



## School Overview

Founded in 2001, Providence Academy is an independent, Catholic, co-educational pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade college preparatory school. The 42-acre campus is located in the suburban city of Plymouth, approximately 15 miles northwest of downtown Minneapolis. All grades are housed in one 250,000 square foot facility built in Georgian colonial style which features enhanced classrooms, fully equipped science and technology laboratories, a chapel, a museum-quality Antiquities Gallery, a performing arts center (*opening winter 2017*), a visual arts studio, and first-rate athletic venues.

## Mission and Philosophy

From the heart of our motto, "Faith, Knowledge, Virtue," Providence Academy develops habits of spirit, mind, and action to prepare students for future leadership in vocations and civic life. The faith and morals taught by the Catholic Church provide the foundation for time-honored training in the liberal arts and sciences. The curriculum's rigor instills customs of discipline and assures breadth and depth in students' mastery of educational basics. Our aim is to educate clear thinkers, informed believers, and good citizens prepared to meet the challenges of American life in the 21st century.

## Accreditation

Providence Academy received re-accreditation from the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS) in 2011.

## Enrollment

Class of 2017: 68 students  
Total Upper School: 320 students  
Total PreK-12 Enrollment: 820 students

## College Application and Enrollment Statistics

- 98% of graduates attend four-year colleges (2014-16)
- 74% enroll at out-of-state colleges (2014-16)
- 43% enroll at Catholic colleges (2014-16)
- 29% enroll at public colleges (2014-16)
- Average of 5.9 applications submitted per senior (2016)

## Marks and Course Weighting

Providence Academy uses criterion reference when grading, rather than normative reference. A strong work ethic among students encourages them to meet the Academy's high-level expectations. The following grading system is used for all courses, including regular, honors, advanced, and college-level courses:

A	4.00	C	2.00
A-	3.67	C-	1.67
B+	3.33	D+	1.33
B	3.00	D	1.00
B-	2.67	D-	0.67
C+	2.33	F	0.00

Providence Academy does not assign a class rank. Honors and ACC courses are not weighted.

## Upper School Facts

- 61% of Upper School teachers hold advanced degrees
- Average class size is 20 students
- 30% of students receive need-based financial aid
- Students reside in 51 distinct municipalities
- 66% of students are Roman Catholic

## College Counseling Contact Information

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## Upper School Curriculum

Providence Academy utilizes an independently designed curriculum. Students share humanities core courses in English, History, and Religion in common for all four years, assuring a solid formation and enabling common conversation and inquiry among students of all levels of academic caliber. Honors level courses in Mathematics, Science, and World Language enable students with ambitions in those disciplines to prepare more assertively for collegiate studies. Please note the following policies and highlights of our academic program:

- All students must enroll for seven credits per year
- Students are required to take three years of a world language, with at least two consecutive years in the same language
- PA faculty determine placement in all honors courses
- Advance College Credit (ACC) courses are offered through the University of Minnesota and Benedictine College and meet college requirements for both scope and rigor. These courses are noted with “ACC” on the transcript and are considered equivalent to honors or advanced level courses.
- Religion is a required four-year course sequence for all students. Requiring serious and scholarly engagement with Scripture and primary source texts in literature, philosophy, theology, and social commentary, these courses feature the same academic demands and rigor as other required disciplines. A selection of texts studied in Religion courses includes:
  - ▷ *Summa Theologica* (Aquinas)
  - ▷ *On Faith and Reason* (Aquinas)
  - ▷ *Nicomachean Ethics* (Aristotle)
  - ▷ *Confessions* (Augustine)
  - ▷ *The Closing of the American Mind* (Bloom)
  - ▷ *The Consolation of Philosophy* (Boethius)
  - ▷ *All Men are Brothers* (Gandhi)
  - ▷ *Life Everlasting* (Garrigou-Lagrange)
  - ▷ *Fear and Trembling* (Kierkegaard)
  - ▷ *Letter from Birmingham Jail* (King)
  - ▷ *Death of Ivan Ilyich* (Tolstoy)

## Statement on Advanced Placement

In keeping with the independent and intentional nature of our curriculum, Providence Academy does not seek College Board’s Advanced Placement (AP) designation for any advanced or senior level courses. At the same time, PA faculty support students enrolled in upper level English, History, Math, Physics, Chemistry, Art, and World Language courses in preparing for the corresponding AP exams.

