



The American College of Sofia

School Profile 2024-2025

CEEB Code: 718180

Emily Sargent Beasley, President
e.sargentbeasley@acsb.org

Maria Angelova, Deputy Director
m.angelova@acsb.org

Francis McIvor,
Director of College Counseling
f.mcivor@acsb.org

Brian Kilgallon, College Counselor
b.kilgallon@acsb.org

Kalina Hadzhikova, College Counselor
k.hadzhikova@acsb.org

Michael Smith, College Counselor
m.smith@acsb.org

Colleen Puhr, College Counselor
c.puhr@acsb.org

collegecounseling@acsb.org

P.O. Box 873, 1000 Sofia, **Bulgaria**
Floyd Black Lane | Mladost 2, 1799
Sofia | Bulgaria
+359 2 434 1008

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 when Bulgaria entered WWII and re-opened in 1992 after the end of the communist regime.

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.

Curriculum:

The curriculum 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.

English is the primary language of instruction.

All students are enrolled in the USA High School Diploma Programme (Grades 9 -12).

In grades 11 & 12, Bulgarian students enter the Bulgarian Diploma Programme (academic stream) and choose one of the following profiles: Humanities, Foreign Languages, Mathematics & Physics, Software & Hardware Sciences, Natural Sciences, or Entrepreneurship.

International students enter the IB Diploma Programme (NB: Bulgarian students must meet certain criteria to be enrolled in the IB Diploma Programme).

All students create a CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service) portfolio yearly representing extracurricular activities.

Typically, 100% of students earn the American Diploma and the Bulgarian or IB Diploma Programme.

Our Grading Scale:

Excellent 6 100% - 91.5%	Very Good 5 91.4% - 80.5%	Good 4 80.4%- 70.5%	Passing 3 70.4%- 59.5%	Failing 2 59.4% - 0%
------------------------------------	-------------------------------------	-------------------------------	----------------------------------	--------------------------------

Students:

Admission is offered based on admission exam rank. Invitations are extended to middle school candidates with 5.00 GPA and above:

- 96% Bulgarian students (90% from Sofia, 10% from outside of Sofia)
- 4% International students (from Canada, Columbia, Denmark, France, Greece, Israel, Poland, Russia, Spain, Ukraine, UK, and the USA)
- 30% of students receive financial aid, including five per year who receive merit & need-based full scholarships.

Faculty:

Faculty at ACS are distinguished professionals in their areas of expertise and come from a variety of cultural backgrounds: 13 hold doctoral degrees and 69 hold masters degrees. 35% of the faculty are international. ACS faculty provide a unique and enriching blend of pedagogies to support international and Bulgarian curricula.

934

Students

30

International
Students

3479

Alumni
since 1997

112

Faculty

35

International
Faculty

13

Doctoral
Degrees

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 Programme. Students not eligible for a Bulgarian National Diploma are admitted into the two-year IB Diploma Programme. 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.

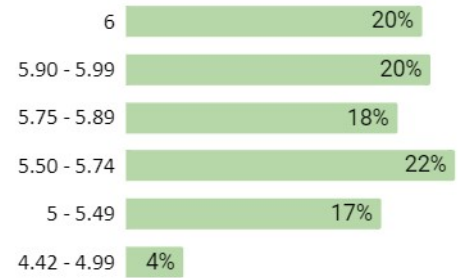
	Grades 9-10	Grades 11-12	Grades 9-10	Grades 11-12
Bulgarian Students	Bulgarian	Bulgarian Diploma Program	English	IB Diploma Program
	English		Mathematics	
	Mathematics		Foreign Language	
	Foreign Language		Physical Education	
	Physical Education		Chemistry	
	Chemistry		Biology	
	Biology		Physics	
	Physics		History	
	History		Philosophy	
	Philosophy		Geography	
	Geography		Music	
	Music		Art	
	Art		IT	
	IT			
International Students			English A: Lit. HL	
			Language B: SL, HL	
			Language Ab initio: SL	
			Economics, History: SL,HL	
			Biology, Chemistry: SL,HL	
			IB Physics is not offered.	
			Maths AI, AA: SL, HL	
			Theory of Knowledge	
			Extended Essay	

Bulgarian Diploma Profile Subjects for Grades 11 & 12

All profile courses are taught at an advanced honors level.

Subject/ Profile	Humanities	Foreign Languages	Mathematics	Software & Hardware Sciences	Natural Sciences	Entrepreneurship
English	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bulgarian	✓	✓				
History	✓					
Mathematics			✓	✓		✓
Foreign Language		✓				
Physics			✓			
Informatics			✓	✓		
Information Technologies				✓		✓
Biology					✓	
Chemistry					✓	
Entrepreneurship						✓

