BALBOA ACADEMY

High School Profile 2026 - 2027

MISSION
Our comprehensive and engaging educational program is dedicated to fostering innovative intellectual growth.

We honor individual differences and diversity, while focusing on the development of the whole child. Our nurturing community inspires students to become responsible global citizens with integrity and compassion.

VISION
Together we cultivate a caring community of lifelong learners, independent thinkers, and builders of a promising future.

OVERVIEW
Balboa Academy is a private, co-educational day school founded in 1999 that provides a college-preparatory education for students from PK3 through Grade 12. The Academy offers a U.S. standards-based curriculum, with English as the language of instruction, and is accredited by Cognia/AdvancED as well as the Panamanian Ministry of Education (MEDUCA). In December 2022, Balboa Academy became a proud member of the Inspired family of premium schools, joining a global network committed to academic excellence, innovation, and holistic education.

The academic year runs from August through June, and current enrollment is 796 students. Our student body is truly international, with 41% Panamanian, 15% U.S., and over 30 other different nationalities represented. This diversity enriches our community with a wide range of cultural perspectives and experiences.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP
Balboa Academy is a member of International Association of College Admissions Counseling, American School Counselor Association, The National Honor Society, The National English Honor Society, The Science National Honor Society and the Association of American Schools in Central American.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT BODY
Currently, there are 287 students enrolled in high school, grades 9-12.

The Senior class number is 83, the Junior class 82, the Sophomore class 69, and the Freshman class 54. All students graduate with the U.S. High School diploma and a Bachiller en Ciencias y Letras from Panama. Ninety-nine percent (99%) of graduates go on to university studies.

CURRICULUM
Balboa Academy offers a college-preparatory program with over 80 high school course options designed to challenge students and prepare them for success in higher education. Our curriculum includes 25 Advanced Placement (AP) courses and 8 PreAP courses, providing students with a wide range of opportunities to engage in rigorous academic study. Enrollment in AP courses depends on the master schedule and approval by the AP teacher.

AP subjects include: Art History, Biology, Calculus AB, Calculus BC, Chemistry, Computer Science Principles, English Language, English Literature, Environmental Science, Human Geography, Physics 1, Pre-Calculus, Psychology, Capstone - Seminar, Capstone - Research, Career - Business, Career - Cybersecuritym Spanish Language, Spanish Literature, Statistics, Studio Art 2D, Studio Art Drawing, U.S. Government, and World History.

Balboa Academy students have demonstrated outstanding results in AP exams. In May 2026, a total of 221 students took 532 AP exams, with 89.59% earning a score of 3 or higher.

AP CAPSTONE DIPLOMA
The AP Capstone Diploma develops students' skills in inquiry, research, collaboration, and academic writing, while complementing the rigor of other AP courses. To earn the diploma, students must pass AP Seminar, AP Research, and at least four additional AP exams.

SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP
Balboa Academy empowers students to become leaders and engaged citizens through meaningful community service and extracurricular opportunities. To graduate, students must complete 80 hours of community service. Our high school student council (DRACO) leads school-wide activities, while more than 45 student-founded and student-led clubs allow students to explore leadership, service, athletics, arts, and personal interests beyond the classroom.

ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Mark Lentz, Director
mlentz@balboa.edu.pa

Mr. Brian Van Mierlo, High School Principal bvanmierlo@balboa.edu.pa

HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Mr. Kemal Taskin, High School College and Social Emotional Counselor
ktaskin@balboa.edu.pa

Ms. Melanie Clare, High School College Counselor mclare@balboa.edu.pa

CEEB#

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UCAS

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HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT SYSTEM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

High school students at Balboa Academy earn dual diplomas, US COGNIA Diploma and Panama's Ministry of Education "Bachiller en Ciencias y Letras". Balboa Academy has a rigorous college preparatory program, which requires students to successfully complete eight semesters of High School attendance and 28 credits are required to graduate. One-half credit is given for the successful completion of each semester of a course. Students enrolled in year-long courses are expected to complete both semesters of the course.

