



School Overview, Mission, and Philosophy

Founded in 2001, Providence Academy is an independent, Catholic, co-educational pre-kindergarten through twelfth grade college preparatory school. All students share a 250,000 square foot Georgian colonial school building. The 42-acre campus is 11 miles northwest of downtown Minneapolis in the suburban city of Plymouth.

From the heart of our motto, “Faith, Knowledge, Virtue,” Providence Academy aims to develop 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 both breadth and depth in students’ mastery of core knowledge that is the foundation for higher learning. Our mission is to educate clear thinkers, informed believers, and good citizens prepared to meet the challenges of American life in the 21st century.

The facilities and program reflect a threefold emphasis in academics, arts, and athletics. Learning spaces include modern classrooms, fully equipped science laboratories and computing labs, a metal and wood shop, a museum-quality Antiquities Gallery, and distinctive spaces for the performing and visual arts. A 650-seat, professional-quality performing arts center opened in 2017 and renovations to outdoor athletic venues, including a 1,500-seat artificial turf stadium, were completed in 2016.

Accreditation

Providence Academy received re-accreditation from the Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS) in 2018.

College Application and Enrollment Statistics

- 97% of graduates attend 4-year colleges (2016-18)
- 73% enroll at out-of-state colleges (2016-18)
- 37% enroll at Catholic colleges (2016-18)
- 30% enroll at public colleges (2016-18)
- Average of six applications submitted per senior (2018)

Enrollment

Class of 2019: 89 students

Total Upper School: 310 students

Total PreK-12 Enrollment: 800 students

Key Academic Policies

- Providence Academy does not assign a class rank
- No courses are weighted for GPA calculation
- All students must complete seven credits per year

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 55 different municipalities
- 66% of students are Roman Catholic

Student Conduct & Non-Disclosure Policy

Any student on track to graduate in good standing receives the full and unqualified endorsement of the faculty and administration. Providence Academy faculty and staff do not generally disclose an admission candidate’s past disciplinary consequences short of expulsion—including detentions and suspensions. We expect our students to disclose their disciplinary history when it is required of them in college or scholarship application processes.

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Upper School Curriculum

Providence Academy utilizes an independently designed curriculum. Students share core courses in English, History, and Religion in common for all four years, assuring a solid formation and shared engagement with ideas and texts. Beginning in the 2017-18 academic year, the Upper School implemented Quo Vadis-Pathways toward Graduation. Under Quo Vadis, students have the opportunity to choose between college preparatory and honors pathways in all disciplines, allowing them to customize a program to suit their individual talents, abilities, and interests.

- Honors courses are currently offered in Mathematics, Sciences, World Language, Fine and Performing Arts, as well as core courses in English, History and Religion (*the curriculum chart on the facing page indicates only those course offerings which were available to the Class of 2019*)
- With an “embedded honors” approach in English, Religion, History, Spanish and French courses, students at both the honors and college preparatory levels share the same classroom
- Students are required to complete three years of a world language, including at least two consecutive years in the same language
- Honors course placements are application-based and determined by the academic department chairs
- Advance College Credit (ACC) courses are offered through the University of Minnesota and Benedictine College. Courses noted with “ACC” on the transcript are equivalent to honors or advanced level courses
- Students have the opportunity to graduate with Latin Honors, qualifying on the basis of cumulative GPA, credit total, and rigor of curriculum

Curriculum Notes & Distinctive Programs

Advanced Placement - In keeping with the independent and intentional nature of our curriculum content, 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, Art, and World Language courses in preparing for the corresponding AP exams.

Religion - Required all four years and demanding serious and scholarly engagement with Scripture and primary source texts in literature, philosophy and theology, Religion courses feature the same academic demands as other required disciplines. Authors studied in religion courses include Aquinas, Aristotle, Augustine, A. Bloom, Boethius, Gandhi, Garrigou-Lagrange, and Tolstoy.

Testing Data

2016-2018 Advanced Placement Exam Results

Total administered: 334 exams
Exams scored at 3 or above (*pass rate*): 84%
Exams scored at 4 or above: 48%
Total AP Scholars: 48 students

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

Class of 2017 - 13%
Class of 2018 - 8%
Class of 2019 - 11%

ACT Scoring, Classes of 2017-2019

Mid 50% Composite Score Range: 26-32
Composite Score Mean: 28.3

SAT Scoring, Classes of 2017-2019

Mid 50% SAT Score Range: 1200-1410
Mid 50% Revised SAT EBRW Score Range: 610-710
Mid 50% Revised SAT M Score Range: 600-720

Soil Application Research Project (SARP) - SARP students contribute to a professional scientific research project by engaging in experimental design, implementation, data collection and analysis, and the preparation of high quality written summaries of findings. Students participate during the summers, as a club involvement, and/or by enrolling in Advanced Biology or Environmental Science Research.

