

CEEB code: 470006
Cognia (NCA CASI)

BASIS Independent Schools are part of a network of private schools which utilize the well-established BASIS curriculum, commonly regarded as the gold standard in preparing students with the content knowledge, critical thinking, and creative problem solving skills needed to be successful in an increasingly complex world. The first BASIS Independent Schools opened in 2014 in Brooklyn, NY and San Jose, CA, with a mission to educate students to the highest international levels through a spiraling liberal arts and sciences curriculum benchmarked to the best education systems in the world. Since then, additional campuses have opened in McLean VA; Manhattan; Fremont, CA; and Bellevue and Bothell, WA. As an example of the strength of the curriculum and aptitude of our students, nearly 25% of BASIS Independent School students across the network were recipients of the National Merit Scholarship in 2025.

BASIS Independent McLean was the third campus to join the BASIS family of independent schools which quickly established some of the very best private schools in the nation. Opened in fall 2016, BASIS Independent McLean serves age 2–grade 12 and provides a rigorous liberal arts program with advanced STEM offerings. BASIS Independent McLean is a vibrant school community in a setting that fuels discovery and connectivity among students, teachers, and ideas. Our 11-acre campus in northern Virginia is situated in Fairfax county, and conveniently located less than 15 miles outside of Washington, DC.

FAST FACTS

HS Enrollment (Grades 9–12): **170**

Faculty with Advanced Degrees: **77%**

Student-to-Faculty Ratio: **6:1** Avg. Class Size: **13**

Number of AP Courses: **26**

Number of Post-AP Courses: **13**

Over **74** student clubs and athletic teams

Recent highlights:

- Boys Middle School Basketball made the championship game.
- BIM Cross-country won our first host meet, which was the first ISSAC league meet since covid.
- We've had tremendous growth in volleyball, both Girl's and Coed.

GRADING POLICY AND GPA CALCULATIONS

Transcripts provide both an unweighted and weighted GPA, and AP® Exam results are incorporated into final grades for AP courses. The unweighted GPA is based on a 4.0 scale, the weighted GPA is computed on a 5.0 scale by adding one point to all Honors and AP courses. We do not rank our students.

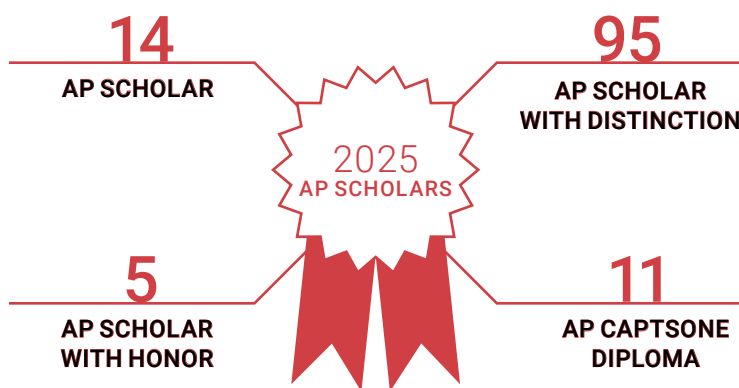
ADVANCED PLACEMENT

Students are prepared to take AP Courses and AP Exams as early as grade 8, and typically take more than the required 4 AP exams. The externally generated and graded AP Exams also count as final exams for AP courses.

- In the 2024–2025 school year, **150** students took **592** AP examinations across **28** AP subject areas
- In total they achieved an average score of **4.5**, with an overall pass rate of **98.7%**

SAT RESULTS (CLASS OF 2026)

SECTION	25TH–75TH PERCENTILE
Evidence-Based Reading and Writing	718–760
Math	750–790
TOTAL	1448–1550



MINIMUM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

SUBJECT	CREDITS	CLASSES
Mathematics	5	Minimum Level of AP Calculus AB
Electives	3.5	Minimum Requirement of two elective credits in PE, .5 credit in Health and one credit in Fine Art
English	4	2 Honors Level: Literature and Language; 2 AP Level or 1 AP Level + Honors Level 10
Science	4	3 Honors Level Courses and Minimum of 1 AP Level Course
History	3	2 AP Level Courses plus one additional Honors or AP Level Course
World Language	3	French, Latin, Mandarin, or Spanish
Economics	0.5	Minimum Requirement

CAPSTONE COURSES

While most of our students fulfill graduation requirements after their Junior year, most stay for Senior year choosing to take capstone courses and graduating with an honors or high honors diploma. Seniors are eligible to take capstones if they have met graduation requirements. **These courses are two trimesters long and have AP courses as pre-requisites;** seniors take one Capstone each in Humanities and Math, and then must take two additional courses in Lab Sciences, Math, Humanities, or World Language.