Note: High School students are required to take a full-time schedule of seven courses each academic year. One mathematics Algebra 1 credit may be earned in Middle School.

ENGLISH	4	WORLD LANGUAGES	1
MATHEMATICS	4	FINE & PERFORMING ARTS	1
SCIENCE	4	PRACTICAL & TECHNICAL	1
SOCIAL SCIENCE	4	PHYSICAL EDUCATION &	1
SPANISH	4	ELECTIVES	4

28

TOTAL CREDITS

Panama's Ministry of Education (MEDUCA) requires students the following courses for the "Bachiller en Ciencias y Letras":

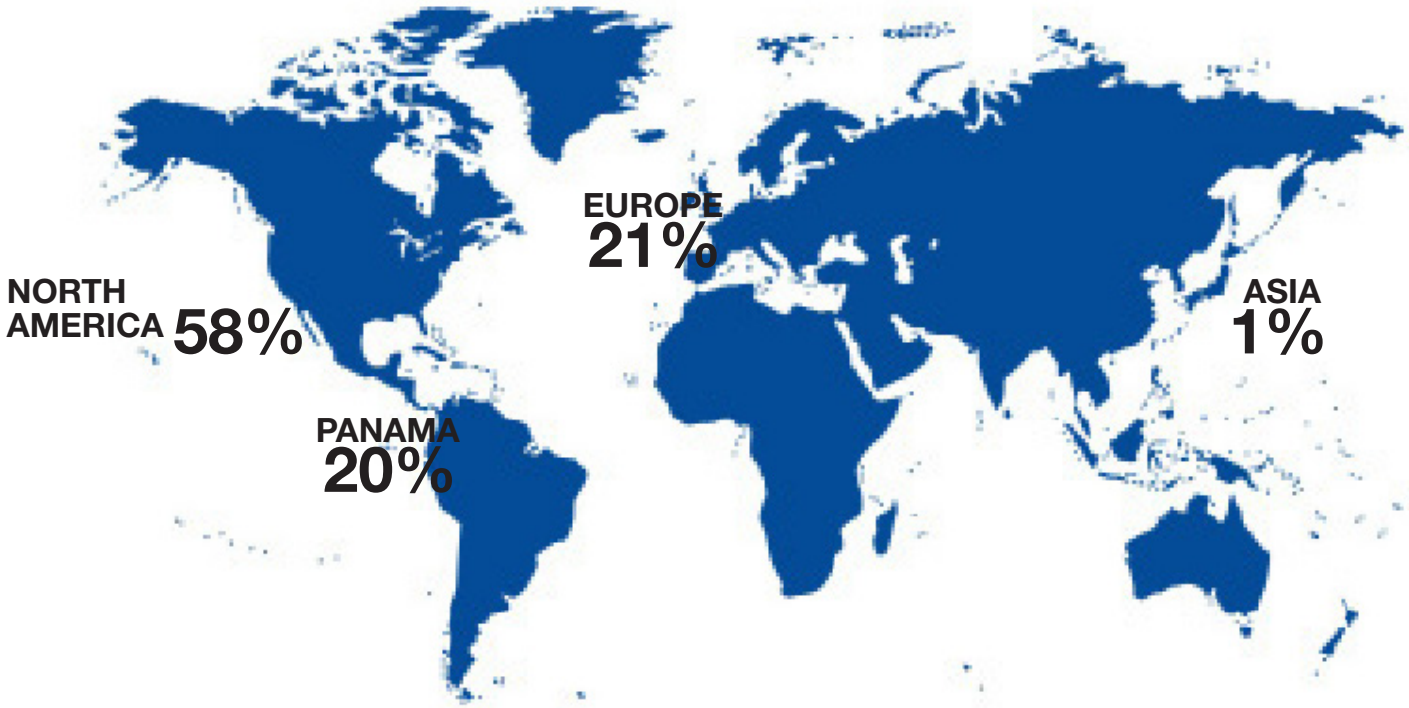
Science - Chemistry and Physics
Social Studies - Civics, Panama History, Latin American Studies, and Philosophy
World Language (Not Spanish or English) - French

