

La Sierra Academy
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2011 / 2012 School Profile

SCHOOL, COMMUNITY, AND MISSION: In the tradition of Seventh-day Adventist schools La Sierra Academy serves students from Adventist congregations and the community of the greater Riverside area. Built on a foundation of faith and grace in Christ, the school provides students in 9th-12th grade a rigorous college preparatory academic schedule with co-curricular opportunities in sports, music, drama, and art – all centered in the development of Christian values and relationships.

The student body class population for 2010-11 was Seniors 90, Juniors 65, Sophomores 55, and Freshmen 63. The students were 70% Seventh-day Adventist, with members of many other religious beliefs and Christian churches in attendance. This year about 85% of our sophomores, juniors and seniors returned to LSA.

ACCREDITATION: La Sierra Academy is fully accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC). Additionally, the academic college preparatory courses offered are approved by the University of California.

FACULTY: Twenty-three full-time certified staff members at La Sierra Academy include: The principal with a master's degree, a state credentialed guidance counselor with a master's degree, and the VP of academics with a master's degree. Nineteen teachers hold bachelors and all others master's degrees. All are trained and experienced teachers with most holding current teaching credentials. Six women complement seventeen men, with a faculty ethnic distribution of 65% Anglo, 25% Hispanic and 10% African American.

SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS: LSA is a community of faith where both students and teachers endeavor to live and extend the values of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Religion class is required for each of the four years and a chapel service is held once a week. Christian principles are part of every classroom and central to the school's academic quest for excellence.

ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:

Students at LSA register for 6-7 academic courses per semester. Five units are awarded for each successfully completed semester course. The college preparatory track requires 40 units in Religion, 40 units in English, 30 units in Math, 30 units in Science, 30 units in Social Studies, 20 units in Foreign Language, 30 units in Physical Education, 10 units in Applied/Practical Arts, and 10 units in Fine/Visual/Performing Arts. Three diplomas are available: General Diploma (240 credits), College Prep Diploma (275 credits), and the Honors Diploma (310 credits).

CALENDAR: LSA's academic calendar consists of two semesters of 18 weeks each.

TRANSPORTATION: The majority of students commute to school in car pools or personal vehicles. The school does not provide school busses, but public transportation is available.

GRADING AND HONORS CLASSES: Grades of A through F are awarded for all courses, and a grade point average is computed on a 4.00 scale. Only in extraordinary cases are grades of CR (Credit) or P (Pass) given. All grades are included in a student's GPA except CR, P and grades for Physical Education. A cumulative GPA is calculated each semester from all of a student's semester grades.

La Sierra University, adjacent to the academy, offers students an opportunity to take college courses during their senior year.

COLLEGE ADMISSION TESTING: Most of our students annually take the PSAT and SAT exams. Occasionally we have students taking the ACT if the university requires it.

COLLEGE ENTRANCE: LSA graduates have attended colleges such as La Sierra University, University of Columbia, Pacific Union College, Concordia University, San Diego State University, Azusa Pacific University, and University of California (Riverside, San Diego, Berkeley, and Irvine). There are many more.

ATHLETIC COMPETITION: La Sierra Academy is a member of the Arrowhead League and provides opportunities for involvement in the following sports:
(V = Varsity Team; JV = Junior Varsity Team)

Girls Volleyball (JV,V)

Girls Basketball (JV,V)

Girls Softball (V)

Co-ed Soccer (V)

Girls and Boys Track & Field

Boys Basketball (JV,V)

Boys Baseball (V)

Boys Volleyball (JV,V)

TECHNOLOGY: La Sierra Academy has computers in most classrooms and a modern computer lab. There are over 300 computers on the campus.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: A limited amount of financial aid toward tuition is available each year to students of demonstrated need. Applications for grants must be made in April prior to the year of attendance for the best consideration.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES: Classes are offered in TV Broadcast, Choir, Band, Student Publications, Journalism, and Yearbook. Students also have opportunities to become active participants in student government, service organizations such as the active SA (Student Association) senate and an active National Honor Society chapter. Social events such as banquets, spirit week, and beach vespers are scheduled throughout the year.