Students may take AP Research in lieu of Capstone Humanities to fulfill these same goals, if they have previously passed AP Seminar.

These courses provide the opportunity for students to conduct original research, synthesize information, develop skills of critical evaluation and evidence-based writing, and embark on an intensive project requiring college-level motivation.

RECENT CAPSTONE COURSES INCLUDE

Astrophysics

Chinese Cultural Immersion

Data Structures & Advanced Comp Programming

Differential Equations

Food Chemistry

Fourier Series

Historical Leadership

Graph Theory & Topology

Linear Algebra & Multivariable Calc

Lyric Poetry & Music

Science of Disease

Theater Tech & Stage Production

SENIOR PROJECTS

Seniors finish their Capstone courses by the second trimester, and many then opt into a three-month, off-site, independent project that is proposed and constructed by students under the guidance of an internal faculty advisor, as well as an external professional specialist in the field of the student's choosing. Senior Projects illustrate each senior's ability to apply their classroom-based education to experimental research and professional learning.

Irrespective of the student's research location—in a business, art studio, laboratory, charitable organization, or law office—each project goes beyond job shadowing and requires the student to develop and answer a research question, produce a weekly blog, and make public presentations of their findings at the end of the year. Students who have taken AP Research also produce blogs and make presentations.

RECENT SENIOR PROJECTS

- AP Research : Comparing US & South African Immigration Policies
- Flouride : Helpful or Harmful?
- Optimizing Transit Access Equity in the DC Metro Area
- Spectroscopic Drug Detection & the Fight Against Fentanyl
- Enhancing Computational Fluid Dynamics Through Machine Learning Algorithms
- Insulin : How Does the Efficacy Drop as Size Drops?
- Flat Earth v. Connectivity : An Analysis of TikTok Disinformation

To view Senior Project Blogs from the all years, please [click here](#).

To view our Senior Project Program from last year, please [click here](#).

DISCIPLINARY DISCLOSURE

The school reports student disciplinary violations, which resulted in an out-of-school suspension or expulsion when requested during the admissions process. Our students are expected to respond honestly about disciplinary violations prior to their senior year when completing a college application and in the event the violation occurs after submitting the application or enrollment deposit.

2024-2025 COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES *Bold indicates where our seniors will matriculate.*

American University of Paris

Amherst College

Babson College

Carnegie Mellon University

Case Western Reserve University

Colgate University

Denison University

Drexel University

George Mason University

George Washington University

Georgetown University

IE University – Madrid

James Madison University

Johns Hopkins University

Michigan State University

New York University

North Carolina State University

Northeastern University

Northwestern University

Nova Southeastern University

Oberlin College

Ohio State University

Oxford College at Emory University

Penn State University

Pomona College

Purdue University

Rice University

Rensselaer Polytech Institute

Rutgers University

Stanford University

Temple University

Texas A&M University

The College of William & Mary

Trinity College

Union College

University of Alabama

University of Arizona

University of California - Berkeley

University of California - Davis

University of California - Irvine

University of California - San Diego

University of California - Santa Barbara

University of Chicago

University of Colorado – Boulder

University of Florida

University of Glasgow

University of Illinois - Urbana-Champaign

University of Maryland

University of Massachusetts – Amherst

University of Michigan

University of Minnesota

University of Missouri – Kansas City

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

University of Notre Dame

University of Pennsylvania

University of Pittsburgh

University of Rochester

University of Southern California

University of South Carolina

University of Toronto

University of Virginia

Virginia Commonwealth University

Virginia Tech University

Washington University in St Louis

Yale University