STANDARD SECONDARY CURRICULUM BY ACADEMIC AREA

Department	Grade 9	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
English Language Arts (4 credits)	English 9 or PreAP English 1*	English 10 or PreAP English 2*	English 11 or AP English Language	College Writing, AP English Language, or AP English Literature
Spanish Language Arts (4 credits)	Spanish 9, Spanish 9 Honors, or Spanish 1,2,3,4,5 for Non-natives	Spanish 10, Spanish 10 Honors, or Spanish 1,2,3,4,5 for Non-natives	Spanish 11, Spanish 11 Honors, Spanish 1,2,3,4,5 for Non-natives, or AP Spanish Language	Spanish 12, AP Spanish Literature, Spanish 1,2,3,4,5 for Non-natives, or AP Spanish Language
Mathematics (4 credits)	Algebra 1, Geometry, PreAP Geometry & Statistics, Algebra 2, PreAP Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus, or AP Pre-Calculus	Geometry, PreAP Geometry & Statistics, Algebra 2, PreAP Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus, or AP Pre-Calculus, or Calculus	Algebra 2, PreAP Algebra 2, Pre-Calculus, AP Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Statistics & Probabilities, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, or AP Statistics	Pre-Calculus, AP Pre-Calculus, Calculus, Statistics & Probabilities, AP Calculus AB, AP Calculus BC, or AP Statistics
Sciences (4 credits) Panama requires Chemistry and Physics	Biology or Pre AP Biology**	Chemistry or Pre AP Chemistry**, and Physics 1 or Advanced Physics	Physics 1, Advanced Physics, AP Physics 1, Environmental Science, AP Environmental Science, AP Biology, or AP Chemistry	
Social Sciences (4 credits) Panama requires Panama History / Civics and Philosophy / Latin American Studies	US History or AP Human Geography	Modern World History, AP Human Geography, AP Art Hirtory, or AP World History	Philosophy / Latin American History, Panama History / Civics, AP Human Geography, AP World History, AP Art History, AP Psychology, AP US Government*, or AP Comparative Government*	
Fine & Performing Arts (1 credit)	Studio Art, PreAP Visual Arts, HS Music, or Drama		Studio Art, PreAP Visual Arts, HS Music, Drama, AP Art History, AP Art 2D & Design, or AP Drawing	
Technology (1 credit)	Introduction to Robotics, or Advanced Robotics		Introduction to Robotics, Computer Programming, AP Computer Science Principles, AP Cybersecurity and Microsoft Certification.	
Physical Education and Health (0.5 / 0.5 credits)	Physical Education / Health			
Electives (5 credits)		French 1	AP Capstone Seminar, AP Capstone Research Introduction to Economics / Entrepeurneurship, Personal Finance, or AP Career Business with Personal Finance	

