



# The American College of Sofia

## School Profile 2023-2024

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**Our School:** The American College of Sofia (ACS) is **the oldest American educational institution outside the U.S.** Founded in 1860, the College was closed in 1942 and re-opened in 1992. **School Mission:** ACS integrates the values and best practices of American pedagogy with the rich educational traditions of Bulgaria and Europe. We seek to develop critical thinking, lifelong intellectual curiosity, leadership, and collaboration among multi-talented students of various social, cultural, economic, and geographic backgrounds.

P.O. Box 873, 1000 Sofia, **Bulgaria**  
Floyd Black Lane | Mladost 2, 1799  
Sofia | Bulgaria

### Our Grading Scale:

<b>Excellent 6</b> 100% - 91.5%	<b>Very Good 5</b> 91.4% - 80.5%	<b>Good 4</b> 80.4%- 70.5%	<b>Passing 3</b> 70.4%- 59.5%	<b>Failing 2</b> 59.4% - 0%
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**953**  
Students

**37**  
International Students

**3222**  
Alumni since 1997

**Our Students:** ACS is home to 953 students, Grades 8-12. Admission exam invitations are extended to candidates with 5.00 GPA and above (21% of candidates held a 6.00 GPA in 2023; the mid 50% held a GPA of 5.50-5.93). **Admission is then offered based on admission exam rank. The acceptance rate is 35% (the top 266 of 755 exam-takers). Yield is 69%.** Bulgarians make up 96% of our students (90% from Sofia, 10% from outside of Sofia) and international students make up 4%, from Columbia, Denmark, France, Greece, India, Israel, Poland, Russia, Spain, Ukraine, UK and the USA. Financial assistance is central to our mission, ensuring diversity within our student body and fostering an inclusive atmosphere at school. 30% of students receive financial aid including 6 per year who receive merit & need-based full scholarships. Tuition for Bulgarian students is 9,120€. Tuition for international students is 20,720€, which includes the IB Diploma Program.

### Classes of 2020-2024 GPA in junior year only



*A high GPA is important, but it is only one aspect of what we consider a meaningful educational experience. At ACS, we focus on developing not only excellent scholars, but also on cultivating the unique talents and curiosities of our students through a strong curricular and co-curricular experience.*

**106**  
Faculty

**40**  
International Faculty

**14**  
Doctoral Degrees

**Our Faculty:** Faculty at ACS are distinguished professionals in their areas of expertise and come from a variety of cultural backgrounds: 14 hold doctoral degrees and 69 hold masters degrees. 40% of the faculty are international. ACS faculty provide a unique and enriching blend of pedagogies to support international and Bulgarian curricula.

**Our Curriculum:** ACS is accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA), the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) and the Bulgarian Ministry of Education and Science, which designated the College an Innovative School in 2017. Instruction at ACS is in English except for other languages and Bulgarian history. The rigorous *college-prep. curriculum* prepares all students for *research-university level of study*. In grades 9 & 10, all courses are required. In grades 11 & 12, Bulgarian students enter the Bulgarian Diploma Program (academic stream) and choose one of the following profiles: Humanities, Foreign Languages, Mathematics & Physics, Software & Hardware Sciences, Natural Sciences or Entrepreneurship. *In each profile, the multiple courses of advanced study are all required.* International students enter the IB Diploma Program and choose 3-4 higher level subjects, including English A Literature, which is required, and 2-3 standard level subjects. **(Please note: Bulgarian students cannot enroll in the IB Diploma at ACS.)** All students create a CAS (Creativity, Action, Service) portfolio yearly representing a minimum of 75 hours of extracurricular activities. Students who complete their ACS classes in one of the above programs and the CAS portfolio requirements also earn an American High School Diploma. Typically, 100% of students earn the American Diploma and the Bulgarian or IB Diploma. The ACS high school diplomas are accepted throughout the EU and around the world.

