



OKLAHOMA SCHOOL of SCIENCE and MATHEMATICS

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2024-2025 Profile for Colleges

About OSSM

Created by legislative action in 1983, the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics began classes in 1990 as Oklahoma's only co-educational, two-year, tuition-free, fully-residential high school for juniors and seniors with exceptional ability in science and mathematics. OSSM is situated in Oklahoma City in the heart of the Innovation District.

The 118 students (46 seniors and 72 juniors) represent 64 high schools in 27 counties throughout the state of Oklahoma. Our students come from a wide range of socio-economic backgrounds. Historically, 100% of our graduating seniors enroll at a four-year college or university directly after graduation. All 23 faculty members hold at least a master's degree; 74% hold a doctorate in their academic teaching discipline.

Our Mission

To educate students who show promise of exceptional academic development through a program of instruction and discovery that challenges them far beyond the traditional high school model, providing a superior foundation for careers in chosen fields.

To serve as a catalyst for advancing public school STEM education in Oklahoma by providing residential, regional, summer, and virtual learning programs that extend advanced science and math education to a diverse student demographic.

To inspire students to make a difference in the State of Oklahoma and the world by leveraging their knowledge and curiosity for the betterment of mankind.

The OSSM Student Population

Demographic	Percentage
Male	61%
Female	39%
Asian	51%
White	32%
Hispanic/Latino	8%
Black	7%
Native American	2%

- ⇒ 16% are from **rural/small school** districts (fewer than 2,500 students).
- ⇒ 16% will be the **1st generation** in their family to attend college.
- ⇒ 18% qualify for **Free/Reduced Lunch**.
- ⇒ Class of 2025 includes 19 National Merit Semifinalists.

Admissions

OSSM is a two-year program of study. Students are admitted to OSSM in their junior year and invited to return for their senior year if they remain in good academic standing.

Admission is competitive and is initiated by written application, which includes essays and faculty and counselor recommendations. Students selected to be semi-finalists are invited to interview with the admission committee.

Student Life

Classes run from 8am to 6pm Monday-Friday.

Students have a **mandatory study hall** Sunday-Thursday evenings from 8pm-10pm.

Extracurriculars

Outside of school hours, OSSM students may participate in a limited selection of student organizations and interest groups, academic competitions, robotics.

Athletics

OSSM students may participate in club rowing as well as intermural sports/floor competitions (volleyball, basketball, pickleball, ultimate frisbee, soccer, flag football).

Academics

Class Schedule

Students follow a **collegiate class schedule**:

Classes meet MWF (50 minutes) or T/TR (75 minutes).

P.E.—Monday-Thursday 4:30 & 5:15

Fine Arts courses—weeknights from 6-7 pm.

Academic Course Load

Students are enrolled in a **minimum of seven** academic courses, fine arts, and physical education each semester. Courses are taught using college textbooks.

Science Labs

Each required science class at OSSM includes a two- or three-hour laboratory session per week.

Physical Education and Writing Lab

In *addition to* the typical seven-course load, all students are required to participate in **physical education** two days a week.

Juniors must attend a **writing lab** course for one hour a week.

Research and Mentorship

Our proximity to the OU Health Sciences Center, the OK Medical Research Foundation, and downtown OKC allows students extensive opportunities for research and internships. OSSM students who are in good academic standing may participate in independent research or mentorships, receiving hands-on experience in their field of interest outside of the classroom.

Mentorships have been a part of the academic program at the Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics since the first graduating class.

Graduation Requirements

All academic courses are highly rigorous and should be classified as **advanced** and/or **accelerated**.

Sixteen units required for graduation
One course = .5 units

Humanities (2 units); *denotes required

- American Literature (11th)*
- US History I & II *or* Modern East Asian History/History of the Modern Middle East if US History taken prior to OSSM(11th)*
- World Literature I & II (12th)*
- History of the Western Tradition I & II (12th)*
- Science Fiction: Literature & Film
- US Foreign Policy
- History of Medicine

Chemistry (1 unit)

- General Chemistry I (w/lab)
- General Chemistry II (w/lab)
- Organic Chemistry I & II (w/lab)
- Biochemistry (w/lab)
- Physical Chemistry

Biology (1 unit)

- General Zoology (w/lab)
- Plant & Soil Science (w/lab)
- Human Anatomy & Physiology (w/lab)
- Introduction to Neuroscience
- Genetics
- Conservation Biology
- Ecology (w/lab)
- Endocrinology
- Biochemistry (w/lab)
- Embryology
- Microbiology
- Environmental Science

Physics (1.5 units), *Denotes required

- General Physics (w/lab)*
- Mechanics (w/lab)*
- Electricity & Magnetism (w/lab)*
- Modern Physics I & II
- Robotics Engineering
- Exploration Geoscience
- Thermal Physics Waves and Optics
- Theoretical Physics
- Electronic Circuits

Service Hours

Students are required to complete **60** hours of community service and **60** hours of school service to graduate.

