

SCHOOL PROFILE 2021-22



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ABOUT EL CAMINO ACADEMY

El Camino Academy was founded in 1980 by a group of North American missionary parents who desired a U.S.-based curriculum for their children's education. Today, about 85% of our students are from Colombian business and ministry families; the remainder are from foreign missionary and diplomatic families.

ACCREDITATION



HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT BODY

ECA is a comprehensive 4-year high school with 78 students in grades 9-12.

- Seniors 20
- Juniors 16
- Sophomores 18
- Freshmen 24

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

- > Students must complete at least 2 years at ECA, one being the entire senior year.
- > All graduates receive a U.S. high school diploma of international recognition, and all students who meet the requirements earn a Colombian diploma.
- > Since 2012, 95% of our students have received both diplomas.
- > A minimum of 22 credits are needed for the U.S. diploma – 18 required and 4 elective. Requirements for a Colombian diploma are 6 years of core classes.
- > Every student must either complete 80 hours of community service in 11th and 12th grade or 120 hours in 9th-12th grade.

School Calendar

1st semester = August - December
2nd semester = January - June

CURRICULUM

The academic program at ECA is organized on a standard period schedule. The maximum course load is 3.8 credits per semester. Students have eight 45-minute classes daily. The school year has 180 school days starting in early August and finishing early June. Courses range from 0.1 to 0.5 credits per semester, based on the number of periods scheduled per week. Most students take 6 core courses per semester:

Social Studies, Spanish, Science,
Math, English, and Bible

The normal course load for grades 9-12 is 10 courses per semester.

Honors Classes: Offered in English, Math, and Spanish, and sometimes Science and Social Studies

AP Courses: We offer AP Calculus, as well as either AP Literature & Composition or AP Language & Composition classes alternating years. Last year's students scored higher than the national average on their AP exams.

Classes in Spanish: Spanish and select Social Studies classes are the only classes taught in Spanish.

GRADING AND RANKING

ECA ranks only 1st and 2nd place due to small class size.

Letter Grade	Numeric Equivalent	Points	Letter Grade	Numeric Equivalent	Points
A+	98-100%	4.0	C+	77-79%	2.3
A	93-97%	4.0	C	73-76%	2.0
A-	90-92%	3.7	C-	70-72%	1.7
B+	87-89%	3.3	D+	67-69%	1.3
B	83-86%	3.0	D	63-66%	1.0
B-	80-82%	2.7	D-	60-62%	.7
Unweighted GPA Scale			F	0-59%	0

INTERESTING FACTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- > **SABER 11** (Colombian college entrance exam) – In 2012 and 2016, ECA ranked first in the nation for English.
- > 100% of our students are bilingual.
- > 2% of our students are trilingual.
- > **Model United Nations** – Students in grades 9-12 regularly participate in this university-level extracurricular activity. Every other year, our high school organizes an internal Model UN.
- > **National Honor Society** – Our chapter of NHS has been active since 2001.
- > **Service** – ECA offers numerous opportunities to serve; 90% of our students participate in optional service trips over spring break to remote needy areas of Colombia.
- > **¡Vive el español!** – Annually, the entire school celebrates our Colombian culture by performing traditional dances and original dramas.

CLASS OF 2020* SAT

(Middle 50% Score Range)

* Due to closed test centers, very few students in the class of 2021 were able to take the SAT.

Math	570-630
Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	560-640
Overall Scores	1150-1280

STANDARDIZED TESTS

- > **PSAT/SAT** – 10th and 11th graders take the PSAT, 11th and 12th graders take the SAT.
- > **Prueba SABER** – Standardized Colombian test given to all 10th graders in the areas of Spanish, Math, and Science
- > **SABER 11 / ICFES** – Colombian college entrance exam that all Colombian students take
- > **AP Exams** – Students are guided in studying for AP exams.

MATRICULATION: CLASSES OF 2017-21

In the United States

- Asbury College, KY
- California College of the Arts, CA
- Cairn University, PA
- Calvin University, MI
- Case Western University, OH
- Florida State University, FL
- Liberty University, VA
- LeTourneau University, TX
- Missouri State University, MO
- Mount Vernon Nazarene University, OH
- New York University, NY
- Ouachita Baptist University, AR
- Purdue University, IN
- The Master's University, CA
- University of Massachusetts, MA
- University of South Florida, FL
- University of Washington, WA

In Colombia

- Pontificia Universidad Javeriana
- Universidad de la Sabana
- Universidad de los Andes
- Universidad del Bosque
- Universidad del Rosario
- Universidad EAN
- Universidad ICESI
- Universidad Nacional
- Universidad San Buenaventura

Abroad

- HEIP, France
- Istituto Marangoni, Italy
- National Taiwan University, Taiwan
- Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti, Italy
- Sungkyunkwan University, Korea
- Trent University, Canada
- University of Toronto, Canada
- University of Waterloo, Canada

STUDENT SERVICES

Learning Center – Specialized teachers are available to support students who exhibit low academic achievement or behavioral concerns. Support may include individualized or small group instruction, as well as support within the classroom, depending on student needs.

Counseling – Trained Christian psychologists are available for regular or occasional counseling to help students and/or families dealing with difficult social, emotional, or family situations.

CEEB CODE: 925470

ELL Assistance – ELL specialists provide age-appropriate, intensive English instruction and support, individually or in small groups, to bring students up to grade level.

Sports – Soccer is the favorite! In non-COVID times our soccer team competes with neighboring schools, but not in competitive leagues.

HOW COVID-19 HAS IMPACTED US

- > When Bogotá imposed a strict lockdown in mid-March of 2020, ECA quickly pivoted to online instruction. Despite the challenges, teachers finished teaching their curriculums, AP tests were taken, and students successfully completed their school year. ECA used the same grading procedures and standards that the school had before the pandemic with one exception: high school students did not take final exams. For 2nd semester, 3rd and 4th quarters were each weighted at 50% instead of the typical computation method of 40% + 40% + 20% for final exams.

ECA continued to teach virtually during the 1st semester of the 2020-21 school year. In January of 2021, ECA's high school transitioned to a hybrid model blending in-person classes twice a week with online classes three times a week. Students could decide whether or not to be on campus for the hybrid classes depending on their personal circumstances and/or concerns regarding COVID and ongoing national protests. Similar to 2020, ECA decided to forgo both midterm and final exams, and instead opted to weigh each quarter 50%. In May, ECA students successfully took AP exams in six subject areas.

This year, ECA is excited to welcome all students back to campus. The school hopes to continue in person for the remainder of the year.

A note about SAT testing: Very few of this year's seniors have been able to take the SAT. Bogotá's three SAT test centers closed in March 2020, and only one reopened with limited capacity in the spring of 2021. As a result, many of our current seniors are slated to take their first SAT in August or October 2021; however, this is subject to availability and potential COVID-related shutdowns.

October 2021