Member of CIS  
(Council of International Schools)

### Accreditation



### Partnerships

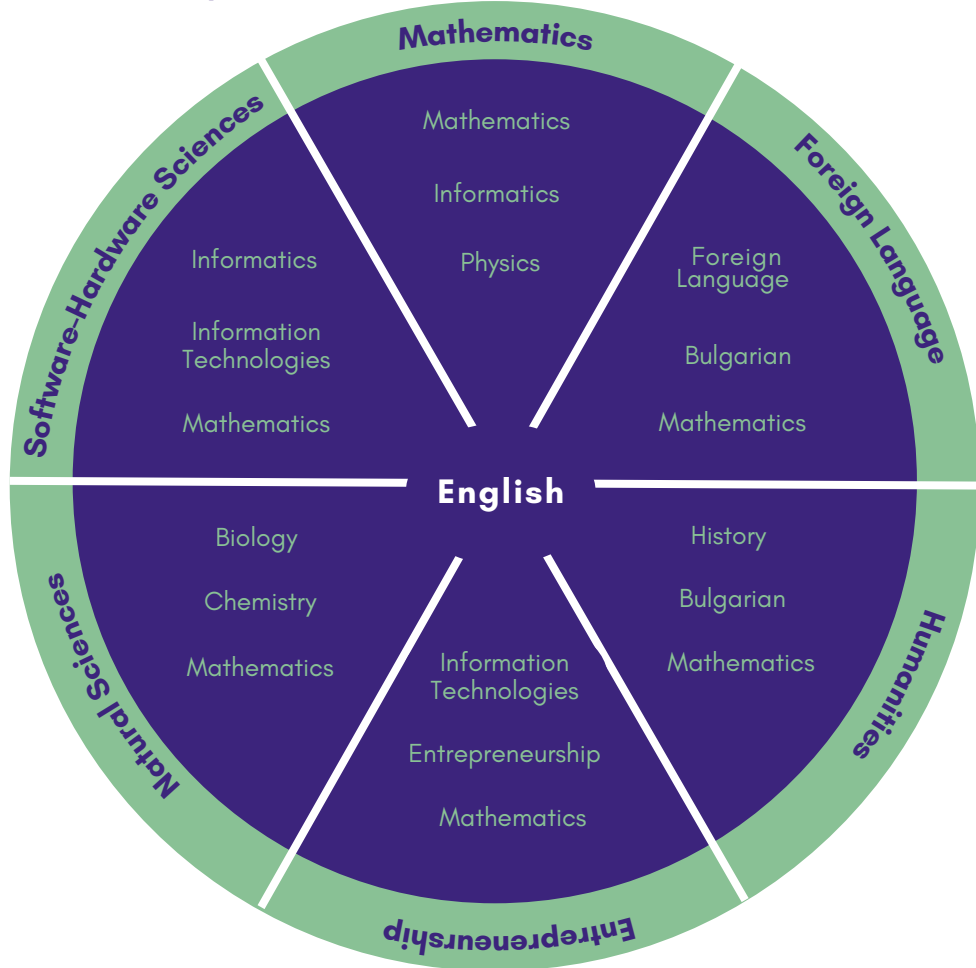


# Diploma Requirements

In Grades 9 & 10, Bulgarian and international students follow almost the same ACS curriculum. In Grades 11 & 12, the Bulgarian students follow the Bulgarian Diploma Program. Only international students can follow the IB Diploma Program. Students earn an American High School Diploma by passing their ACS classes in one of the above programs, and completing their Creativity, Activity & Service (CAS) Portfolios. Typically, 100% of students earn the American Diploma and the Bulgarian or IB Diploma.

## Bulgarian Diploma Profile Subjects for Grades 11 & 12 All profilmourses are at an advanced honors level.

Grades 9-10	Grades 11-12
Bulgarian	<b>Bulgarian Diploma Program</b> Bulgarian English Foreign Languages Civics Mathematics Physical Education <b>Profile Subjects</b> →
English	
Mathematics	
Foreign Language	
Physical Education	
Chemistry	
Biology	
Physics	
History	
Philosophy	
Geography	
Music	
Art	
IT	
<b>CAS Activities and Projects</b>	
English	<b>IB Diploma Program</b> English A Lit. HL (required) Language Acquisition: Ab initio, SL, HL Economics, History; SL,HL Biology, Chemistry; SL,HL Maths AI, AA; SL,HL Theory of Knowledge Extended Essay
Mathematics	
Foreign Language	
Physical Education	
Chemistry	
Biology	
Physics	
History	
Philosophy	
Geography	
Music	
Art	
IT	
Civics	

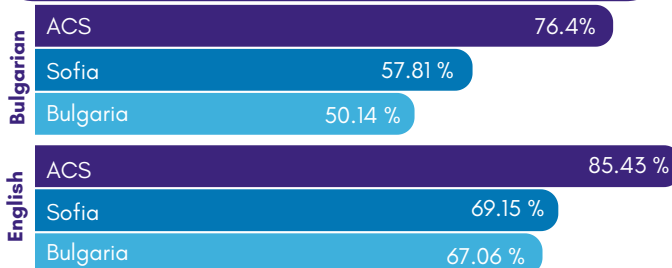


Bulgarian students cannot enroll in the IB Diploma at ACS.

