



The Taft School

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Watertown, Connecticut 06795
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SAT/ACT School Code: 070880

THE SCHOOL: Founded in 1890, the Taft School is a co-educational boarding and day school for students in grades 9 to 12. It occupies a 224-acre campus west of the city of Waterbury, 95 miles from New York City and 125 miles from Boston. Taft is fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. One of the strongest independent schools in New England, Taft provides an individually challenging experience ever mindful of its founding motto: Not to be served but to serve. More than 99% of all Taft students go on to attend four-year colleges and universities across the nation and around the world.

MISSION: To educate the whole student; to demand excellence in all walks of life; and to ask for a high level of moral responsibility.

ACADEMIC POLICY AND GRADING SCALE: The standard academic load is five academic courses per semester in grades 9 and 10; 11th and 12th grade students may choose to take either four or five. Taft will report weighted grades on its official transcript (5 points are added to each grade earned in Honors, AP and Post-AP level courses taken at Taft). The transcript includes a yearly GPA and a cumulative GPA for courses completed at Taft. Grades from courses taken away from Taft are not included in the GPA calculation. By policy, Taft students are not ranked.

STRENGTH OF PROGRAM: Strength of Program distinctions are noted by using the following parameters. Also listed is the number of students in the Class of 2015 at each of those levels:

Most Demanding = 48 students
8 or more credits attempted at the Honors or AP Level in the Junior and Senior years at Taft

Very Demanding = 54 students
5 to 7 credits attempted at the Honors or AP Level in the Junior and Senior years at Taft

Demanding = 53 students
2 to 4 credits attempted at the Honors or AP Level in the Junior and Senior years at Taft

Average = 22 students
0 to 1 credit attempted at the Honors or AP Level in the Junior and Senior years at Taft

ADMINISTRATION

William MacMullen, Headmaster
Linda Saarnijoki, Dean of Faculty
Jonathan Willson, Academic Dean
Cynthia Gallagher, Registrar
Susan McCabe, Senior Class Dean
Jack Kenerson, Senior Class Dean

COLLEGE COUNSELING

Alison Almasian, Director
Catherine Ganung, Associate Director
Andrew McNeill, Sr. Associate Director
Jessie Ramos-Willey, Associate Director
Cheryl Gatling, Administrative Assistant and Testing Coordinator

ENROLLMENT: 596

Boys: 298/Girls: 298
Boarding: 483/Day: 113
Seniors: 176
From 33 states/32 countries
Students of Color: 30%
Receiving Financial Aid: 36%

FACULTY: 125

Hold advanced degrees: 92
(9 highest in field of study and 7 PhDs)
Faculty-to-Student Ratio: 1 to 5
Average Class Size: 11

DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS: 18 CREDITS

English (4)
Mathematics (3)
Laboratory Science (2)
History (2) including American History
Foreign Language (3)
Fine and Performing Arts (1.5)

GPA Distribution by Year for Class of 2015

(not cumulative, rounded to the nearest whole number)

Freshman Year 2011–12

95–100	7
90–94	20
85–89	32
80–84	21
75–79	11
70–74	0

Sophomore Year 2012–13

95–100	10
90–94	43
85–89	62
80–84	23
75–79	2
70–74	0

Junior Year 2013–14

95–100	28
90–94	54
85–89	51
80–84	12
75–79	2
70–74	0

CURRICULUM: Honors and Advanced Placement level courses are available in virtually every discipline at Taft. The school offers 27 different AP-level courses as well as opportunities for independent study in each discipline.

HIGHEST COURSES AVAILABLE: The highest course(s) available in each discipline are as follows:

Arts – AP Art History, AP Studio Art, AP Music Theory
 Classics – AP Latin (Virgil)
 English – AP Sr. English
 Global Studies – AP Psychology
 History – AP World Hist., AP European Hist., AP American Govt.,
 AP Comparative Govt.
 Languages – AP Chinese Lang., Post-AP French Lit., Post-AP Hispanic Lit.
 Mathematics – Multivariable Calculus and Linear Algebra
 Science – Post-AP Biology, AP Chemistry, AP Physics C

OFF-CAMPUS STUDY PROGRAMS: Taft offers off-campus study opportunities to The Maine Coast Program; The Mountain School in Vermont; High Mountain Institute in Colorado; The Island School in the Bahamas; and to China, France, Italy and Spain with School Year Abroad.

Please note: Grades from these programs are not used in our GPA calculation.

MEMBERSHIPS: National Association of Independent Schools, National and New England Associations of College Admission Counseling, Global Online Academy, and the College Entrance Examination Board.

COLLEGE MATRICULATION RECORD

Over the past five years (2010 to 2014) Taft students have enrolled in 171 different colleges and universities in 29 states and 7 foreign countries. During that same period, five or more students have enrolled at the following:

Amherst, 13	Franklin & Marshall, 5	Trinity, 32
Bates, 10	George Washington, 24	Tufts, 19
Boston College, 18	Georgetown, 34	Union, 6
Boston Univ., 5	Gettysburg, 15	Univ. of Colorado, 7
Bowdoin, 10	Hamilton, 11	Univ. of Michigan, 9
Brown, 5	Harvard, 5	UNC, 7
Bryant, 6	Hobart & William Smith, 7	Univ. of Penn, 6
Bucknell, 14	Johns Hopkins, 7	Univ. of Richmond, 7
Colby, 10	Lafayette, 5	USC, 12
Colgate, 14	Lehigh, 9	St. Andrews (Scotland), 7
Colorado College, 7	McGill, 5	Univ. of VT, 7
Columbia, 11	Middlebury, 21	Univ. of VA, 18
Connecticut College, 10	NYU, 17	Vanderbilt, 7
Cornell, 16	Northeastern, 8	Villanova, 7
Dartmouth, 8	Notre Dame, 5	Wake Forest, 8
Denison, 7	Princeton, 9	Wesleyan, 16
Duke, 5	Southern Methodist, 10	Williams, 9
Elon, 5	St. Lawrence, 9	Yale, 10
Emory, 6	Stanford, 7	

TESTING PROFILE CLASS OF 2014

SAT REASONING TEST

	CR	Math	Writing
Mean	633	653	652
75%ile	690	720	710
25%ile	580	590	590

ACT	EN	MA	RE	SC	CP
Mean	29.4	28.4	28.9	27.8	28.5
75%ile	33	31	33	32	32
25%ile	26	26	25	24	26

SAT SUBJECT TESTS

<i>Middle 50%</i>	<i>Mean</i>	<i>#Tested</i>
Biology–Ecology 600–700	635	17
Biology–Molecular 590–710	651	35
Chemistry 580–690	636	56
Chinese with Listening 770–800	787	6
English Literature 530–670	613	59
French 530–750	658	12
French with Listening 610–730	677	3
Latin 480–680	593	3
Math Level I 550–650	612	64
Math Level II 620–770	688	69
Physics 580–660	621	34
Spanish 570–750	643	19
Spanish with Listening 560–670	616	7
U.S. History 590–720	650	52
World History 480–620	550	2

AP RESULTS

- 306 Taft students took a total of 726 AP exams.
- 64% resulted in scores of 4 or 5.
- 97% resulted in scores of 3 or higher.