Mathematics (2 units):

Placement determined by exam

*denotes required;

- Pre-Calculus I/II/III
- Calculus I/II*
- Probability & Statistics
- Multivariate Calculus
- Linear Algebra
- Real Analysis
- Complex Analysis
- Number Theory
- Differential Equations
- Special Topics

Computer Science (.5 units)

- Intro to Computer Science
- Object-Oriented Programming w/Java
- Data Structures I & II
- Computer Architecture
- Computer Networking

Foreign Language

(2 units of same language taken at OSSM)

Languages offered:

- Chinese
- French
- German
- Japanese
- Latin
- Spanish

Fine Arts (1 unit)

Offerings vary—music, dance, visual arts, creative writing.

Directed Studies

Directed Studies courses regularly include topics in Computer Science, Engineering, Literature, History, and Modern Politics.

Most Directed Studies receive P/F grades and do not count towards graduation requirements.

Some exceptions occur.

Academics

GPA and Class Ranking

Because of our diverse demographics with students coming from various schools/academic backgrounds,

OSSM does not rank students.

The academic culture encourages students to take academic risks and challenge themselves; as a result,

OSSM does not calculate a cumulative grade point average.

Standardized Testing

Classes of 2024-2025 (Spring 2024)

ACT	Mean	Students Tested
English	30.1	
Math	28.9	
Reading	30.0	
Science	28.6	
Composite	29.5	81

SAT	Mean	Students Tested
EBRW	707	
Mathematics	722	
Composite	1420	15

Advanced Placement (AP)

OSSM does **not offer AP courses**; however, OSSM students take AP exams each spring.

In May 2024, 67 students took 183 AP exams; 68% of the AP Exams earned scores of 3 or higher.

15 AP Scholars

6 AP Scholars with Honor

17 AP Scholars with Distinction

Grading Information

The academic year is comprised of two semesters. Progress reports are given at 6 and 12 weeks. Final grades are given after the eighteenth week of each semester.

All students are required to sit for a comprehensive three-hour final in each course.

Due to the rigor of our courses, we suggest the following grading scale be used to evaluate a student's coursework:

87 -100 = A

77 - 86 = B

70 - 76 = C

< 70 = No credit received

Students receive a **Pass (P)** for Physical Education, Fine Arts and Directed Studies.

Grade Data (Fall/Spring 2024)

Courses with 20+ students enrolled	Median Final Grade	St Dev	# Students
Anatomy & Physiology	89	6	36
General Chemistry I	86	7	48
General Chemistry II	85	8	51
Intro to Computer Science	91	4	35
Object-Oriented Programming	91	7	23
American Literature I/II	90/89	6/7	49
World Literature I/II	96/95	3/3	44
Hist. West. Tradition I /II	85/88	9/8	44
US History I /II	94/91	5/6	39
Calculus I	84	9.0	31
Calculus II	83	8.8	26
Linear Algebra	90	6.7	20
Electricity and Magnetism	82	8	44
General Physics	85	7	51
Mechanics	86	7	56

OSSM 5-Year College Matriculation

Arizona State University
Barnard College
Bates College
Belmont University
Boston University
Bowdoin College
Brandeis University
Brown University
California Institute of Technology
Campbell University
Carleton College
Carnegie Mellon University
Case Western Reserve University
Colby College
Colorado School of Mines
Columbia University
Cornell University
Dartmouth College
Duke University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
Emory University
Emory University-Oxford College
Evangel University
Florida State University
Fordham University
Georgetown University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Grinnell College
Hamilton College
Harvard University
Hendrix College
Howard University
Illinois Institute of Technology
Johns Hopkins University
Knox College
Lehigh University
Loyola University Chicago
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Michigan Technological University
Missouri Southern State University
Missouri University of Science and Technology
New York University
Northeastern University
Northwestern University
Oklahoma City University

Oklahoma State University
Oral Roberts University
Princeton University
Purdue University
Reed College
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhodes College
Rice University
Rochester Institute of Technology
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
Saint Louis University
Stanford University
Stony Brook University
Texas A & M University
Texas Tech University
The George Washington University
The University of Alabama
The University of Texas at Austin
The University of Texas at Dallas
Trinity University
Tulane University of Louisiana
United States Air Force Academy
United States Merchant Marine Academy
University of California-Berkeley
University of California-Irvine
University of California-Los Angeles
University of Central Oklahoma
University of Chicago
University of Colorado Boulder
University of Delaware
University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
University of Missouri-Kansas City
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
University of Notre Dame
University of Oklahoma
University of Pennsylvania
University of Portland
University of Rochester
University of Southern California
University of Tulsa
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin
Vanderbilt University
Washington University in St Louis
Yale University