## Testing Data

### 2014-2016 Advanced Placement Exam Results

Total administered: 276 exams  
Exams scored at 3 or above (*pass rate*): 78%  
Exams scored at 4 or above: 48%  
Total AP Scholars: 34 students

### National Merit, Achievement and Hispanic Scholar Competitions (Percentage of class recognized)

Class of 2014 - 19%  
Class of 2015 - 8%  
Class of 2016 - 9%  
Class of 2017 - 13%

### Classes of 2014-2016 ACT Scores

Mid 50% Composite Score Range: 25-31 (*n*=218)  
Composite Mean Score: 28.0

### Classes of 2014-2016 SAT Scores

Mid 50% CR+M Score Range: 1160-1420 (*n*=61)  
CR 600-730  
M 560-690  
W 570-700

### Classes of 2014-2016 SAT Subject Test Mean Scores (Tests with 10 or more scores reported)

Molecular Biology: 691  
Literature: 686  
Latin: 650  
Math I: 655  
Math II: 683  
Physics: 700  
U.S. History: 639

## Student Conduct and Non-Disclosure Policy

Providence Academy considers discipline to be a private matter between the student and the school. Therefore, PA faculty and staff do not generally disclose disciplinary consequences short of expulsion—including detentions and suspensions. Any student on track to graduate in good standing is fully reconciled with PA’s community and receives the full and unqualified endorsement of the faculty and administration. We expect our students to disclose their disciplinary history when it is required of them in college or scholarship application processes.

# Providence Academy Curriculum

	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	
<b>English</b> <b>**No honors courses offered</b>	British Literature	American Literature	Classical Literature	Senior English Seminar	
<b>History</b> <b>**No honors courses offered</b>	Ancient, Classical, and Medieval Worlds	U.S. History I (1492-1877)	U.S. History II (1877-Present)	Modern Western Civilization	
<b>Religion</b>	Introduction to the Creed	Moral Theology	Elements of the Christian Life <i>Elements of the Christian Life ACC</i>	Reason & Revelation <i>Reason &amp; Revelation ACC</i>	
<b>Science</b> <i>(see Note 1)</i>	Chemistry <i>Chemistry Honors</i>	Biology <i>Biology Honors</i>	Physics <i>Physics Honors</i>	Earth & Space Science <i>Advanced Biology</i> <i>Advanced Chemistry</i> <i>Advanced Physics</i>	
<b>Mathematics</b> <i>(see Note 2)</i>	Pre-Algebra Algebra I, <i>Algebra I Honors</i> Algebra II Fundamentals, Algebra II, <i>Algebra II Honors</i> Geometry & Trigonometry <i>Geometry &amp; Trigonometry Honors</i> Data Analysis		Pre-Calculus, <i>Pre-Calculus Honors</i> Calculus I, <i>Calculus I Honors</i> Probability & Statistics <i>Calculus II</i>		
<b>World Language</b> <i>(see Note 3)</i>	French I, II, III, IV, <i>Advanced French</i> Spanish I, II, III, IV, <i>Spanish IV ACC, Advanced Spanish, Advanced Spanish ACC</i> Latin I, II, III, Latin Poetry, Latin Prose, <i>Latin Poetry ACC, Latin Prose ACC</i>				
<b>Electives</b>	<u>Physical Education</u> General Phys. Ed. Team Sports Indiv. & Dual Sports Introduction to Golf Strength & Cond'ing	<u>Fine Arts (0.5 cr)</u> Acting Intro. to Theater Photography I, II	<u>Fine Arts (1.0 cr)</u> Academy Chorale Music Consortium Publications Studio Art I, II, III, IV Symphonic Band	<u>Dept. Electives (0.5 cr)</u> Critical Thinking Skills Computer Systems Current Events Debate I, II Foods&Nutrition I, II History of Western Art Philosophy	<u>Dept. Electives (1.0 cr)</u> Econ./Accounting Journalism: Wrtg/Pub Prin. Engineering I, II Env. Sci. Research I, II

*Italics* denote an honors, advanced, or Advance College Credit (ACC) course

Note 1: The science sequence shown above is the standard sequence. Alternate sequences are possible based on year of PA entry and student scheduling needs.

Note 2: At the math department's discretion, students may have completed the two-course Algebra II and Geometry/Trigonometry sequence over a period spanning three academic years. This modified sequence appears as Algebra II:1-2, Algebra II:3 and Geometry and Trigonometry: 1,2, and 3 on the transcript.

Note 3: Latin Poetry and Latin Prose are distinct courses in scope and rigor from Latin Poetry ACC and Latin Prose ACC. Students who complete Latin Poetry or Prose and later enroll in the similarly named ACC Latin course do not repeat any work.

## Graduation Requirements

Religion: 4 credits

History: 4 credits

English: 4 credits

Mathematics: 3 credits

Science: 3 credits

World Language: 3 credits

Senior Core Options: 2-3 credits

Physical Education: 1 credit

Fine Arts: 1 credit

Electives: 2-3 credits

**TOTAL: 28 credits**

## Other Curriculum Information

“Oratio” is a graduation requirement for seniors which includes the research, preparation, and delivery of a senior speech before a panel of faculty judges and an assembly of the junior and senior classes.