* Course offered on alternate years

CLASS OF 2026 MATRICULATION



ADVANCED PLACEMENT EXAM RESULTS

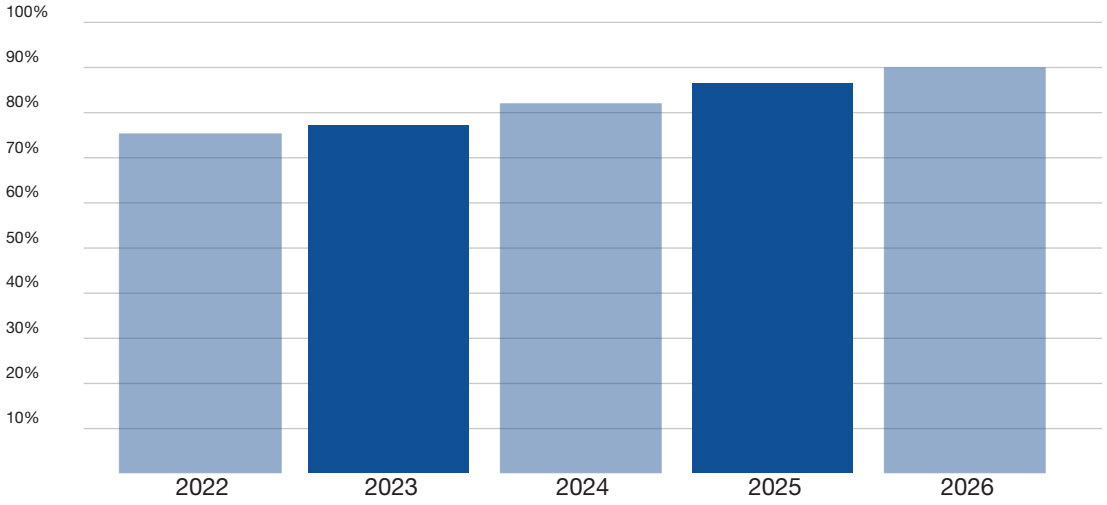
AP HIGHLIGHTS

In 2026, 221 students took a total of 532 AP Exams. 89.59% of our students scored 3+ on at least one AP Exam they took in 2026.

2025 AP Recognitions

AP Scholar	39
AP Scholar with Honors	15
AP Scholar with Distinction	48
AP International Diploma	22
AP Capstone Diploma	08

% OF TOTAL AP STUDENTS WITH SCORES 3+



CLASS OF 2027 DISTRIBUTION

Cumulative weighted GPA range

12 STUDENTS	4.10 or higher	15.18%
7 STUDENTS	4.00 to 4.09	8.86%
33 STUDENTS	3.50 to 3.99	41.77%
21 STUDENTS	3.00 to 3.49	26.58%
6 STUDENTS	Below 3.00	7.59%

GPA AND RANK

Balboa Academy does not rank its students. AP courses receive a 0.5 weighting. As of the graduating class of 2025, honor and advanced courses receive a 0.15 weighting. The cumulative GPA of our students reflects courses taken at Balboa Academy only.

Grade	Percent	Grade Point
A	90-100	4.0
B	80-89	3.0
C	70-79	2.0
D	60-69	1.0
F	59 and below	

COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES, CLASSES OF 2022-2026

Bold indicates 2026 matriculation.

ARGENTINA
Universidad Torcuato Di Tella
Universidad de San Andres

CANADA
Carleton University, Ontario
Concordia University, Montreal
McGill University, Montreal
Queen's University
University of Bristish Colombia, Vancouver
University of Toronto, Ontario
University of Waterloo, Ontario
Western University
Wilfrid Laurier University
York University

COLOMBIA
Universidad EIC
Universidad de los Andes, Bogota
Universidad del Rosario, Bogota

COSTA RICA
Texas Tech University, San Jose

France
Sciences Po, Paris

GERMANY
Jacobs University, Bremen

ITALY
John Cabot University, Rome Instituto
Europeo de Design, Milan Instituto
Marangoni, Milan
Universitá Bocconi, Milan

KOREA
Korea University, Seoul
University of Korea, Seoul

MEXICO
Universidad Anáhuac, Cancún
TEC de Monterrey, Monterrey
Universidad Panamericana, Ciudad de México

THE NETHERLANDS
Eindhoven University of Technology
University College Utrecht
University of Amsterdam
University of Groningen
University of Twente

STATE OF QATAR
Weill Cornell Medicine

REPUBLIC OF PANAMA
ADEN University
Florida State University
Isthmus
Quality Leadership University
Universidad Latina
University of Louisville
Universidad del Arte GANEXA
Universidad de Santander
Universidad Nacional de Panamá
Universidad Santa Maria la Antigua
Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá

