prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation. With a high level of independent study and investigation, students' training is divided into academic coursework and
hands- on clinical experience. Qualified students may participate in job shadowing and/or an internship in a related field such as Exercise Physiology, Biomechanics, Sports Psychology, Sports Nutrition, Strength and Conditioning, Practice of Medicine, and Athletic Training.





Learning the skills and knowledge for creating, refining, and the presentation of work in these three pathways promote teamwork, communication, creative thinking, and decision-making abilities—traits that are necessary to function successfully in the competitive and media- rich twenty-first century. Through the manipulation of sight, sound, and motion, those choosing a pathway from this sector reach out in unique ways to enhance the quality of life for those around them. Samohi's Film/TV Production, Graphic Design, and Photography Pathways are project-based and require broad and in- depth academic preparation, independent work, and interdependent management skills for success.

Project Based Learning

Samohi's Project-Based Learning (PBL) Pathway is an experiential, challenging, student-driven learning experience that creates authentic relationships between students, teachers, and community mentors. Students acquire knowledge and skills by engaging in project-based inquiry, where Math, Science, Social Science, and English Language Arts curricula are delivered through integrated, thematic, and interdisciplinary projects. Each of our students fulfills requirements and expectations in a unique manner. Students within this Pathway spend approximately 20 percent of the school week off-campus, involved in activities directly related to their project work: investigation, interviewing, internships, volunteerships, service learning, and/or group and individual workshops/seminars.

PBL Pathway students do not have access to AP courses but instead, take courses directly at Community Colleges through Dual and Concurrent Enrollment. PBL Pathway students are expected to achieve at honors/accelerated levels. Students' coursework is not textbook-driven. Instead, PBL students are required to form their own hypotheses, conduct thorough investigations, identify local "experts" on various subjects, and create authentic and rigorous products to define and demonstrate their learning. For these reasons, the PBL Pathway uses a mastery-based grading system, instead of a culmination of point totals. All work is assessed on 4- point rubrics and reflects professional performance standards in career fields as well as mastery of Common Core and State Standards. As a result of this methodology, our PBL Pathway students' grades are a reflection of their mastery of standards.



College Acceptances

Academy of Art University
Alabama State University
American Jewish University
American University
Amherst College
Arizona State University
Art Center College of Design
Art Institute of CA Los Angeles
Auburn University
Azusa Pacific University
Babson College
Bard College
Barnard College
Bates College
Baylor University
Bennington College
Berklee College of Music
Biola University
Boise State University
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brown University
Bryn Mawr College
California State Universities
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Chapman University
Claremont McKenna College
Clark Atlanta University
Clark University
College of Charleston
Colorado College
Colorado State University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Cornish College of the Arts
Dartmouth College
Davidson College
Dickinson College
Duke University
Embry-Riddle University
Emerson College
Emory University
Eugene Lang College
Florida A&M University
Florida State University
Fordham University
George Washington University
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Grambling State University
Grinnell College
Hampshire College
Hampton University
Harvard University
Harvey Mudd College
Hawaii Pacific University
Howard University
Idaho State University
Indiana University, Bloomington
Ithaca College
Johns Hopkins University
Juniata College
Keio University
Kenyon College
Lewis & Clark College
Linfield College
London College of Fashion
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University New Orleans
Macalester College
Marist College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
McGill University
Michigan State University
Mississippi State University
Montana State University
Morehouse College
Mount Saint Mary's University
New York University
Northern Arizona University
Northwestern University
Oberlin College
Occidental College
Pacific University
Pennsylvania State University
Pitzer College
Pomona College
Portland State University
Pratt Institute
Princeton University
Purdue University
Queen's University
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytech Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
Rice University
Rutgers University
Saint Mary's College of California
San Francisco Art Institute
Santa Clara University
Sarah Lawrence College
Savannah College of Art & Design
School of the Art Institute of Chicago
University of Southern California
School of the Museum of Fine Arts
Scripps College
Seattle University
Seton Hall University
Skidmore College
Smith College
Southern Methodist University
Southern Oregon University
St. John's University
Stanford University
Stonehill College
SUNY Binghamton
Syracuse University
Temple University
Texas A&M University
The Juilliard School
Tulane University
University of Alabama
University of Arizona
University of British Columbia
Universities of California
University of Chicago
University of Iowa
University of Kansas
University of Kentucky
University of La Verne
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
University of Nevada Las Vegas
University of North Carolina Chapel Hill
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Puget Sound
University of Redlands
University of Richmond
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of St. Andrews
University of Texas
University of Utah
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin Madison
Valparaiso University
Vanderbilt University
Vassar College
Waseda University
Washington State University
Washington University in St Louis
Wellesley College
Wesleyan University
Willamette University
Williams College
Xavier University of Louisiana
Yale University

90% of the Class of 2026 entered higher education institutions. Above is a partial list of four-year institutions attended by the classes of 2017-2026