



**University of Chicago
Laboratory Schools
High School**

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Laboratory Schools are home to the youngest members of the University of Chicago's academic community. We ignite and nurture an enduring spirit of scholarship, curiosity, creativity, and confidence. We value learning experientially, exhibiting kindness, and honoring diversity.

SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY

In 1896, shortly after the University of Chicago was founded, Professor John Dewey established the University of Chicago Laboratory Schools to explore and implement his progressive theories on childhood education. Our **2,188 students** in nursery through high school continue to benefit from his vision and principles.

U-High students have access to unmatched resources because of the Schools' connection with the University of Chicago. They also have full access to and are taught to use the University's vast library resources. University faculty—scientists, physicians, public policy experts, economists, historians—routinely visit U-High classes.

More than half of our families are affiliated with the University of Chicago. The remaining families come from all over the city of Chicago, the suburbs, and northern Indiana. Families who choose to send their children to U-High care deeply about curiosity, inquiry, and creativity.

GRADING AND ACADEMIC CALENDAR

U-High uses a **4.0 unweighted grading scale** with no class rank calculated. The school year is divided into two semesters. Evaluations are given at the end of each term. All credit-bearing courses are included in the cumulative GPA, including PE, art, drama, music, computer science, and journalism. U-High does not track students academically; any student may take any class if prerequisites are met.

Students receive a letter grade (A, B, C, D, or F). A grade of D- is a passing grade. Plusses and minuses (+ and -) appear on the U-High transcript with grades in courses and are used in calculating the GPA. The GPA scale is noted on the transcript. U-High does not use a block schedule. Grades for the fall and spring semesters are available in mid-February, and mid-June.

Only courses taken at U-High are listed on the transcript and included in the GPA. Other relevant transcripts are sent as attachments to the student's U-High transcript, including courses taken at the University of Chicago. A note is added to the U-High transcript if external credits are used toward U-High graduation requirements for transfer students.

GRADE DISTRIBUTION

As of the end of their junior year, the GPA range for the Class of 2020 is 4.0 to 2.7.

The median GPA is 3.7 and the average GPA is 3.7.

	MEAN			MIDDLE 50%		
	class of 2019	class of 2018	class of 2017	class of 2019	class of 2018	class of 2017
SAT						
EBRW/CR	699	720	740	670-750	680-750	680-760
Math	720	740	730	670-790	680-790	690-790
ACT						
English	32.3	32.8	32.2	31-35	31-36	30-35
Math	31	31.2	31.2	28-35	28-35	29-35
Reading	32	32.7	31.7	30-35	32-35	30-35
Science Reasoning	30.5	30.8	30.5	27-34	28-35	27-34
Composite	31.3	31.8	31.2	29-34	30-34	29-34

RIGOR AT U-HIGH

All academic courses at U-High are college preparatory and should be considered equivalent to honors-level courses. Most rigorous courses are noted by AP® or AT (Advanced Topics) on the transcript, but are not weighted in the GPA calculation. Students taking the courses in our English, History and Science Departments are well prepared for AP® exams. There is no limit set for the number of AP®/AT courses a student may take. Departments determine prerequisites for enrollment into any particular AP® or AT course. Students who take AP® courses are not required to sit for the AP® exam. Our AP® Statistics class is a full-year course and is a rigorous experience.

AP® COURSES

Calculus AB
 Calculus BC
 Chinese
 Computer Science
 French
 German
 Spanish
 Statistics
 Drawing
 2D Art & Design

AT COURSES

African American History
 Biology
 Chemistry
 Economics
 Modern European History
 Physics I
 Physics II
 US History
 World History

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

4 years

English

3 years

History

Early World United States
 Modern World or European

Science

Biology Chemistry
 Third year of any science

Mathematics

Physical Education

2 years

World Language

Two consecutive years of the same language

1 year

Computer Science

One year for a half credit

Music

Fine Arts

Service Learning

40 hours & reflection papers

CO-CURRICULARS

U-High offers a wide variety of activities, clubs, special interest groups, and service organizations. Students are encouraged to become involved, explore their interests, and develop social and leadership skills while being selective; a genuine commitment to one activity is more rewarding than passive membership in several.

Learn more about Lab's [co-curriculars](#) and [athletics](#).

47%
White

19%
Multiracial

20%
Asian/
Asian American

9% Black/
African American

3% Latinx

DEMOGRAPHICS

The Laboratory Schools' student body reflects differences in race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, ability, and socioeconomic status.

2,188 students in 15 grades

621 High School students

53% students of color

48% male

52% female

almost 60 languages spoken in students' homes

POST-GRADUATION

Between 95% and 100% of U-High grads attend four-year colleges immediately after graduation. Some graduates choose to travel, pursue a gap year, or work prior to continuing their education. [Click here](#) for a list of colleges and universities attended by Lab graduates.

VISITING U-HIGH

College representatives may make visit reservations for the fall of each school year using RepVisits at [counselorcommunity.com](#). U-High does not host spring college rep visits.

DISCIPLINE POLICY

Discipline infractions are not noted on the transcript. Serious discipline is reported on college applications by both the student and the college counselor, per the stipulations of the application.

ACCREDITATION

Independent Schools Association of the Central States (ISACS) and North Central Association (NCA)

MEMBERSHIPS

Association of College Counselors in Independent Schools (ACCIS), College Board, the National and Illinois Associations for College Admission Counseling (NACAC and IACAC)