REPUBLIC OF CHINA
National Taiwan University, Taipei

SPAIN E
Barcelona
European Business School - Madrid
IE University, Segovia
Saint Louis University - Madrid
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
Universidad Catolica de Murcia
Universidad CEU San Pablo
Universidad de Loyola
Universidad de Navarra
Universidad de Nebrija
Universidad de Sevilla
Universidad Francisco Vittoria
Universidad Jose Camilo Cela
Universidad Pontificis de Comillas
Universidad Europea de Madrid

SWITZERLAND
Ecole Hoteliere de Lausanne International
Management Institute of Switzerland

UNITED KINGDOM
King's College London
Lancaster University
Oxford Brookes University, Oxford
University College London
University of Bath
University of Edinburgh University
of Essex University of Exeter
University of Glasgow University of
Northampton University of
Portsmouth University of
Richmond, London University of St.
Andrews University of the Arts
London

University of Warwick

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Acadia University
Amarillo College
American University
Arizona State University
Babson College
Barnard College
Bates College
Baylor University
Belmont University
Bentley University
Boston College
Boston University
Brandeis University
Brigham Young University
Brown University
California College of the Arts
Carleton College Case
Western Reserve
Catholic University
Chapman University
Clark University
College of William and Mary
Colombia University
Colorado College
Cornell University
Drake University
Duke University
Elon University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Emerson College
Emmanuel College
Emory University Florida
Atlantic University
Florida Institute of Technology
Florida International University
Florida State University
Fordham University George
Mason University
George Washington University
Georgetown University Georgia
Institute of Technology
Gonzaga University
Grinnell College
Harvard University
Haverford College
Hofstra University
Hult International Business School
Indiana University - Bloomington
Iowa State University
James Madison University
John Hopkins University
Johnson and Wales University
Kenyan College Lewis
and Clark Collge
Lipcomb University
Louisiana State University
Loyola Marymount University
Loyola University, Chicago
Loyola University, New Orleans
Lynn University
Macalaster College
Maine Maritime University
Massachusetts Maritime Academy
Miami Dade College
Michigan State University
Michigan Technological University
Middle Tennessee State University
Middlebuty College
Milwaukee School of Engineering
Mississippi College
Mississippi State University
New Mexico Highlands University
New York University
North Carolina State
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
OberlinCollge
Oklahoma State University
Pennsylvania State University
Pitzer College Pratt Institute

Princeton Univesity
Purdue University
Reed College Rensselaer
Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
Rhodes College Rice University
Ringling College of Art and Design
Rochester Institie of Technology
Rollins College

Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Saint Edward's University
Saint Joseph's University
Saint Leo University
Santa Fe Community College Santa
Monica College
Savannah College of Art & Design
Skidmore College
Smith College
Southeast Missouri State University
Southern Methodist University
St. Edwards University
Stanford University
Stetson University
Suffolk University
SUNY Maritime College
SUNY Plattburgh
Swarthmore College
Syracuse University
Texas A&M University, San Antonio
Texas Christian University
Texas State University
Texas Tech University
The Catholic University of America
The New School, New York
The Ohio State University
The University of Texas, Arlington
Trinity University
Tufts University
Tulane University
University of Arizona University of
California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Irvine
University of California, Los Angeles
University of California, San Diego
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Central Missouri
University of Chicago
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado, Boulder
University of Colorado, Denver
University of Connecticut
University of Delaware
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Illinois Urbana / Champaign
University of Iowa
University of Maryland
University of Massachusetts - Lowell
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of Missouri
University of New Hampshire
University of New Mexico
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of Notre Dame
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh
University of Rhode Island
University of Richmond
University of Rochester
University of San Diego
University of San Francisco
University of South Alabama
University of South Florida
University of Southern California
University of Southern Indiana
University of Tampa
University of Tennessee - Knoxville
University of Texas
University of Vermont
University of Victoria
University of Virginia
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin-Madison
Utah State University
Vanderbilt University
Vassar University
Virginia Commonwealth University
Virginia Tech
Washington University in St. Louis
Wesleyan University **Worcester**
Polytechnic Institute