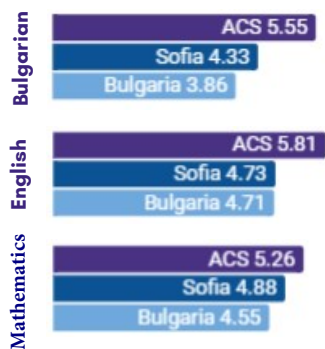
Class of 2025 GPA in junior year



Standardized Test Scores

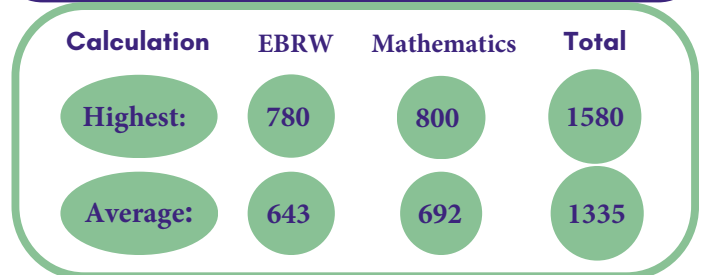
National Exams 2024 Scores Comparison (average grades)

All Bulgarian students are expected to take two to four national exams. The following are the results of the Class of 2024.

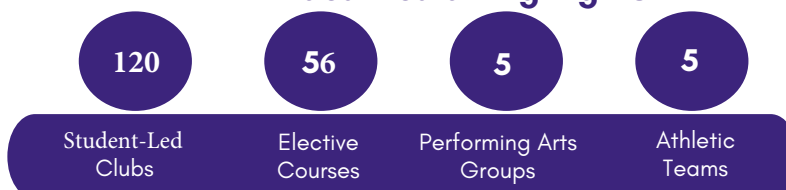


SAT Scores Class of 2025

Scores for SATs taken by 118 students in the class of 2025



Extracurricular Highlights



College & University Attendances 2022-2024

On average, 92% of ACS seniors apply to non-Bulgarian colleges and universities each year. ACS students from the classes of 2022, 2023 and 2024 attended at the following colleges and universities, often times having been awarded significant scholarship or financial aid from US institutions.

THE UNITED STATES

Amherst College
Bates College
Boston University
Brandeis University
Columbia University In the City of New York
Dartmouth College
Davidson College
Dickinson College
Duke University
Emerson College
Fordham University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Grinnell College
Illinois State University
Kansas City Art Institute
Lehigh University
Loyola University, Chicago
Minerva University
New York University
Northwestern University
The University of Tampa
Tulane University of Louisiana
Union College
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Santa Barbara
University of Chicago
University of Pennsylvania
University of Southern California
University of Washington
Vassar College
Webster University
Wheaton College
College of William & Mary
Yale University

THE UNITED KINGDOM

Anglia Ruskin University
Birkbeck, University of London
City, University of London
Durham University
King's College London
Liverpool Institute For Performing Arts
Newcastle University
Northeastern University London
Oxford Brookes University
Queen Mary University of London
University College London
University of Bath
University of Bristol
University of Cambridge
University of Glasgow
University of Nottingham
University of Sheffield
University of Southampton
University of Surrey
University of Warwick

IRELAND

Trinity College Dublin

THE NETHERLANDS

Amsterdam University College
Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences
Avans University of Applied Sciences
Eindhoven University of Technology
Erasmus University Rotterdam
Fontys University of Applied Sciences
HAN University of Applied Sciences
HZ University of Applied Sciences
Leiden University
Maastricht University
NHL Stenden University of Applied Sciences
NHTV Breda University of Applied Sciences
Technical University of Delft
Technical University of Eindhoven
Tilburg University
University College Maastricht
University College Utrecht
University of Amsterdam
University of Groningen
University of Twente
Utrecht University
Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

GERMANY

Bard College Berlin
Constructor University
Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf
Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich
Otto-von-Guericke University Magdeburg
RWTH - Aachen University
SRH University Berlin
Technical University of Munich
XU Exponential University of Applied Sciences

ITALY

Istituto Europea di Design, Milan
Istituto Europeo di Design
John Cabot University, Rome LUISS
NABA - Nuova Accademia di Belle Arti Polimoda - the Fashion School
Politecnico di Milano
Politecnico di Torino
The American University of Rome
Università Bocconi
Università Cattolica Del Sacro Cuore
Università di Milano
Università di Roma - La Sapienza
Università di Bologna

FRANCE

Sciences Po
Ecole Ducasse
Ecole Polytechnique
EDHEC Business School
ESMOD France
INSA - Lyon
Institut Lyfe
Supélec
The American University of Paris

SPAIN

Esade Business School
EU Business School, Barcelona
European University of Madrid
IE University
Istituto Europea di Design Barcelona
Universidad Carlos III de Madrid
University CEU Cardenal Herrera
University of Barcelona

AUSTRIA

IMC University of Applied Sciences, Krems
Modul University, Vienna
Vienna University of Economics and Business
Webster University Vienna

BELGIUM

Howest University College
KU Leuven
University College Leuven

BULGARIA

"St. Kliment Ohridski" University of Sofia
American University in Bulgaria
Medical University - Sofia
University of National and World Economy

SWEDEN

Lund University
Royal Institute of Technology (KTH)
Stockholm School of Economics

SWITZERLAND

Cesar Ritz Colleges Switzerland EHL
Zurich
University of Zurich

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

NYU - Abu Dhabi

AUSTRALIA

Monash University