



"Rigorous and advanced learning environment for my daughter — teachers go above and beyond to personalize the experience and create the opportunities that girls are seeking... Leadership opportunities abound across all interests, preparing these girls for colleges and "real life" in the way few larger schools do."

Parent

Boarding School

Woodlands Academy of the Sacred Heart Illinois

Woodlands Academy of the Sacred Heart is a private, all-girls boarding and day school near Chicago offering the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme, Advanced Placement courses, and a college-preparatory curriculum. The school combines an IB World School framework with a residential experience on a wooded campus close to a major U.S. city.



BOARDING

GIRLS ONLY

SPORTS

ARTS

STEM

CITY

Quick Facts

Founded: 1858

Students: Girls only

School Population: 118

Religious Affiliation: Catholic

Accepting students: Grades 9-11th

University Acceptance Rate: 100%

Interview Required? Yes

Diploma Year? No

English as Second Language (ESL) support: Yes

Climate: Cold winters and Warm summers

Academic Excellence

Woodlands Academy offers a rigorous college-preparatory curriculum anchored by the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme in Grades 11–12, with Advanced Placement and honors courses available across disciplines. The academic program emphasizes analytical writing, research, interdisciplinary thinking, and global perspectives. Faculty members are subject-qualified and experienced in IB instruction, supporting students through structured advising and college counseling. Small class sizes allow close academic support and individualized feedback. Graduates consistently gain admission to four-year universities in the United States and abroad, reflecting strong preparation for selective higher education pathways.

Student Accomplishments

- IB Diploma candidates achieving strong subject results annually
- AP exam participation with consistent pass rates
- Student recognition in regional arts performances and exhibitions
- Athletic teams competing at conference level.



Recent University Acceptances

- Princeton University
- Dartmouth College
- Cornell University
- Duke University
- Northwestern University
- University of Chicago
- University of Notre Dame
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Georgetown University
- Emory University
- Brown University
- Amherst College
- Bowdoin College
- Columbia College
- Wellesley College
- Williams College
- University of Michigan
- University of Virginia
- New York University
- University of Toronto



Stats

5:1

Student Teacher Ratio

100%

University Acceptance Rate

#3

Best Boarding High Schools in Illinois

30

AP Course Offered

#3

Best Catholic High Schools in Illinois

94%

Faculty with Advanced Degrees

30

Average ACT Score

1340

Average SAT Score

Campus Facilities

The campus is set on wooded grounds in Lake Forest and includes academic classrooms, science laboratories, and technology-enabled learning spaces. Facilities support visual and performing arts, with areas for music practice, theater, and studio art. Athletic amenities include indoor and outdoor spaces for team sports and fitness. Residential facilities are integrated into the campus, allowing boarding students to live and study in a structured academic environment close to Chicago.

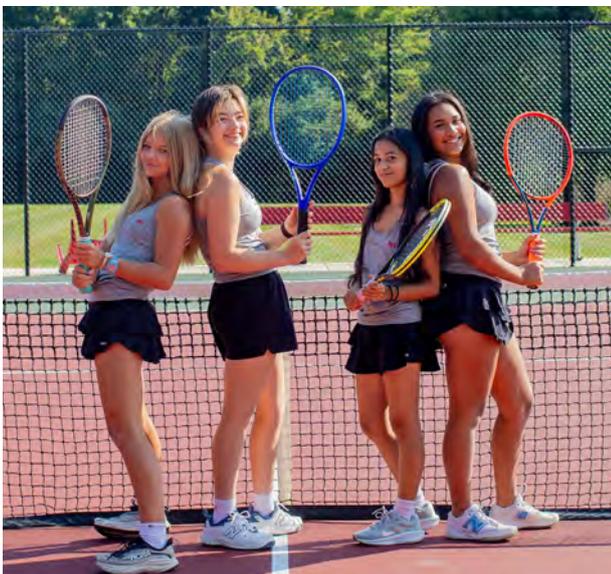
Residential Life

Woodlands Academy offers a full boarding program for students in Grades 9–12. Boarding students live in supervised residences with shared rooms and common study and lounge areas. Daily schedules balance academics, activities, and study time, with meals provided on campus. The boarding community includes students from the United States and multiple international regions, creating a structured residential experience aligned with academic expectations.

Athletics and Arts

Athletics emphasize participation, skill development, and teamwork, with teams competing in regional leagues and supporting student wellness, collaboration, and balanced engagement alongside academic responsibilities.

The arts program supports creative development through performance and studio-based courses integrated into the academic schedule.



Lists

Sports: Basketball, Cross Country, Golf, Soccer, Tennis, Track and Field, Volleyball

Arts: Choir, Dance, Music, Studio Art, Theater, Visual Arts

Languages:
Chinese, French, Latin, Spanish

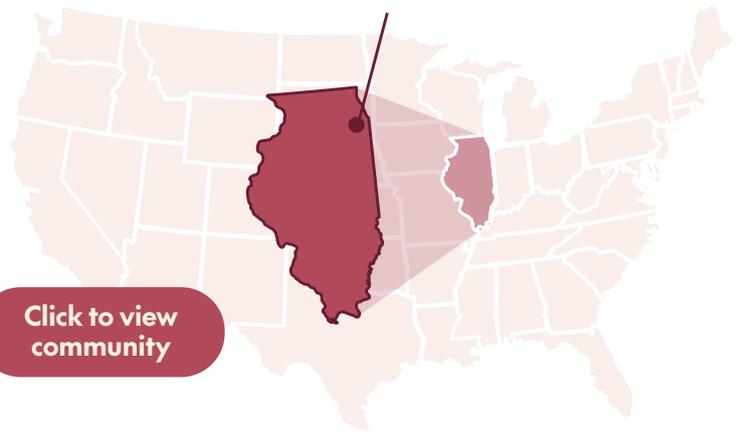
AP Courses Offered:
Art History, Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, Computer Science, English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, Human Geography, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Physics, Psychology, Statistics, U.S. Government and Politics, U.S. History, World History

Tech and Innovation courses:
Computer Science, Digital Media

Club and Extracurriculars
Art Club, Debate, Environmental Club, Model United Nations, National Honor Society, Student Council, Yearbook

Community

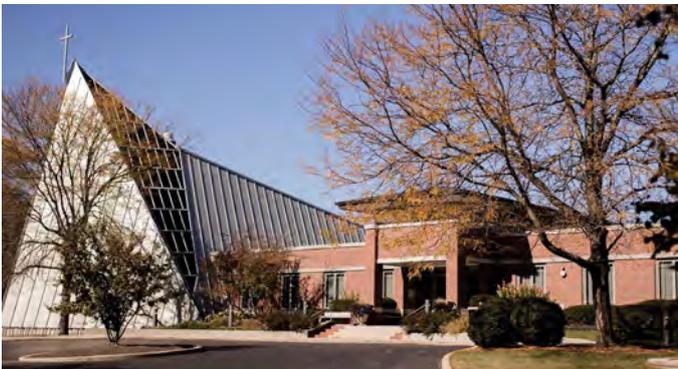
Lake Forest is a suburban community north of Chicago, located along Lake Michigan. The area offers a safe residential setting with access to cultural institutions, universities, and business centers in downtown Chicago, approximately one hour away. Chicago O’Hare International Airport provides global connectivity. The surrounding region includes parks, lakefront access, and local cultural venues that support student life.



[Click to view community](#)

Climate in Lake Forest, Illinois

Four seasons with cold winters and warm summers.



Video

Woodlands Academy of the Sacred Heart

