



# COEUR D'ALENE CHARTER ACADEMY

## 2023-2024 SCHOOL PROFILE



*Dedicated to providing a rigorous, content-rich, college preparatory education for any students who are willing to accept the challenge.*

The Coeur d'Alene Charter Academy was founded in 1999, with the purpose of providing a tuition-free education comparable to the finest prep schools in the country. In the time since, the Academy has established itself as one of the top schools in the region, serving students in grades 6-12.

Coeur d'Alene is the largest town in northern Idaho, with a population of approximately 60,000. Historically, its economy was based on the logging industry, but in more recent times tourism has taken over as the leading economic force. This focus on tourism has resulted in a high demand for service-sector jobs, while simultaneously driving a marked increase in the cost of living. Students who do not pursue higher education must resign themselves to the prospect of being unable to afford to stay in their hometown.

Prior to the Academy's founding, local residents who wanted a dedicated college-preparatory experience were forced to seek out expensive private schools thirty miles to the west, in Spokane, Washington. The Academy provides a local, and affordable, option of "a rigorous, content-rich college-preparatory education for any students who are willing to accept the challenge" (from the Academy's mission statement).

### ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Graduation requirements at the Academy are highly prescribed to ensure that every graduate has a broad and deep academic base.

#### Requirements:

9<sup>th</sup> grade: *Ancient Literature, Ancient History, Math, Physical Science, Foreign Language*

10<sup>th</sup> grade: *European Literature, European History, Math, Biology, Foreign Language*

11<sup>th</sup> grade: *American Literature (or AP Language and Composition), American History, Math, Chemistry, (third year of Foreign Language highly encouraged)*

12<sup>th</sup> grade: *World Literature (or AP Literature and Composition), US Government, Math (fourth year Foreign Language and Science strongly encouraged)*

In addition to grade-specific requirements, students must take classes in health, economics, communication, and fine arts to total a minimum of 46 semester credits.

The Academy operates on a traditional semester calendar (1 semester=1 credit). Advanced classes include:

Math	Science	English	History	Foreign Language
AP Calculus AB/BC	AP Physics C	AP Literature & Composition	AP Government	AP French
Honors Calculus	AP Chemistry	AP Language & Composition	AP US History	AP Spanish
AP Computer Science	Honors Physics	Honors World Literature	AP European History	Honors French 3
Honors Pre-Calculus	Honors Chemistry	Honors American Literature	Honors US History	Honors Spanish 3
Honors Algebra 2	Honors Biology	Honors European Literature	Honors European History	Independent Study Latin
Honors Geometry	Honors Physical Science	Honors Ancient Literature	Honors Ancient History	Latin 3

### GRADING

Coursework is intended to be unusually challenging. Additionally, the school has committed to combatting the national trend of grade inflation—to "reestablish C as an average grade." In other words, a student with good grades at the Academy has worked very hard, and is prepared to take on the challenge of the most rigorous college courses.

Grade point averages are calculated on a weighted 4-point grading scale. Weighting is used for Honors (4.5) and Advanced Placement (5.0) courses for the purpose of establishing class ranking. Transcripts include both weighted and unweighted GPAs, to provide the clearest picture of a student's achievement. It should be noted that students may take several Honors courses in all grades, but Advanced Placement courses are not generally available until eleventh grade.

Grade System	College Prep	Honors Classes	Advanced Placement	
A	93-100	4.0	4.5	5.0
A-	90-92	3.7	4.2	4.7
B+	87-89	3.3	3.8	4.3
B	83-86	3.0	3.5	4.0
B-	80-82	2.7	3.2	3.7
C+	77-79	2.3	2.8	3.3
C	73-76	2.0	2.5	3.0
C-	70-72	1.7	2.2	2.7
D+	67-69	1.3	1.8	2.3
D	63-66	1.0	1.5	2.0
D-	60-62	0.7	1.2	1.7
F	0-59	0.0	0.0	0.0

## CLASS OF 2024 GPA\* DISTRIBUTION \_\_\_\_\_

*As of August 2023 \*Weighted GPA*

In the Class of 2024, 41 of the 49 students have a cumulative weighted GPA of 3.0 or higher.

## ENROLLMENT \_\_\_\_\_

The 2023-2024 student body includes 49 seniors, 48 juniors, 67 sophomores, and 82 freshmen.

## TEST SCORES \_\_\_\_\_

Two students in the class of 2024 qualified as National Merit Semi-Finalist students and four Commended students.

SAT EXAM SCORES						
	EBRW		MATH		COMPOSITE	
	Charter	State	Charter	State	Charter	State
2019	628	496	651	480	1279	975
2020	**Students unable to test due to Covid-19 pandemic.**					
2021	631	495	641	485	1271	980
2022	648	490	645	473	1294	962
2023	642	504	633	486	1275	991

AP EXAM SCORES	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total AP Students	79	85	82	95	96
Number of Exams	131	160	188	162	205
Number of Tests 3+	61	59	70	82	86
% of Test with 3+	77%	69%	81%	86%	84%

## COLLEGE ATTENDANCE \_\_\_\_\_

Students who choose to attend the Academy do so knowing that they will be held to a high academic standard, and that the workload will be significant. The Academy's commitment to open dialogue and the respectful debate of ideas prepares students to participate actively in their college classes. Graduates report that they feel far better prepared for success in college than peers who attended regular public high schools. Indeed, college completion rate for Academy graduates is over 80%

On average, about 60% of our alumni attend 4-year colleges and 30% attend 2-year colleges after graduation. 94% of our alumni return to college for their second year, and over 80% of those graduate college with a bachelor's degree within 6 years.

## CONTACT INFORMATION \_\_\_\_\_

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## EXTRACURRICULAR \_\_\_\_\_

Academy students' success extends beyond the academic setting. They excel in a long list of extracurricular activities, clubs, sports, volunteer service, and employment.

Our music programs regularly produce a disproportionate number of finalists in state and regional competitions, as do our Speech and Debate and Drama programs. At the prestigious Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival, Academy students earned first place as a group. Twenty-one students qualified for All-State Ensemble, and fourteen qualified as soloists.

Speech and Debate won first place at the Thomas S. Foley Memorial Tournament and won the state championship for two years in a row.

The Academy has long been the only Idaho school to participate in the Model United Nations event in Missoula, Montana, where they consistently win recognition for their excellence.

Our sports teams continue to find success on the field of play. Our women's soccer team has won the state championship six times in the last ten years. Our coach, Stacy Smith was named National Coach of the Year by the United Soccer coaches Organization. Our men's soccer team has only been in existence for four years, and has made it to the state tournament twice, taking third place in their second year.

Our other sports offerings have also been very successful, with individuals in Cross Country, Track, and Tennis placing at state each year.

Although the Academy does not have a service requirement, our students are heavily involved in their community—as volunteers, tutors, and employees. More than one local employer has made the statement that Charter kids are their best workers!

## ACCREDITATION \_\_\_\_\_

The Coeur d'Alene Charter Academy is accredited by Cognia.

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