

"I had peers who valued studying and were models for me in their seriousness about their studies. That formed the foundation for my success in graduate school."

Alumni

Boarding School

Monterey Bay Academy California

Private boarding school on the California coast offering a college-preparatory curriculum with limited Advanced Placement courses and integrated academic support. The campus spans oceanfront land that includes its own private beach and experiential electives tied to the marine environment.



BOARDING



CO-ED



SPORTS



ARTS



STEM



COASTAL

Quick Facts

Founded: 1950

Students: Co-educational

Niche.com Rank: A

Accepting students: Grades 9-12th

Religious Affiliation: Christian

Interview Required? Yes

Diploma Year? Yes

English as Second Language (ESL) support: Yes

Climate: Mild, wet winters and Warm, dry summers

Special Programs: Aviation, Marine Bio, Scuba

Academic Excellence

Monterey Bay Academy delivers a college-preparatory curriculum for grades 9–12. The academic program combines core courses in mathematics, sciences, humanities, and language arts with electives tied to the coastal setting, such as marine biology and aviation. Three Advanced Placement courses are offered, aligned with University of California entrance standards. Teachers provide continual feedback, and progress reports are issued regularly. Graduates are prepared for a broad range of four-year colleges, with nearly all seniors accepted annually

Student Accomplishments

- 96% of graduates accepted to four-year colleges and universities.
- Students engage in experiential learning through electives such as marine biology and aviation, integrating real-world application together with academic study.



Recent University Acceptances

- American Musical & Drama Academy
- Baylor University
- Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising
- Long Beach State University
- Rutgers University
- Miami University
- Oxford University
- Ohio State University
- Penn State University
- Pepperdine University
- San Francisco State University
- Santa Clara University
- University of Alaska
- University of Arizona
- University of California – Irvine
- University of California – Santa Barbara
- University of California – Santa Cruz
- University of Connecticut
- University of Illinois
- University of Miami Ohio
- University of North Carolina
- University of Redlands
- University of Washington
- Washington University



Stats

13:1

Student Teacher Ratio

240

Total School Enrollment

96%

University Acceptance Rate

3

AP Classes Offered

16

Countries Represented

30%

International Boarding Students

23

Average ACT Score

1200

Average SAT Score

Campus Facilities

The Monterey Bay Academy campus spans approximately 379 coastal acres with a private beach on Monterey Bay, providing a distinctive setting for both classroom and outdoor learning. Academic facilities support core subjects and electives, including spaces for science and marine studies, arts, and technology. Athletic fields, gymnasiums, and courts support varsity and intramural sports. Students can access the beach and surrounding natural areas for fieldwork, environmental observation, and recreation, integrating the coastal environment into educational experiences.



Residential Life

Boarding at Monterey Bay Academy includes supervised dormitory living with shared rooms and structured routines. Dorms are overseen by full-time deans who provide support and guidance. Students share close living spaces that promote community engagement both in study hours and leisure activities. Dining services provide meals on campus, and boarders participate fully in campus life.

Athletics and Arts

Athletics emphasize both competition and participation with varsity, junior varsity, and intramural options. Teams compete in regional leagues across multiple seasons, and students also enjoy recreational activities that take advantage of the coastal location.

Arts programs support student creativity and performance through coursework and ensemble activities. Students engage in music, visual arts, and drama as part of the academic year.



Lists

Sports: Basketball, Flag Football, Soccer, Softball, Volleyball

Arts: Art, Band, Choral, Drama, Instrumental Ensemble, Music

Languages:
Spanish

AP Courses Offered:
Biology, English Literature and Composition, United States History

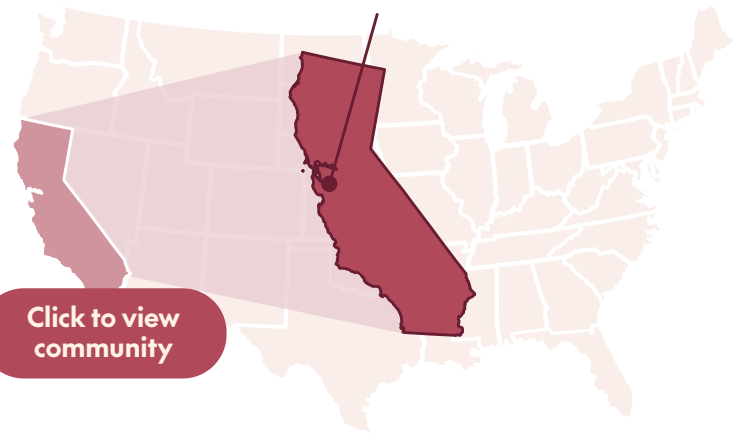
Tech and Innovation courses:
Aviation, Marine Biology

Club and Extracurriculars
Aviation Club, Community Service, Debate, Environmental Club, Marine Biology Club, Robotics, Student Government, Surf and Boogie Board Club, Theater

English language support, academic advising, and structured residential supervision support boarding students from diverse regions.

Community

Monterey Bay Academy is located in La Selva Beach on California's central coast, about 15 miles south of Santa Cruz and within reach of the Bay Area. The area is part of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, providing unique outdoor environments, beaches, and recreational opportunities. San Jose International Airport is the closest major airport, approximately 45 minutes by car.



[Click to view community](#)

Climate in Santa Cruz, California

Mediterranean coastal climate with mild, wet winters and warm, dry summers.



Video
Monterey Bay Academy

