



WESTERN RESERVE ACADEMY 2026-27 SCHOOL PROFILE

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ACCREDITATION

The Association of Boarding
Schools (TABs)

National Association of
Independent Schools (NAIS)

Ohio Department of Education (ODE)

Independent School Association
of the Central States (ISACS)

College Board

National Association for College
Admissions Counseling (NACAC)

Ohio Association for College Admissions
Counseling (OACAC)

Association of College Counselors in
Independent Schools (ACCIS)

ABOUT WESTERN RESERVE ACADEMY

• **200 years of bold beginnings:** Founded in 1826 as the preparatory school for Case Western Reserve University

• **Ohio's #1 college prep boarding and day school:** WRA serves students in grades 9-12 and postgraduate

• **Global, close-knit community:** Boarding and day students live, learn and grow together

• **Limitless ways to thrive:** Personalized pathways curate learning experiences centered around the mind, body and spirit

MISSION & VISION

WRA prepares students to *blaze trails in learning and in life*, equipping young adults with the knowledge, skills and resilience needed to navigate an ever-changing world. This unrivaled educational experience is one *illuminated by tradition, sparked by innovation and energized by joy*. With a culture that values discovery and growth, every student is empowered to reach their fullest potential.

FACTS AT A GLANCE

442 TOTAL STUDENTS	119 STUDENTS IN THE CLASS OF 2027	44% AWARDED FINANCIAL AID	7:1 STUDENT TO TEACHER RATIO	85% FACULTY WITH ADVANCED DEGREES	AVERAGE CLASS SIZE = 12 STUDENTS
	52% FROM OUTSIDE OHIO	37 COUNTRIES	17.4 AVERAGE YEARS TEACHING		
	2/3 BOARDING ; 1/3 DAY	29 STATES	72% FACULTY LIVE ON CAMPUS	10 AVERAGE YEARS TEACHING AT WRA	

PROGRAM AND CALENDAR

Within our semester schedule students will take 7-8 courses per semester following an alternating daily schedule of five, 65-minute classes. Students earn a final grade in their courses every semester, with traditional full-year courses receiving two semester grades annually.

GRADING SYSTEM

WRA employs an A+ through F scale (see transcript). A three-year cumulative unweighted GPA reflects coursework completed at WRA. For students enrolled at WRA for fewer than three years, transcript GPA reflects only WRA coursework. We do not rank students.

REPORTING DISCIPLINE AND STUDENT CHANGES

When asked on college applications, students are expected to self-report discipline infractions if required by the college. If contacted by a college, WRA college counselors will only confirm the accuracy of details and outcome.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

English | 4 credits: Including successful completion of the Reserve Writing Exam (RWE)*

Mathematics | 4 credits: Including one credit at Algebra 2 or higher

Science | 3 credits: Biology, Chemistry and Physics required

Modern & Classical Languages | 2 credits: Including completion of level 3 of a language

Social Science | 3 credits: US History and Government required

Engineering & Applied Sciences | 2 credits: Including Engineering & Fabrication and Health Science & Wellness

Fine & Performing Arts | 2 credits

*The RWE is a 4-hour handwritten analytical essay exam on a contemporary work of short fiction or poetry.

CURRICULAR NOTES & APPLIED LEARNING

COLLEGE LEVEL (CL) COURSES: CL courses are WRA's most rigorous classes and replaced Advanced Placement offerings beginning in 2017 to avoid test-driven instruction. The intellectual discourse in the CL classroom is sophisticated, nuanced, and responsive to a changing world and student curiosity. WRA administers a broad selection of AP exams each spring as many CL courses naturally cover exam material. On average 21% of the school takes AP exams with an average score of 4.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH: WRA offers exceptional opportunities for scientific research. Cancer Immunology 1, 2 and CL courses immerse students in biotechnology methods such as cell culture, protein purification and CRISPR gene editing. Students share their work at the American Association of Immunologists National Conference, where they are the only high school participants. CL Synthetic Biology 1, 2 and 3 explore the intersection of biology, engineering and innovation, culminating in publication-ready designs and presentations at an MIT synthetic biology conference.

