



OAKLAND
CHRISTIAN
— S C H O O L —

International Student Program



Welcome!

Oakland Christian School offers a highly respected college preparatory program committed to challenging and motivating each student to pursue academic achievement, social influence, character development, and physical accomplishment. We invite qualified students from across the globe to join us through our International Student Program. Recently, students from South Korea, Mexico, China, Guatemala, Kenya, Vietnam, Spain, Brazil, and France have attended Oakland Christian School.

International Student Program Features

- Academic Excellence
- University Preparation
- Host Family Program
- Academic Support
- Active Student Life

Statistics



High School
Enrollment: 200



International
Students: 24



ACT: Average - 25,
Top 30% - 30



AP/Honors
Classes - 33+



Student Teacher
Ratio: 12:1

Academic Excellence

Designed to motivate and challenge all students, the academic program at Oakland Christian School is driven by the highest possible learning expectations for students. During their high school career, students have access to a wide range of learning experiences, including Advanced Placement® courses. All learning experiences are led by dedicated teachers who love their students and are committed to providing academically rigorous classes intended to prepare students for success in college, career, and citizenship.

Highlights of the Academic Program

- Students take in-depth courses in English language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies all four years of high school.
- Project-based learning is embedded throughout the curriculum, and most courses engage students in long-term investigative projects.
- International students have the opportunity to take a test preparation course as part of their daily schedule to prepare them for the TOEFL and college entrance exams.
- College Preparatory Academics: 33 Advanced Placement (AP) courses (including online options) and six Honors courses
- AP Capstone Diploma Program
- Integrated Technology: Students use iPads for course content and interactive learning tools. Secondary students access most textbooks online.
- S.T.E.M. classes for middle and high school students in a dedicated learning space



Academic Support

A distinctive of the Oakland Christian International Program is the individual academic support we provide. The following personalized support ensures our international students have the tools and opportunities to be successful in our program and in their future education.

International Student Orientation

New international students attend a one-week orientation program that prepares them for school and life in America.

Western Culture Class

This class assists ES learners in navigating the cultural and academic expectations of an American high school. It focuses on topics such as figurative language, writing, plagiarism, test-taking, and study skills.

Foundations of English I/II

This class is offered to ESL students to provide a foundation of English with a focus on English grammar and usage.

Full-time Academic Support Teacher

The Oakland Christian International Program employs a full time teacher who monitors academic success, offers support and interventions, and engages with teachers on behalf of the international students.

Study Groups

The Academic Support Teacher organizes and leads small group study times to help students prepare for tests and projects.

Peer-tutoring Program

Students (domestic and international) struggling in a particular subject are paired for weekly study with other students who are or have been successful in a class.



University Preparation

Attending an excellent university is an important goal and a step toward future success. Oakland Christian School prepares, guides, and supports our students as they pursue their goals in higher education.

University Guidance Counseling

University admissions guidance is provided for students in all grades through group settings as well as on an individual basis. We assess their interests and abilities, explore various career options, and plan their schedules to include the types of classes and experiences that will give them an advantage on their applications to top universities and selective programs. We advise, research, and review all aspects of the university application process including completing applications, obtaining recommendations, and creating an appealing resume which includes their honors, achievements and extracurricular activities.

SAT/ACT Preparation Courses

■ SAT Preparation

This semester long course is designed to help prepare students for the SAT test. In addition to reviewing the basic verbal and mathematical skills assessed on the SAT test, students learn test-taking strategies specific to the exam.

■ ACT Preparation

In this 8-week course (offered on Saturdays) students will study and practice listening and note taking techniques, test taking strategies, questioning and thinking skills, information retrieval, pre-ACT test practice, memory technique, reading in the content areas, and vocabulary development.

TOEFL Preparation

This course will provide students with the knowledge, strategies, skills and tactics needed to improve their TOEFL score. This course is focused in the four language skills tested in the exam: reading, writing, listening and speaking. Students will also have the opportunity to take practice tests to further prepare them for the exam.



Simeng Maggie Zhao, 2019
Syracuse University



Tsz Man Mandy Wong, 2019
Penn State University



Duoming Frank Bian, 2017
University of Michigan

Active Student Life

In addition to succeeding academically, it is essential that students have a balanced social and emotional life. Participation in co- and extra-curricular activities is important for social, cultural, and linguistic development, as well as being valuable for university applications.



Extra/Co-Curriculars

Activities/Clubs/Enrichment

- Drama/Musical Theatre
- Robotics
- Student Government
- Environmental Club
- Ski Club
- Table Tennis Club
- Board Game Club
- D.C./Europe/China Trips
- Digital Media/Graphic Arts
- Choir/Orchestra/Strings
- Art/Advanced Art

Athletic Opportunities

- Football
- Soccer
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Cross Country
- Track & Field
- Baseball
- Softball
- Tennis
- Bowling
- Cheerleading

Students in the Oakland Christian International Program find support and community with other students in the program through a variety of monthly activities, including a 3 day fall retreat.

International Program Activities

- Greenfield Village Historic Village
- Henry Ford Museum
- Lansing History Museum and State Capitol
- Fall Retreat
- Bowling
- Roller Skating
- Game Nights
- Christmas Party
- Escape Room
- Laser Tag



Host Family Program

The home experience is central to each student's language, cultural, social, and emotional transition and helps develop key skills for living in North America.

Host Families

Host families are carefully selected for our program. Interviews, background checks, home visits, and reference checks are completed to ensure that families will provide a safe and nurturing environment and assist students with the development of important life skills. Host parents attend an orientation program, and receive ongoing training, support, and supervision to ensure excellent care for our international students.



Irene Gomez (Spain)

Irene became part of the Franey family for a year and created a bond that will last a lifetime. She has been back to the U.S. to see them and they have visited her in Spain.



Mandy Wong (China)

Mandy found a home away from home with the Woods. She visits her American family during breaks from Penn State University.



Lani Kim (Korea)

The Johnson family has welcomed Lani into their home and into their hearts. The kids have become a younger brother and sister to her.

Application Process

Step 1 - Application & Supporting Documentation

Complete the application along with the supporting documentation. The application and requirements can be found at www.oaklandchristian.com/admissions/international.cfm

Step 2 - Interview

Students who meet our admissions criteria will be contacted and an interview will be scheduled. The purpose of the interview is to gauge English language skills, attitude, scholarship, and fit for our school.

Step 3 - Acceptance

Based on the application and interview, acceptance will be determined by the school and an enrollment agreement will be sent with instructions.

Step 4 - Issue I-20 & Obtain F-1 VISA

Once all documents have been submitted and the tuition deposit has been received, Oakland Christian School will issue a form I-20, "Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status," and mail it along with your official acceptance letter. You will use the I-20, the acceptance letter, and the enrollment contract, to obtain your F-1 student visa at your local United States Consulate or Embassy.

Step 5 - Tuition Payment

Tuition must be paid in full by June 1 or within ten days of receiving the F-1 visa.

Step 6 - Host Family Match

When the student has successfully obtained a visa, the student will be asked to provide a letter of introduction to their host families. The International Program Director will match the successful applicant with a host family.

Step 7 - Arrival and Orientation

New international students should arrive for orientation which is one week before the start of school. Travel information should be secured and communicated by August 1.



Pat McCarty
Head of School



Kelly Wood
International
Program
Director



Ann Marie Nickel
International
Academic
Support



Jeneane Frazee
Academic /
University
Counselor