## Standardized Test Scores

### National Exams 2023 Scores Comparison

National Exams (matura) taken by more than 50% of the students in the ACS class of 2023.



### SAT Scores 2022 - 2023

Scores for SATs taken by 102 students in the class of 2024, August 2022-October 2023

	Calculation	EBRW	Mathematics	Total
<b>Highest:</b>	790	800	1590	
<b>Mean:</b>	686	723	1409	

## Extracurricular Highlights

154

Student Clubs

54

Elective Courses

5

Grade Levels

5

Student-Led Annual Events

5

Performing Arts Groups

5

Athletic Teams

1

Floyd H. Black Cup

# College & University Acceptances

On average, 92% of ACS seniors apply to non-Bulgarian colleges and universities each year. ACS students from the classes of 2021, 2022 and 2023 were accepted at the following colleges and universities, often times having been awarded significant scholarship or financial aid from US institutions.

## THE UNITED STATES

Adelphi University  
Amherst College  
Averett University  
Bates College  
Baylor University  
Bentley University  
Boston University  
Brandeis University  
Brown University  
Bryant University  
Bucknell University  
California College of the Arts  
Calif. State Univ. - Los Angeles  
Case Western Reserve University  
Chapman University  
Clark University  
Colby College  
Colgate University  
Columbia College Chicago  
Columbia University  
Connecticut College  
Cornell University  
Dartmouth College  
Davidson College  
Depaul University  
Dickinson College  
Drew University  
Drexel University  
Eckerd College  
Elon University  
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical Univ.  
Emerson College  
Emory University  
Endicott College  
Fairfield University  
Florida Inst. of Tech.  
Fordham University  
Franklin & Marshall College  
George Washington University  
Georgia Tech.  
Grinnell College  
Hamilton College  
Haverford College  
Hofstra University  
Illinois Inst. of Tech.  
Illinois State University  
Indiana University - Bloomington  
Lehigh University  
Loyola University Chicago  
Mercyhurst University  
Michigan State University  
Muhlenberg University  
New York Inst. of Tech.  
New York University  
North Carolina State University  
Northeastern University  
Northwestern University  
Ohio Wesleyan University  
Pace University  
Pomona College  
Pratt Institute  
Princeton University  
Purdue University  
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
Rogers State University  
Rollins College  
Salve Regina University  
San Diego State University  
Seton Hall University  
St. John's University  
Stevens Inst. of Tech.  
Syracuse University  
Temple University  
Trinity College  
Trinity University  
Tulane University  
Union College  
University of California - Berkeley,  
Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles,  
Merced, Riverside, San Diego,  
Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz  
University of Chicago  
University of Delaware  
University of Denver  
University of Evansville  
University of Hawaii

University of Illinois  
University of Miami  
University of Nevada  
University of Oregon  
University of Pennsylvania  
University of Pittsburgh  
University of Puget Sound  
University of Rhode Island  
University of Richmond  
University of Rochester  
University of San Diego  
University of San Francisco  
University of Scranton  
University of South Dakota  
University of South Florida  
University of Southern California  
University of Tampa  
University of Vermont  
University of Virginia  
University of Washington  
Vassar College  
Webster University  
Wellesley College  
Williams College  
Yale University

## US UNIVERSITIES ABROAD

American College of Greece  
AU Bulgaria  
AU Cairo  
AU Rome  
AU Paris  
Bard College Berlin  
Carnegie Mellon University Qatar  
Duke Kunshan University  
Franklin University Switzerland  
John Cabot University  
Northeastern University London  
NYU Abu Dhabi  
NYU Shanghai  
St. Louis University Madrid  
Webster University Vienna  
Yale-NUS

## THE UNITED KINGDOM

Arts University Bournemouth  
Birkbeck University  
Birmingham City University  
Bournemouth University  
Brunel University  
Cardiff University  
City, University of London  
Courtauld Inst. of Art  
Coventry University  
Durham University  
Edinburgh Napier University  
Imperial College  
Keele University  
King's College London  
Kingston University  
Lancaster University  
Leeds Arts University  
Leeds Beckett University  
Leeds Trinity University  
Liverpool Inst. for Performing Arts  
London Metropolitan University  
London School of Economics  
London South Bank University  
Loughborough University  
Middlesex University  
Newcastle University  
New College of the Humanities  
Nottingham Trent University  
Oxford Brookes University  
Queen Mary University  
Robert Gordon University  
Royal Holloway  
St. Mary's University  
Swansea University  
University College London  
University of Aberdeen  
University of Bath  
University of Birmingham  
University of Brighton  
University of Bristol  
University of Cambridge  
University of Central Lancashire  
University of Dundee