THE CENTER FOR HUMANITY, ARTS AND INNOVATION (CHAI): Now under construction, the CHAI is a 16,000-square-foot expansion to WRA's current Knight Fine Arts Center and Wang Makerspace, building upon existing prototyping and fabrication capabilities. Designed around the symbiosis of technology and humanity, the CHAI will broaden established interdisciplinary coursework in artificial intelligence and machine learning, engineering and industrial design, food innovation and sustainability, and the visual and performing arts.

COMPASS: Through Compass, a highly selective program admitting just 12-18 students each year, participants tackle complex, real-world issues while strengthening their leadership, research and presentation skills. Focus areas include Civic & Global Engagement, Science & Technology, Arts & Culture and Entrepreneurship. Students share their research and discoveries through Compass Speaks, a Ted Talk-like format and the Compass Exposition, where guests are invited to explore student-run booths.

MOST RIGOROUS COURSEWORK BY ACADEMIC DEPARTMENT

SOCIAL SCIENCE

CL Art History
CL Eastern Religions
CL Economics
CL Ethics*
CL Journey to the East**
CL Philosophy
CL United States History & Government
CL Western Religions
University of Akron
Economics Research Program

MATHEMATICS

CL Precalculus
CL Statistics
CL Calculus AB
CL Statistics
CL Calculus BC
CL Computer Science
CL Linear Algebra
CL Multivariable Calculus
CL Number Theory
Honors Algebra 2
Honors Precalculus

ENGINEERING & APPLIED SCIENCES

Advanced Technology Practicum
Advanced Technology Teaching Practicum
CL Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning
CL Engineering
CL Compass
CL Robotics & Automation
Engineering Capstone

FINE & PERFORMING ARTS

Advanced Art
Advanced Ceramics 1 & 2
Advanced Dance
Advanced Digital Music Production
Advanced Musical Theater Performance
Advanced Photography
CL Music Theory
Studio Art Concentration

ENGLISH+

CL American Literature & the Free Market Economy
CL Angles in Writing++
CL Artificial Intelligence in Fiction
CL Shakespeare
CL Unplugged Literary Studies

MODERN & CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

CL French Language & Culture 1, 2
CL Latin Literature
CL Mandarin Chinese 2
CL Spanish Spain/Latin America*
Honors French 2, 3
Honors Latin 2, 3
Honors Spanish 2, 3

SCIENCE

Honors Chemistry
Honors Physics
CL Cancer Immunology
CL Chemistry*
CL Microbiology
CL Physics
CL Synthetic Biology 1, 2, 3

^ Any course not listed above is considered College Prep-level

* Students currently taking these courses have the option to enroll in the Kenyon Academic Program (KAP) to earn college credit

**Offered every other year

+ CL English options only open to seniors/PGs who meet pre-requisite requirements

++ Offered second semester only; eligible students enrolled based upon selection criteria

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE SAMPLING

Members of the Class of 2026 earned admission to a total of 259 schools including:

Amherst College
Boston University
California Institute of Technology
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Columbia University
Cornell University
Duke University

Emory University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Howard University
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
King's College London
McGill University
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

University of Michigan
New York University
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Northwestern University
Ohio State University
University of Pennsylvania
Pomona College
Princeton University
Purdue University

Rhode Island School of Design
Stanford University
University of St Andrews
Swarthmore College
Vanderbilt University
Washington University in St. Louis
Williams College
Yale University

STATISTICAL PROFILE

WRA Class of 2026 / 125 students
34 took the ACT / 90 took the SAT

Testing Medians

WRA **ACT: 29**

National **ACT: 19.4**

WRA **SAT: 1330**

National **SAT: 1029**