“House” is a curricular component of Upper School consisting of weekly meetings and activities designed to promote community and leadership development. Students belong to one of sixteen houses (eight male houses and eight female houses). Houses are led by a House Leader, an upper division student selected by the faculty through a competitive application and interview process.

# Providence Academy College Outcomes

## At least one PA graduate from the Classes of 2014-2016 *matriculated* to the following institutions:

Auburn University	Luther College	University of Dayton
Baylor University	Marist College	University of Denver
Bemidji State University	Marquette University	University of Houston
Benedictine College	Miami University, Oxford	University of Iowa
Bethel University (MN)	Montana State University, Bozeman	University of Kansas
Boston College	New York University	University of Mary
Carnegie Mellon University	North Dakota State University	University of Minnesota, Duluth
Case Western Reserve University	Northern State University (SD)	University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Christendom College	Northwestern University	University of Missouri, Columbia
College of Saint Benedict	Pepperdine University	University of Nebraska, Lincoln
Colorado Christian University	Princeton University	University of North Dakota
Colorado School of Mines	Providence College	University of Notre Dame
Columbia University	Purdue University	University of Portland
Concordia College (MN)	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of St. Andrews (UK)
Cornell University	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of St. Thomas (MN)
Creighton University	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology	University of San Diego
Dartmouth College	Saint John's University (MN)	University of Southern California
Davidson College	Saint Mary's University of Minnesota	University of Texas, Austin
Elon University	Seattle University	University of Utah
Franciscan University of Steubenville	Seton Hall University	University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire
Grinnell College	South Dakota School of Mines and Tech.	University of Wisconsin, Madison
Gustavus Adolphus College	South Dakota State University	Valparaiso University
Harvard College	Southern Methodist University	Vanderbilt University
High Point University	St. Olaf College	Villanova University
Hillsdale College	Texas A&M University	Wake Forest University
Indiana University, Bloomington	Texas Christian University	Washington University in St. Louis
Iowa State University	United States Military Academy	Westmont College
John Carroll University	University of Alabama	Wheaton College (IL)
Lafayette College	University of California, Berkeley	Williams College
Lake Forest College	University of California, Davis	Winona State University
Lawrence University	University of California, Irvine	Wofford College
Liberty University	University of Chicago	Yale College
Loras College	University of Cincinnati	
Loyola University, Chicago	University of Dallas	

## In addition to the above institutions, the colleges listed below *admitted* at least one student from the Classes of 2014-2016:

Aquinas College (TN)	Georgia Institute of Technology	Seattle Pacific University
Assumption College (MA)	Gonzaga University	St. Catherine University-St.Paul
Augsburg College	Grand View University	St. Cloud State University
Augustana University (SD)	Grove City College	St. Edward's University
Ave Maria University	Hamline University	St. Norbert College
Barry University	Hawaii Pacific University	Stanford University
Belmont Abbey College	Hofstra University	Temple University
Belmont University	Illinois Institute of Technology	Trinity University
Boston University	James Madison University	Tufts University
Bradley University	Johnson & Wales University (RI)	University of Colorado, Boulder
Butler University	Kent State University	University of Connecticut
Cardinal Stritch University	Kenyon College	University of Findlay
Carleton College	Lewis University	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Carroll College (MT)	Loyola Marymount University	University of Kentucky
Carthage College	Lynn University	University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Catholic University of America	Macalester College	University of Miami (FL)
Central Michigan University	Maryville University (MO)	University of Michigan
Chaminade University of Honolulu	McGill University (Canada)	University of Minnesota, Morris
Champlain College	Michigan Technological University	University of Minnesota, Rochester
Chapman University	Minnesota State University, Mankato	University of Northern Colorado
Clemson University	Minnesota State University, Moorhead	University of Pennsylvania
Coe College	Mount Holyoke College	University of Puget Sound
College of the Holy Cross	Mount Mercy University	University of Richmond
College of St. Scholastica	Mount Saint Mary's University	University of San Francisco
College of William and Mary	North Carolina State University	University of Sioux Falls
Colorado College	Northeastern University	University of South Carolina
Colorado State University	Northern Michigan University	University of St. Thomas (TX)
Columbia College, Chicago	Norwich University	University of Tampa
Cornell College	Oakwood University	University of Vermont
Culinary Institute of America	Pennsylvania State University, University Park	University of Virginia
Denison University	Pomona College	University of Washington
DePaul University	Pratt Institute	University of Wisconsin, La Crosse
Dominican University	Regis University (CO)	University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
Drake University	Rice University	University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point
Duke University	Rollins College	University of Wyoming
Duquesne University	Royal Holloway, University of London (UK)	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Emory College	Saint Louis University	Walla Walla University
Fairfield University	Saint Mary's College (IN)	Washington and Lee University
Fordham University	Saint Xavier University	Washington State University
Furman University	Salve Regina University	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
George Fox University	Santa Clara University	Xavier University (OH)
George Mason University	Savannah College of Art and Design	