Robotics and Engineering - Students can deepen the skills learned in math and science through participation in FIRST Robotics. Veteran robotics members also lead the middle school’s FIRST Tech Challenge team. Two full-year Engineering electives introduce students to design thinking, programming, and a fully equipped metal shop.

Visual Art - While pursued as electives, PA’s visual art courses provide intensive training in drawing techniques and the sophisticated development of ideas in all artistic media. Seniors taking Studio Art Honors are required to create a portfolio of quality and breadth and to register for the AP Studio Art exam (Drawing or 2-D Design).

Performing Arts - Students in the music and theater programs may enroll in their arts courses at the honors level based on audition, expanded participation, and success at MSHSL contests. The audition-based Chamber Choir is among a small number of school choirs selected to perform at the annual conventions of both the American Choral Directors North Central/Central Division and the Minnesota Music Educators Association.

Providence Academy Curriculum for the Class of 2019

| | Grade 9 | Grade 10 | Grade 11 | Grade 12 | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| English *Honors first introduced in 2017-2018* | British Literature | American Literature | Classical Literature <i>Classical Literature Honors</i> | Senior English Seminar <i>Senior English Seminar Honors</i> | |
| History *Honors first introduced in 2018-2019* | Ancient, Classical, and Medieval Worlds | U.S. History I (1492-1877) | U.S. History II (1877-Present) | Modern Western Civilization <i>Modern Western Civilization Honors</i> | |
| Religion | Introduction to the Creed | Moral Theology | Elements of the Christian Life <i>Elements of the Christian Life Honors / ACC</i> | Reason & Revelation <i>Reason & Revelation Honors / ACC</i> | |
| Science (see Note 1) | Chemistry <i>Chemistry Honors</i> Introductory Earth Science | 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> | |
| Mathematics | Algebra I, <i>Algebra I Honors</i> Algebra II Fundamentals, Structures of Algebra II Algebra II, <i>Algebra II Honors</i> Geometry, Geometry and Trig., <i>Geometry and Trig. Honors</i> Data Analysis | | Pre-Calculus, <i>Pre-Calculus Honors</i> Calculus I, <i>Calculus I Honors</i> Probability & Statistics <i>Calculus II</i> | | |
| World Language (see Note 2) | French I, II, III, IV, <i>French IV Honors, Advanced French</i> Spanish I, II, III, IV, <i>Spanish IV Honors, Spanish IV ACC, Advanced Spanish</i> Latin I, II, III, Latin Poetry, Latin Prose, <i>Latin Poetry ACC, Latin Prose ACC</i> | | | | |
| Electives *Honors Fine Arts first introduced in 2017-2018* | <u>Physical Education</u> General Physical Ed. Team Sports Individual & Dual Sports Introduction to Golf Strength & Conditioning <u>Fine Arts (0.5 cr)</u> Acting Directing | <u>Fine Arts (0.5 cr) cont'd</u> Introduction to Theater Photography I, II <u>Fine Arts (1.0 cr)</u> Academy Chorale <i>Chamber Choir Honors</i> Music Consortium <i>Music Consortium Honors</i> Publications | <u>Fine Arts (1.0 cr) cont'd</u> Studio Art I, II, III, IV <i>Studio Art Honors</i> Symphonic Band <i>Symphonic Band Honors</i> <i>Theater & Acting Honors</i> <i>Thtr & Directing Honors</i> | <u>Electives (0.5 cr)</u> Biotechnology Critical Thinking Skills Current Events Debate I, II Env. Sci. Research I, II Foods & Nutrition I, II History of Western Art Philosophy | <u>Electives (1.0 cr)</u> Computer Science Economics/Accounting Journalism Prin. of Engineering I, II |

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

Note 1: The standard science sequence begins with Chemistry in Grade 9. Alternative sequences are possible based on year of PA entry and student scheduling needs. Students may complete Introductory Earth Science in Grade 9 if their mathematics placement requires a delay before enrolling in Chemistry.

Note 2: Latin Poetry and Latin Prose are distinct courses in content and rigor from Latin Poetry ACC and Latin Prose ACC. Students who complete Latin Poetry or Prose and later enroll in the similarly named Advance College Credit 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 - This graduation requirement for seniors entails the research, preparation, and delivery of a senior speech before a panel of faculty judges and an assembly of the junior and senior classes.

Online Learning Options - PA offers accredited, NCAA-approved online elective courses through Virtual Schools of Excellence. For online courses to earn credit and appear on the PA transcript, formal assessments must be completed on campus and proctored by a PA faculty or staff member. Online courses expand the PA curriculum to include subjects such as Criminology, Psychology, Marketing, Finance, Medical Terminology and more.

