



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Incoming 9th-12th Grade Students 2026-2027

The following information is provided to aid students and parents in completing the **Course Selection Form**. All students will have the opportunity prior to the start of the school year to review the OCSA Student/Parent Handbook, which contains detailed information about the school and its policies. Incoming students and parents are encouraged to visit the school website for further information about the school and its programs. Students may also contact their school counselor for specific questions about academic programs and courses.

Please note that OCSA's school counselors are not available for new student individual appointments until June 2026, as they are very busy working to support students as they finish up this current school year.

How do I know which classes to take? Where do I get information about classes?

The 2026-2027 Curriculum Handbook has valuable information about graduation requirements and college admission requirements, as well as descriptions of high school academic and elective courses offered at OCSA. **It is imperative that students read the course descriptions, paying attention to any listed prerequisites before registering for their classes. Counselors have covered all of this information in the recorded New Student Enrollment video, so students can always refer back to that, as well.** Students registering for a class for which they do not meet the prerequisite will NOT be enrolled in the class unless they have completed an AP/Honors Waiver form. Prerequisites include both foundational classes that must be taken and an expected end-of-course final grade. Students may **only** waiver into an AP/Honors class if they have taken the prior course(s) necessary to enter an advanced class, but have not met the end-of-course grade requirement. The 2026-2027 Curriculum Handbook and waiver forms are available online on the school's website at www.ocsarts.net/CurriculumHandbook. Students should only register for their grade level designated courses as listed in the Curriculum Handbook.

How will I know which math class to enroll in?

All incoming 9th grade students will be placed in a math level based on the math course they are currently enrolled in. Students can refer to the math flow chart in the Curriculum Handbook to understand the math course sequence options at OCSA. All incoming 10th-12th grade students can also refer to the math flow chart in the curriculum handbook to determine their appropriate next level based on their current math course.

Can I take classes to remediate a grade?

Academic grades lower than a "C" can be remediated, particularly those courses needed for graduation and minimum college admission. The class can be retaken at OCSA (provided it fits into the student's schedule of classes), at another accredited high school, or at a community college over the summer. If the course is retaken outside of OCSA, it is the student's

responsibility to ensure that the course is UC approved and to provide their school counselor with their **official** final transcript of the remediated course.

What if I get my schedule in August and the classes are incorrect?

Students will be able to request a schedule change during On-Campus Registration in August if you have an incomplete schedule or any of the following specific problems: missing core academic classes, duplicate courses, or incorrect levels for core academic classes.

If I get into the wrong class or change my mind about taking a class after school has started, can I switch classes/change my schedule?

The class change policy is explained in the Curriculum Handbook. It is important that students are aware of the policy before registering for their classes. OCSA cannot always accommodate a student's change request for an elective, and class changes after the start of the school year impact class enrollment numbers as well. It is strongly advised that students use careful consideration while choosing their classes, taking into account their extracurricular activities as well as the demands of their conservatory schedule.

Will I be able to get my first choice of a Physical Education or Elective class?

There is no guarantee that a student will receive their first choice of a Physical Education or Elective class. Students are asked to provide several alternate choices. The elective scheduled for each student is determined by the overall master schedule of classes as well as the particular set of classes needed by each individual student. All Physical Education and Elective classes are yearlong classes, and changes are not permitted at the semester.

I have had some instruction in Spanish, Mandarin, or French. How do I know which level to take next year?

Please make the best choice possible based on prior courses taken when completing the enrollment forms. Students will be placed in a world language level based on the world language course they are currently enrolled in. Additionally, World Language teachers at OCSA will assess new students within the first two weeks of school to determine the most appropriate placement based on our school's curriculum.

Do I take the same academic classes every day?

OCSA middle school and high school students attend a block schedule for their academic classes. Students are enrolled in six academic classes, but only attend three academic blocks per day that rotate every day throughout the year. Blue Days are for Blocks 1-3, and Gold Days are for Blocks 4-6.

How do I register for my conservatory/arts classes?

The director of each arts conservatory program selects the course program for the students in their conservatory. The selection is based on a number of criteria, including the student's grade level and previous experience in the field. Questions regarding conservatory courses and the conservatory department should be directed to the specific conservatory director.

When do I take Health?

All 9th grade students take Health and Social Studies 9 during the fall or spring semester. Their placement is determined by the computer according to where it best fits into their schedules. Students who transfer into OCSA after 9th grade, and did not take Health at their prior school, will need to take this semester course in order to meet graduation requirements.