



FREDERICKSBURG ACADEMY

2025-2026 SCHOOL PROFILE

Anthony J. Durso, Head of Upper School

David Heinemann, Director of College Counseling

dheinemann@fredericksburgacademy.org | 540.898.0020, ext. 1230

Lisa Rauch Walsh, Registrar

lwalsh@fredericksburgacademy.org | 540.898.0020, ext. 1259

10800 Academy Drive
Fredericksburg, VA 22408
540.898.0020 Fax: 540.898.8951
fredericksburgacademy.org



CEEB CODE: 470882

MISSION STATEMENT

We inspire and empower our students to discover, to engage, and to imagine the limitless nature of themselves and the world.

THE SCHOOL

Fredericksburg Academy is a prekindergarten through twelfth grade, independent, nonsectarian, college-preparatory day school, with 122 students in the Upper School. Established in 1992, FA embraces the idea of continuous improvement. With its Honor Code as the foundation of the community, FA places a high priority on developing the qualities of integrity, leadership, responsibility, self-discipline, and respect for others. The Student Government has meaningful input in administrative decisions, defining and overseeing the daily life of the Upper School; the vast majority of activities are genuinely student-run. Fredericksburg Academy is accredited by the Virginia Association of Independent Schools and National Association for College Admission Counseling.

THE COMMUNITY

Located midway between Richmond, Virginia and Washington, D.C., and surrounded by highly-respected public and private colleges and universities, Fredericksburg is fast-growing city with a deep-rooted past—think George Washington's home and major Civil War engagements. Fredericksburg encompasses the diversity of the country racially, socioeconomically, and politically like few other independent school communities. FA offers the only independent educational opportunity within a 45-mile radius.

ACADEMIC PROGRAM AND CURRICULUM

Fredericksburg Academy is a school where students develop mastery of not only the foundational academic skills of analysis, argumentation, and calculation, but also the increasingly important technology-driven skills such as compilation, evaluation, and synthesis of information, as well as collaboration and communication. Through a learning philosophy that stresses the acquisition and implementation of a wide range of enduring skills, FA provides a time-tested and relevant education, positioning its students for success in college and in life. **Note: The Integrated Science I and II sequence combines full-year courses in physics, chemistry, and biology.**

MINIMUM GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students take a minimum of five one-credit courses each year. Graduation requires a minimum of 21 credits.

SUBJECT	MINIMUM REQUIRED CREDITS
English	4 credits
Fine Arts	1 credit
Foreign Language	3 credits
History	3 credits
Laboratory Science	3 credits
Mathematics	3 credits
Exhibit	1 credit
Electives	3 credits

AP AND HIGHEST-LEVEL COURSES

Students in AP courses are not required to sit for the exam. Taking more than 3 AP courses requires US Head approval.

AP SCIENCES	AP MATHEMATICS	AP ARTS
Biology Chemistry Physics I	Calculus AB Computer Science A Statistics	Studio Art
AP ENGLISH	AP HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCES	HIGHEST LEVEL LANGUAGE
English Literature and Composition	Economics Macro/Micro Modern World History U.S. Government & Politics U.S. History	French V Latin V Spanish V
HONORS/ADVANCED		
American Literature, Precalculus, Environmental Science, Physical Science, Integrated Science II, French Literature		

EXHIBIT

Exhibit is a two-year program in which students design and direct their learning. Starting in tenth grade, each student identifies an area of interest through self-assessment and guided reflection. They spend 30 hours on the Learning Activity, exploring their topic in depth. They then put their learning into practice by completing the 30-hour Application. The experience culminates in the eleventh grade with a formal presentation and Q&A with teachers and peers, where students share what they learned about their topic and themselves. Throughout the process, each participant receives feedback from the Exhibit Coordinators but ultimately is responsible for the successes and failures of their project, developing initiative, confidence, and independence that carry into college and beyond.

SCHOOL, CURRICULAR, AND CLASS OF 2026 DISTINCTIONS

- There are 32 students in the class of 2026. With such a small cohort, the school has chosen not to rank its students.
- Over \$2.85 million in financial assistance, which includes merit awards, were distributed in 2025.
- FA is accredited by the Virginia Association of Independent Schools (VAIS) and a member of NAIS and NACAC.
- The school does not give annual, individual academic awards.
- FA does not participate in any national honor societies.
- 7:1 student to faculty ratio. 85% of faculty hold advanced degrees in their fields of expertise.

GPA AND GRADING POLICY

- GPA is based on a 4 point scale (A+ is NOT 4.3) and calculated for all Upper School credit-earning courses.
- Weight (0.25) is earned for Honors and Advanced courses. Weight (0.50) is earned for AP courses.
- Transcripts for courses taken at other schools are sent to colleges in support of a student's application but are not included on the FA transcript or used in the GPA calculation.
- For Exhibit, students earn Pass with Honors (PH), Pass (PS), or Fail (F). Pass with Honors is reserved for work at the highest level and is awarded sparingly.
- Grade inflation is rampant due largely to the intense pressure schools face to boost the academic standing of their students. The push to get an edge in the college admission process can be overwhelming. As a college preparatory institution, FA's purpose is to prepare its students for the demands of college classrooms in both the discussions and assessments, which includes ensuring grades are reflective of their readiness. FA has resisted the pressure to inflate grades, and our GPAs reflect this; we ask you to value and support this position.

