

Private School

"The daily school-wide study hall is beneficial for all students, but especially those involved in extracurricular activities. As a three-sport athlete, I use study halls for valuable study time that is unavailable after school."
Student

Mater Dei Catholic High School

Illinois

Mater Dei Catholic High School offers strong academics, dual-credit partnerships, and a wide selection of AP courses. The school provides a structured, faith-based environment with personalised learning pathways, competitive athletics, and broad opportunities in leadership and the arts

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PRIVATE
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CO-ED
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HEART
LAND
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STEM
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ARTS
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SPORTS

Quick Facts

<p>Founded: 1954</p> <p>Students: Co-educational</p> <p>Climate: Cold winters, Warm summers</p> <p>Total School Enrollment: 430</p> <p>Religion: Catholic</p>	<p>Accepting students: Grades 10-PG</p> <p>Diploma Year offered: No</p> <p>Interview Required? Yes</p> <p>Special Programmes: Dual Credit (Kaskaskia College, Southwestern Illinois College)</p>
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Academic Excellence

Mater Dei offers a comprehensive college-preparatory program with honors, Advanced Placement, and extensive dual-credit opportunities through regional college partnerships. Students can earn significant university credit before graduation, supported by structured academic advising and small class sizes. The curriculum includes advanced coursework across STEM, humanities, business, and fine arts. Faculty members are experienced educators who provide individual guidance, including ACT preparation and personalized college-planning support. Graduates consistently exceed state and national ACT averages and progress to a broad range of 4-year universities across the United States.

Student Accomplishments

- Mater Dei students earn recognition through high ACT performance, academic letters, National Honor Society membership, state-level fine arts awards, and competitive success in athletics.
- Many students graduate with 20–40+ hours of college credit from dual-credit partnerships.
- Students regularly receive merit-based scholarships for academic achievement, leadership, and community involvement.
- The Class of 2025 included eighteen Illinois State Scholars



Recent University Acceptances

- Arizona State University
- Baylor University
- Butler University
- Illinois State University
- Indiana University Bloomington
- Loyola University Chicago
- Marquette University
- Miami University (Ohio)
- Missouri State University
- Saint Louis University
- Southern Illinois University
- University of Colorado Denver
- University of Dayton
- University of Illinois Chicago
- University of Illinois Urbana–Champaign
- University of Iowa
- University of Kansas
- University of Kentucky
- University of Missouri
- University of Wisconsin–Madison



Stats

18 Dual Credit Courses	2 AP Courses	#1 Best High Schools for STEM in Clinton Count	
13:1 Student-Teacher Ratio	40% Students received scholarship or memorial grant	27 Average ACT Score	1280 Average SAT Score

Campus Facilities

The campus includes modern classrooms, science labs, computer labs, and a media center supporting technology-enhanced instruction. Fine arts facilities feature dedicated spaces for band, choir, and visual arts. Athletic resources include a gymnasium, fitness areas, baseball and softball fields, soccer fields, and outdoor practice space. The school provides a chapel and multipurpose areas for assemblies, student organisations, and community events. Facilities are designed to support balanced academic, artistic, and athletic development in a safe and structured environment.

Athletics and Arts

Mater Dei maintains a strong athletic tradition with competitive teams across seasonal sports. Students develop teamwork, discipline, and school spirit while competing in conference and state-level events. Training facilities and coaching support participation for students of all ability levels.

Arts programs support skill development in music, theatre, and visual arts, with performance and exhibition opportunities throughout the year. Students may join choir, band, theatre productions or studio art supported by experienced instructors and designated practice and creative spaces.



Highlights

Sports: Baseball, Basketball, Bowling, Cheerleading, Cross Country, Football, Golf, Soccer, Softball, Track and Field, Volleyball, Wrestling

Arts: Band, Choir, Theatre, Visual Arts, Ceramics, Studio Art, Graphic Design, Music Theory

Advanced Placement courses:
American History, Calculus

Tech and Innovation Courses:
Computer Applications, Computer Science, Digital Media, Engineering Design, Entrepreneurship, Graphic Design, Web Development

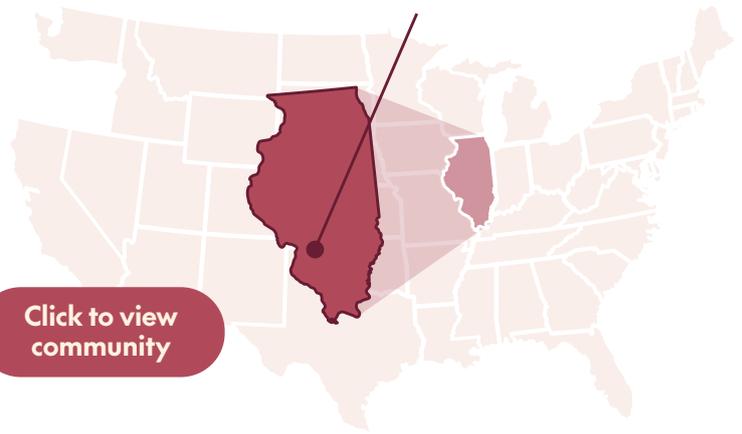
Clubs and Extracurriculars:
Academic Challenge in Engineering and Science (ACES) Team, Art Club, Band (concert, jazz, marching, pep), Bass Fishing, Book Club, Chess Club, Chorus, Color Guard (marching band, winter guard), Fall Play, FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America), FFA, Journalism, Liturgical Music Group, Liturgical Planning Team, Mass Set-Up Crew, National Honor Society (including peer tutors), Pep Club, Scholar Bowl, Sisters in Christ, Spanish Club, Spring Musical, St. Vincent de Paul Society, Student Ambassadors, Student Council, Teens for Life, Yearbook

Languages Offered:
French, German, Spanish

College counselling
Orientation for new students
Ongoing communication with families

Community

Mater Dei is located in Breese, a safe and close-knit community in southern Illinois with easy access to St. Louis, Missouri, approximately 40 miles west. The region offers small-town living with parks, recreation centers, and essential services, while St. Louis provides access to an international airport, major universities, cultural institutions, and professional sports venues. The area's calm environment and proximity to a major city create a balanced setting for study and daily life.



[Click to view community](#)

Climate in Breese, Illinois

Four seasons with cold winters, warm summers, moderate spring and fall temperatures.



Video

Mater Dei Catholic High School