University of Edinburgh  
University of Essex  
University of Glasgow  
University of Greenwich  
University of Hertfordshire  
University of Kent  
University of Leeds  
University of Leicester  
University of Liverpool  
University of Manchester  
University of Nottingham  
University of Oxford  
University of Plymouth  
University of Portsmouth  
University of Reading  
University of Roehampton  
University of Sheffield  
University of Southampton  
University of St. Andrews  
University of Strathclyde  
University of Sunderland  
University of Surrey  
University of Sussex  
University of the Arts, London  
University of the West of England  
University of Warwick  
University of West London  
University of Westminster  
University of York

## THE NETHERLANDS

Amsterdam University College  
Amsterdam University Appl. Sci.  
Avans University Applied Sciences  
Breda University of Applied Sciences  
Erasmus University College  
Erasmus University Rotterdam  
Fontys University of Applied Sciences  
Han University of Applied Sciences  
Hanze University of Applied Sciences  
HZ University of Applied Sciences  
Leiden University  
Leiden University College  
Maastricht University  
Radboud University  
Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences  
Saxion University of Applied Sciences  
Stenden University of Applied Sciences  
Tilburg University  
The Hague University of Applied Sciences  
Technical University of Delft  
Technical University of Eindhoven  
Tilburg University  
University College of Groningen  
University College of Maastricht  
University College of Roosevelt  
University College of Utrecht  
University of Amsterdam  
University of Applied Sciences, Leiden  
University of Groningen  
University of Maastricht  
University of Twente  
Utrecht University  
Utrecht University of Applied Sciences  
Vrije University  
Wageningen University

## CANADA

McMaster University  
Queen's University  
University of British Columbia  
University of Alberta  
University of Calgary  
University of Saskatchewan  
University of Toronto  
University of Waterloo  
University of Western Ontario  
York University

## EUROPE

AUSTRIA  
BFI Vienna  
Central European University  
Modul University  
Sigmund Freud University Vienna  
Vienna University of Econ. & Bus.

## BELGIUM

Howest University College  
Katholieke University Leuven  
Leuven University College  
BULGARIA  
Medical University of Sofia  
National Academy of Arts  
New Bulgarian University  
University of Architecture, Civil Engineering & Geodesy  
U. of National & World Economy  
University of Structural Eng. & Architecture  
Technical University of Sofia  
University of Sofia

## CYPRUS

Nicosia University  
CZECH REPUBLIC  
ARCHIP  
Charles University

## FRANCE

EDHEC Business School  
Paris College of Art  
Esmod France  
ESCP Europe  
Institut Paul Bocuse

## GERMANY

Cologne Business School  
Constructor University  
Frankfurt Sch. of Finance & Mgmt.  
Ludwig Maximilian U. of Munich  
Technical University of Munich  
U. of Applied Sciences Berlin

## HUNGARY

International Business School  
IRELAND  
Dublin Institute of Technology  
Griffith College Dublin

## ITALY

Humanitas University  
Istituto Europeo Di Design  
IULM U. of Language & Comm.  
La Sapienza University  
LUISS Guido Carli  
Nuova Accademia Di Belle Arti  
Polimoda  
Politecnico Di Milano  
Politecnico Di Torino  
Universita Bocconi  
Universita Cattolica Del Sacro Cuore  
Universita Degli Studi Di Milano  
Universita Degli Studi Di Torino

## MONACO

International University of Monaco

## SPAIN

Esade Business School  
ie University  
Inst. Europea Di Design Barcelona  
Toulouse Business School  
University of Barcelona  
Universidad Europeo de Madrid  
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid  
Universitat Intl. de Catalunya

## SWITZERLAND

Cesar Ritz Colleges  
EHL Hospitality Business School  
Glon Inst. of Higher Education  
Les Roches Schools of Hotel Mgmt.  
ETH - Swiss Federal Inst. of Technology  
University of Geneva  
University Zurich

## SWEDEN

Lund University  
Royal Inst. of Technology

## AUSTRALIA

Griffith University  
Monash University  
University of Queensland

## ASIA

Hong Kong Polytechnic University  
Hong Kong Univ. of Science & Tech.  
Padova College  
University of Hong Kong



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