Providence Academy College Acceptances and Matriculation, Classes of 2016-2018

Acceptances in regular text/**Matriculations in bold**

Adelphi University
 Adrian College
 American Musical and Dramatic Academy
 Arizona State University (Barrett Honors College)
 Auburn University
Augsburg University
 Augustana University (SD)
 Ave Maria University
Babson College
Baylor University
 Belmont Abbey College
 Belmont University
Bemidji State University
Benedictine College
Bethel University (MN)
Boston College
 Boston University
 Bowling Green State University
 Bradley University
 Brown University
 Bucknell University
 Butler University
 Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
 Carroll College (MT)
Carthage College
 Case Western Reserve University
 Catholic University of America
Chapman University
 Christendom College
Clemson University
 College of Charleston
College of the Holy Cross
College of Saint Benedict
 College of St. Scholastica
College of William & Mary
 Colorado Mesa University
Colorado School of Mines
 Colorado State University
 Columbia College, Chicago
Columbia University
Concordia College (MN)
 Concordia University, Seward (NE)
 Concordia University, Wisconsin
 Cornell College
 Cornell University
Creighton University
 Dartmouth College
 Davidson College
 Denison University
 DePaul University
 Drake University
 Drexel University
 Duquesne University
Ellsworth Community College (IA)
Elon University
 Emory University
 Fordham University
Franciscan University of Steubenville
 Furman University
 George Mason University
George Washington University
 Georgia Institute of Technology
 Gustavus Adolphus College
 Hamline University
Harvard University
 Hawaii Pacific University
High Point University
Hillsdale College
 Hofstra University
 Illinois Institute of Technology
 Illinois Wesleyan University
Indiana University, Bloomington
Iowa State University
 James Madison University
John Carroll University
 Johns Hopkins University
 Kent State University

Lafayette College
Lake Forest College
Lawrence University
Liberty University
 Loras College
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University, Chicago
Luther College
 Lynn University
 Macalester College
Marist College
 Marquette University
 Marymount California University
 Marymount Manhattan College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Miami University, Oxford
 Michigan State University
 Michigan Technological University
 Minnesota State University, Mankato
 Minnesota State University, Moorhead
Minot State University
 Montana Tech of the University of Montana
Montana State University, Bozeman
 Nebraska Wesleyan University
 New Mexico State University
New York University
 Niagara University
 North Carolina State University
North Dakota State College of Science
North Dakota State University
 North Park University
 Northeastern University
Northwestern University
 Northern Arizona University
 Norwich University
 Oakwood University
 Oregon State University
Pace University
Pepperdine University
 Philadelphia University
 Point Park University
 Pomona College
 Pratt Institute
Princeton University
 Providence College
 Purchase College, State University of New York
Purdue University
 Queen Mary University of London (UK)
 Regis University (CO)
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 Rhodes College
 Rice University
Rochester Institute of Technology
 Rollins College
 Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
 Royal Holloway, University of London (UK)
 Rutgers University
Saint John's University (MN)
Saint Louis University
 Saint Mary's College (IN)
Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
 Salve Regina University
San Diego State University
Santa Clara University
 Seattle Pacific University
Seattle University
 Seton Hall University
 Southern Methodist University
St. Catherine University-St. Paul
 St. Cloud State University
 St. Edward's University
 St. Mary's University, Twickenham, London (UK)
St. Norbert College
St. Olaf College
 Swarthmore College
 Syracuse University
 Texas A&M University
Texas Christian University
 Texas Tech University
 Trinity University

Tulane University
 United States Military Academy
University of Alabama
 University of Arizona
 University of the Arts
University of British Columbia
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, San Diego
 University of California, Santa Barbara
 University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati
 University of Colorado, Boulder
 University of Connecticut
University of Dallas
University of Dayton
University of Denver
University of Houston
University of Iowa
 University of Kansas
University of Mary
 University of Massachusetts, Boston
 University of Memphis
 University of Miami (FL)
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota, Duluth
 University of Minnesota, Morris
 University of Minnesota, Rochester
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
 University of Missouri, Columbia
 University of Montana, Missoula
University of Nebraska, Lincoln
University of North Dakota
 University of Northern Iowa
University of Notre Dame
 University of Pennsylvania
 University of Portland
 University of Puget Sound
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
 University of San Diego
 University of San Francisco
 University of Sioux Falls
 University of South Carolina
 University of St. Andrews (UK)
University of St. Thomas (MN)
University of Southern California
University of Surrey (UK)
 University of Tampa
University of Texas, Austin
 University of Tulsa
 University of Utah
 University of Virginia
 University of Washington
University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire
 University of Wisconsin, La Crosse
University of Wisconsin, Madison
 University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
 University of Wisconsin, River Falls
 University of Wisconsin, Whitewater
Valparaiso University
Vanderbilt University
Villanova University
 Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
 Viterbo University
 Wake Forest University
 Walla Walla University
 Wartburg College
 Washington and Lee University
 Washington State University
Washington University in St. Louis
 Westminster College
Westmont College
 Wheaton College (IL)
 Wheaton College (MA)
Winona State University
Wofford College
 Worcester Polytechnic Institute
 Xavier University (OH)
Yale University