GRADING SCALE

A+ = 100-98, A = 97-93, A- = 92-90
B+ = 89-88, B = 87-83, B- = 82-80
C+ = 79-78, C = 77-73, C- = 72-70
D+ = 69-68, D = 67-63, D- = 62-60
F = 59 and below

MEAN GPA

CLASS OF 2026 (weighted/unweighted)	CLASS OF 2025 (weighted/unweighted)	CLASS OF 2024 (weighted/unweighted)
3.48/3.41	3.39/3.30	3.52/3.38

SAT/ACT SCORE REPORTING POLICY

Given the landscape of test-optional admission policies, small class size, and number of reported scores, Fredericksburg Academy is currently not reporting standardized testing information.

TRADITIONS AND EXPERIENCES

G.O.A.T. - Coined and planned by students. **Gauntlet**, a massive all-school relay race; **Orientation**, a collection of Student Government, Honor Council, and PARC presentations to set the tone for the year; **And Togetherness**, a day of grade-level and FAmily games, we compete for fun and educate for community during the first week of school.

Reading Buddies - Over the course of their senior year, students develop relationships with first graders focused on mentorship and building a strong sense of school community. Through shared activities such as collaboratively writing spooky Halloween stories, dancing together in the first grade's Rodeo Day, and building blanket forts and reading favorite children's stories, the seniors help the first graders develop their creativity, confidence, and sense of belonging.

Community Meeting - Upper School begins each morning gathered in the Theater for a student-led meeting where students and faculty share daily announcements and student leadership groups share a bit of fun.

VARSITY ATHLETICS

FA is a member of the **Greater Piedmont Athletic Conference**, consisting of 7 high schools from Northern and Central Virginia.

FALL	WINTER	SPRING
Cross Country (B/G)	Basketball (B/G)	Golf (B/G)
Field Hockey (G)	Swimming (B/G)	Lacrosse (B/G)
Mountain Biking (B/G)		Soccer (G)
Soccer (B)		Tennis (B)
Tennis (G)		

FA also supports an **Ultimate Frisbee** club team.

VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS

- One-Act competition play and a musical each year
- 2 concerts per ensemble each year (Chorus, Band, Orchestra)

ACTIVITIES

FA takes great pride in and emphasizes student initiative and leadership. While the programs listed below are advised by faculty, the school goes to great lengths to allow the students to run, lead, and manage the following activities:

- Student Government
- Pride, Accountability, Respect Committee (PARC)
- Honor Council
- Service Organization of FA (SOFA)
- Student Life Committee (SLC)
- Student Ambassadors
- Clubs
- *Elegos* (art and literary magazine)
- FIRST Robotics Challenge
- *Talon* (yearbook)

FREDERICKSBURG ACADEMY COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Listed below are the college acceptances for the Classes of 2022-2025.
100% of FA graduates have been accepted to four-year colleges and universities.

*Indicates college enrolled

Adelphi University	Hampton University	Smith College
American International University	Haverford College	St. Norbert College*
American University*	High Point University	Stetson University
Appalachian State University	Hofstra University*	Stevens Institute of Technology*
Arcadia University	Hope College*	Syracuse University
Arizona State University	Idaho State University	Temple University
Auburn University	Indiana University	University of Alabama*
Ball State University	Ithaca College	University of Arizona
Barnard College*	James Madison University*	University of Colorado: Boulder
Birmingham City College	Johnson and Wales University	University of Connecticut
Boston College*	Kalamazoo College*Kent State	University of Dallas
Bournemouth University	University*	University of Dayton*
Brandeis University	Kenyon College	University of Denver*
Bridgewater College*	Kettering University	University of Hartford
Bryn Mawr College	Lake Forest College	University of Illinois
Bucknell University*	Lehigh University	University of Iowa
Catholic University	LeMoyne University	University of Lynchburg
Cedarville University	Liberty University	University of Maine
Central Michigan University	Longwood University*	University of Mary Washington*
Christopher Newport University*	Louisiana State University: B.R.	University of Massachusetts: Amherst*
Clemson University*	Manhattan University*	University of Massachusetts: Boston*
Cleveland State University	Maryland Institute College of Art	University of Miami*University of Minnesota
Colgate University	Marymount University*	University of North Carolina at
College of Charleston	McGill University	Ashville, Chapel Hill, Charlotte, Greensboro
College of William & Mary*	Miami University	University of North Dakota*
Denison University	Morehouse College	University of Rhode Island
DePauw University	Mount Holyoke College*	University of Richmond*
Dickinson College*	Muhlenberg College*	University of South Carolina
Drew University	Norfolk State University	University of St. Andrews (UK)
Drexel University	North Carolina State University	University of Tampa
Duquesne University	Northeastern University	University of Tennessee: Knoxville
East Carolina University	Old Dominion University*	University of Vermont
Elon University*	Pennsylvania State University*	University of Virginia*
Embrey-Riddle Aeronautical University (AZ, FL)	Pratt Institute*	University of Washington
Endicott College	Queen's University of Charlotte	Virginia Commonwealth University*
Ferrum College	Quinnipiac University	Virginia Tech*
Fisk University	Radford University*	Virginia State University
Fitchburg State University	Randolph-Macon College	Virginia Wesleyan University
Florida Institute of Technology	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	Washington and Lee University*
Franklin and Marshall University	Rhodes College	Wellesley College
George Mason University*	Roanoke College	Wesleyan University
Georgetown University*	Roger Williams University	West Virginia University*
George Washington University*	Rutgers University(Newark and NB)	Western Kentucky University
Germana Community College	Sarah Lawrence College	Western Michigan University
Gettysburg College*	Savannah College of Art and Design	Widener University
Goucher College *	Seton Hall University	Wingate University*
Grove City College	Shenandoah University*	Wheaton College (IL)
Hampden-Sydney College	Skidmore College*	