



# The Taft School

110 Woodbury Road  
 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. Grades are un-weighted. The transcript includes a yearly GPA. Grades from courses taken away from Taft are listed on the transcript but 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 are the number of students in the Class of 2012 at each level:

**Most Demanding** = 19 students  
 8 or more credits attempted at the Honors or AP Level in the Junior and Senior years at Taft

**Very Demanding** = 46 students  
 5 to 7 credits attempted at the Honors or AP Level in the Junior and Senior years at Taft

**Demanding** = 64 students  
 2 to 4 credits attempted at the Honors or AP Level in the Junior and Senior years at Taft

**Average** = 18 students  
 0 to 1 credits attempted at the Honors or AP Level in the Junior and Senior years at Taft

## ADMINISTRATION

William MacMullen, Headmaster  
 Christopher Torino, Dean of Faculty  
 Jonathan Willson, Academic Dean  
 Cynthia Gallagher, Registrar  
 Alison Carlson, Senior Class Dean  
 Jack Kenerson, Senior Class Dean

## COLLEGE COUNSELING

Terence Giffen, Director  
 Andrew McNeill, Senior Associate Director  
 Catherine Ganung, Associate Director  
 Jessie Ramos-Willey, Associate Director  
 Cheryl Gatling, Office Manager  
 Debi Bender, Testing Coordinator

## ENROLLMENT: 577

Boys: 298/Girls: 279  
 Boarding: 474/Day: 103  
 Seniors: 175  
 From 34 states/30 countries  
 Students of Color: 28%  
 Receive Financial Aid: 37%

## FACULTY: 127

Hold advanced degrees: 91  
 (10 highest in field of study and 7 PhDs)  
 Faculty-to-student Ratio: 1 to 5  
 Average Class Size: 12

### GPA Distribution by Year (not cumulative)

Freshman Year 2008–09  
 6-Pt. Scale

5.00+	8
4.75–4.99	6
4.50–4.74	12
4.25–4.49	10
4.00–4.24	17
3.75–3.99	9
3.50–3.74	12
< 3.50	10

Sophomore Year 2009–10  
 100-Pt. Scale

96–100	1
93–95	2
90–92	11
87–89	29
84–86	31
81–83	30
78–80	24
< 78	10

Junior Year 2010–11  
 100-Pt. Scale

96–100	1
93–95	4
90–92	22
87–89	34
84–86	39
81–83	31
78–80	13
< 78	7

**GRADING SCALE CHANGE.** Prior to 2009–10, semester grades at Taft were listed on a 6.0 grading scale where the passing and college-recommending minimum was 2.0. In 2009–10, Taft began to use a 100-point grading scale where the passing and college-recommending grade is 60.

**CURRICULUM:** Honors and Advanced Placement level courses are available in virtually every discipline at Taft. The school offers 30 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., AP Spanish Lit.
- Mathematics – Multivariable Calculus and Linear Algebra
- Science – 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; The Island School in the Bahamas; The Rocky Mountain Semester in Colorado; and to China, France, Italy, Spain, and Vietnam with School Year Abroad.

*Please note: While grades from these programs are posted on the Taft transcript, they are not used in our GPA calculation.*

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

## COLLEGE MATRICULATION RECORD

*Over the past five years (2007 to 2011) Taft students have enrolled in 179 different colleges and universities in 32 states and 6 foreign countries. During that same time period, five or more students have enrolled at the following:*

Amherst, 14	Gettysburg, 12	George Washington, 24
Bates, 6	Hamilton, 9	Trinity College, 26
Boston College, 19	Harvard, 5	Tufts, 14
Boston Univ., 14	Hobart & William	Union, 5
Bowdoin, 15	Smith, 8	UC Berkeley, 5
Bucknell, 12	Johns Hopkins, 5	Univ. of Chicago, 6
Carnegie Mellon, 9	Lehigh, 10	Univ. of Colorado, 5
Colby, 12	Middlebury, 13	Univ. of Michigan, 5
Colgate, 15	Mount Holyoke, 5	Univ. of Penn., 14
Colorado College, 14	New York Univ., 17	Univ. of Richmond, 6
Columbia, 14	Northeastern, 8	Univ. of Vermont, 5
Connecticut College, 12	Northwestern, 6	Univ. of Virginia, 8
Cornell, 22	Occidental, 5	Vanderbilt, 8
Dartmouth, 10	Princeton, 8	Vassar, 6
Denison, 5	Reed, 8	Villanova, 8
Emory, 6	Southern Methodist, 8	Wake Forest, 15
Fairfield, 6	St. Lawrence, 16	Wesleyan, 11
Franklin & Marshall, 7	Stanford, 7	Williams, 9
Georgetown, 24	Syracuse, 6	Yale, 10

## TESTING PROFILE

CLASS OF 2011

### SAT REASONING TEST

	CR	Math	Writing
Mean	647	656	662
75%ile	690	710	710
25%ile	600	600	610

### SAT SUBJECT TESTS

	mean	# tests
Biology-E	658	4
Biology-M	668	4
Chemistry	658	33
English Lit.	610	96
French	620	10
Latin	585	6
Math 1	613	72
Math 2	689	83
Physics	709	18
Spanish	650	1
U.S. History	645	56

### AP RESULTS

- 255 Taft students took a total of 676 AP exams.
- 74% resulted in scores of 4 or 5.
- 90% resulted in scores of 3 or higher.

### NATIONAL MERIT COMPETITION

Class of 2011(174 members)

- 2 National Merit Semifinalists
- 24 Commended Scholars
- 1 National Achievement Scholar

Class of 2012 (175)

- 1 National Merit Semifinalists
- 11 Commended Scholars



### 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)
- Electives (2.5)