Maine School of Science and Mathematics

2026-27 School Profile

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#1 Best Public High School
#1 Best Public High School Teachers
#1 Best College Prep Public High School
#12 Best Public School Teachers (US)
Niche.com 2026 Ranking (State of Maine)

The Maine School of Science and Mathematics (**MSSM**) was established by the Maine State Legislature in 1995 as a public, residential magnet high school. MSSM enrolls approximately 100 academically motivated and intellectually curious students in grades 9 through 12 from communities across Maine and beyond. Students pursue a rigorous, interdisciplinary STEM focused curriculum grounded in inquiry, application, and advanced study, creating an environment where curiosity meets challenge. All students live on campus and participate in a residential life curriculum designed to develop independence, responsibility, collaboration, and the skills needed to live and learn in community. MSSM is recognized in Maine and nationally for academic excellence, outstanding teaching, and its distinctive residential learning experience.

Academic Program

MSSM offers an accelerated, interdisciplinary curriculum with advanced coursework in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, the humanities, and social sciences. Courses emphasize conceptual depth, application, inquiry, and the development of analytical, research, communication, and collaboration skills. Advanced topics, independent studies, research experiences, and capstone courses allow students to pursue complex questions with increasing independence under the mentorship of faculty. Students are placed according to their preparation and may progress into specialized coursework rarely available in a traditional high school setting.

Selected Advanced and Specialized Coursework

MSSM offers advanced study beyond the traditional AP curriculum through specialized electives and advanced topics courses across multiple disciplines.

Mathematics: Multivariable Calculus, Linear Algebra, Differential Equations, Data Science

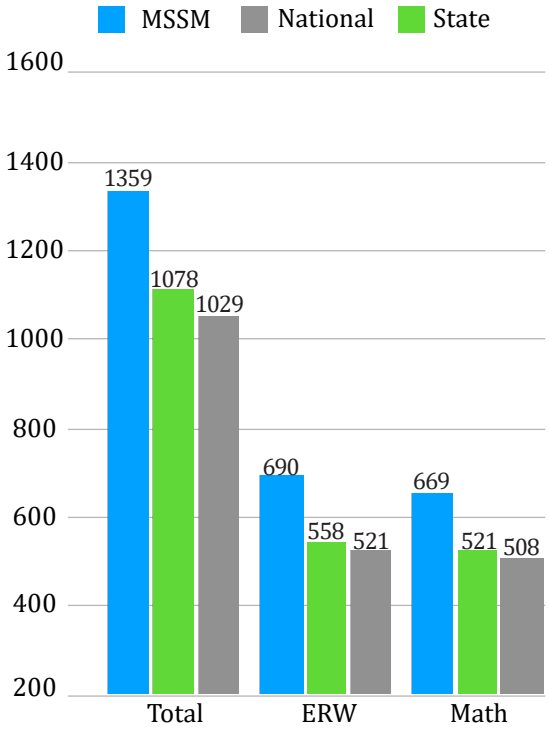
Science and Technology: Advanced Topics in Chemistry, Genetics and Biotechnology, Marine Biology, Engineering, and Advanced Topics in Physics: Introduction to Electronics

Humanities and Social Sciences: Creative Writing, advanced literature electives, Macroeconomics, Sociology

AP Courses: Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Statistics, Chemistry, English Language and Composition, English Literature and Composition, Physics C: Electricity and Magnetism

Dual Enrollment: Eligible courses may carry dual enrollment credit through University of Maine at Presque Isle.

SAT Scores (Average)



Residential Learning Community

All MSSM students live on campus as part of an intentional residential life program that extends learning beyond the classroom. Through shared responsibility, community service, clubs, athletics, and daily life with their peers, students develop independence, collaboration, leadership, and the skills needed to live successfully in a community. With approximately 100 students, MSSM provides a close, supportive environment where students are known by faculty and actively engaged in campus life.

Located in Limestone near the Canadian border, MSSM brings together students from communities across Maine, New England, and beyond. The school emphasizes academic collaboration rather than competition, creating a close community united by curiosity and a shared enthusiasm for learning.

Distinctive Features and Academic Context

◉ Admission is selective and considers academic preparation, intellectual curiosity, motivation, maturity, and readiness to contribute positively to a residential learning community.
◉ MSSM maintains a student to teacher ratio of 7 to 1, providing students with small classes and close faculty mentorship.
◉ MSSM follows a 4 1 4 academic calendar. During January Term, students complete an intensive course, research experience, internship, or other focused learning opportunity that encourages interdisciplinary exploration and experiential learning.
◉ All faculty hold advanced degrees, and many hold terminal degrees. Faculty bring experience from academic research, education, industry, and professional practice to their teaching.
◉ Students participate in a wide range of cocurricular opportunities, including Math Team, VEX Robotics, community service, seasonal athletics, and student led clubs.
◉ MSSM requires four years of lab-based Science, English, and Mathematics (with a minimum of Calculus), two years of world language, and 1 year of Social Science, Fine Arts, and History.
◉ 40% of the class of 2025 received recognition in the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program.
◉ MSSM fosters academic collaboration rather than competition and does not calculate class rank.
◉ Students enter MSSM from schools with varied course sequences and academic opportunities. Placement reflects prior coursework and demonstrated readiness, so students in the same grade may begin at different points in the MSSM curriculum.

Grade	Range	Grade	Range	Grade	Range	Grade	Range
A+	97-100	B+	87-89	C+	77-79	F	<70
A	93-96	B	83-86	C	73-76	I	Incomplete
A-	90-92	B-	80-82	C-	70-72	W	Withdrawal

College Matriculation, Classes of 2024 - 2026

American University
Bard College
Bates College
Bennington College
Bowdoin College
Carnegie Mellon University
Colby College*
College of the Atlantic
Dartmouth College*
Emmanuel College
Georgetown University*
Georgia Institute of Technology
Hampden-Sydney College
Iowa State University
Maine Maritime Academy
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Northeastern University*
Norwich University
Nova Southeastern University
Purdue University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute*
Rochester Institute of Technology*
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Salve Regina University
Smith College
St. Lawrence University
Stanford University
Texas Christian University
Tufts University
University of Chicago*
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Florida
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
University of Maine*
University of Maine at Farmington
University of Massachusetts Amherst
University of South Florida
University of Toronto
University of Vermont
Washington University in St. Louis*
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Wheaton College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute*

* indicates multiple matriculations