



SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL FOR

SCIENCE+ MATHEMATICS

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ENROLLMENT

TOTAL: **257**
MALE: **44%**
FEMALE: **56%**
STUDENTS OF COLOR: **46%**
(Asian 26%, African-American
/Black 10%, Multi/Other 10%)
Class of 2024 APPLIED: **329**
Class of 2024 ENROLLED: **124**
Class of 2023 ENROLLED: **133**

FINANCIAL AID

2022-2023 PERCENT OF
STUDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR
FREE LUNCH PROGRAM:
15%

FACULTY

FULL TIME: **31**
PART TIME: **11**
PERCENT WITH ADVANCED
DEGREES: **100%**
PERCENT WITH A
DOCTORATE: **90%**

SCHOOL PROFILE 2022-2023

The South Carolina Governor's School for Science & Mathematics (GSSM) models educational excellence while nurturing future leaders for South Carolina and beyond. Established in 1988, GSSM is a public high school with residential, virtual, and outreach curricula for academically talented students from across the state.

Our mission is to seek out and advance our state's most talented and motivated students, offering a transforming education in science, mathematics, and engineering that cultivates joy in learning and builds the confidence to engage as ethical leaders with the world's most significant issues.

*Residential program serving juniors and seniors from throughout the state of South Carolina

*Selective, competitive admission to enroll

*Providing programs that are competitive with both public and independent schools

GSSM is a member and represented on the Board of Directors of the National Consortium of Secondary STEM Schools (NCSSS) and is a member of the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC) and The College Board.

ACADEMICS: THE COLLEGE MODEL

GSSM combines rigorous STEM, humanities, and social science courses, intensive labs, field trips, and mentored research to foster students' ability to think critically, apply theory, and develop ideas independently.

Our small faculty-student ratio allows GSSM faculty to give students individual attention to encourage them to reach their full potential. Our faculty teach at the college level, and our residential schedule mirrors a traditional college schedule. GSSM faculty grade rigorously. Many of our students exhaust AP offerings and take courses above the AP level. Out of the 68 STEM courses offered, 21% are AP, 19% are Above AP, and 18% are dual enrollment courses. The remaining are honors level. Above AP courses require AP courses as a prerequisite or are in a discipline without an AP course.

GSSM has dual-enrollment agreements with Coker University and Francis Marion University. Dual enrollment offerings include college-level courses in chemistry, Chinese, computer science, economics, engineering, English, mathematics and physics.

RESEARCH AND INQUIRY PROGRAM

All GSSM students conduct mentored research under the guidance of professional researchers at universities, field sites, and industry partners across the state, nation, and world. Students also have the opportunity to conduct undergraduate-level research at GSSM during the school year under the mentorship of GSSM's faculty (90% PhD) - including research in microwave spectroscopy, computational drug design, ecology, mathematics, and transportation infrastructure.

Through this distinctive program, GSSM students gain direct and practical experience with the process of research as applied in real world contexts. GSSM students become familiar with the methods of discovery, apply critical thinking skills, learn to overcome challenges with rigor and creativity, and challenge their ability to communicate. External research partner sites include Clemson University, College of Charleston, Medical University of South Carolina, University of South Carolina, MIT, international sites in Germany, and many others.

Students complete a research portfolio that communicates their experience to both general and expert audiences. They present their research at the GSSM Annual Research Colloquium and may also share their work at the South Carolina Junior Academy of Science annual meeting, professional conferences, or through submissions to academic journals.

JANUARY INTERIM

All GSSM students participate in a three-week January Interim during which they focus on one course that allows them to pursue a passion or explore a new interest. Courses are diverse in topic (science, technology, the arts), intense, and experiential (often including field experiences and travel). Past courses include: Gliding at the Bermuda High Soaring School, Equine Science and Horsemanship, Origami: The Art of Paperfolding, and The Cooking Lab.

VARSITY ATHLETICS

Approximately 75% of our students, many of whom have never been on an athletic team before coming to GSSM, participate in varsity sports. All our teams are "no cut." Despite the novice status of some athletes, however, GSSM has won numerous athletic competitions, including multiple regional championships with 5 more in the last year in women's tennis, volleyball, cross country, golf, track and field, and state team championships in men's cross country (2017), men's soccer (2018), women's volleyball (2018), women's track and field (2019), and state individual championships in men's and women's track and field (2018, 2019).

Our athletics department employs 30 seasonal coaches, maintains an excellent fitness center and employs a full-time certified athletic trainer with a state-of-the-art training room. We are currently exploring the possibility of building an E-sports program and fielding teams. Varsity sports for women and men include:

Basketball | Golf | Swimming | Track & Field | Cross Country | Soccer | Tennis | Volleyball | Cheer

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GRADING SCALE

All high schools in South Carolina must use the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale. Only grades of C or higher receive credit at GSSM. Additional weighting is given for grades earned in honors, AP, and dual enrollment courses. Per the South Carolina Uniform Grading Policy, 0.5 quality points are added to the CP weighting for honors, dual enrollment, and above AP courses, and 1.0 for AP and IB courses. The GPAs provided include all courses listed on the transcript, including courses posted from 8th grade.

Fall 2016 and later

A = 90 – 100 C = 70 – 79
B = 80 – 89 D = 60 – 69

GSSM is on the semester system with interim courses offered in January each year, and mentored research completed during the summer between junior and senior year.

Total graduation requirements for a State of SC and GSSM diploma: **24 Credits**. Our Academic Policies and Course Catalog can be found on our website: www.scgssm.org/residential/courses-and-requirements

Students must take five courses each semester (the equivalent of 15-18 college credit hours); students may take seven+ courses each semester with advisor and administrative approval. To meet GSSM and SC diploma requirements, students must complete:

Mathematics (including Calculus)**4-5**
Laboratory Science (including biology, chemistry, and physics)..... **3**
Foreign Language (in the same language) **2**
Computer Science.....**1** Fine Arts.....**1**
English/Language Arts**4** Research and Inquiry Experience**0.5**
Social Studies.....**3** Interim Courses.....**1**
Electives **2.5-3.5**

RANKING POLICY

GSSM does not rank its students; we enroll students from across South Carolina, many ranked first in their 10th-grade class. The junior year grade distribution chart provides a context for our students' transcripts.

GPA RANGE

(Weighted/SCUGS) Class of 2023: **3.939 - 5.505**

NATIONAL MERIT RECOGNITION

Class of 2022 National Merit Finalists: **10**

SAT CLASS OF 2022: MIDDLE 50% RANGES AND MEANS

	GSSM MEAN N=113	GSSM MIDDLE 50% RANGE	SOUTH CAROLINA COLLEGE-BOUND SENIOR MEAN	ALL COLLEGE-BOUND SENIOR MEAN
Evidence-Based Reading & Writing	683	640-740	529	533
Math	686	640-750	507	528

ACT CLASS OF 2022: MIDDLE 50% RANGES AND MEANS

	GSSM MEAN N=69	GSSM MIDDLE 50% RANGE	SOUTH CAROLINA COLLEGE-BOUND SENIOR MEAN	ALL COLLEGE-BOUND SENIOR MEAN
Composite	29	26-33	18.6	20.3

ACT CLASS OF 2023, SPRING JUNIOR YEAR: MIDDLE 50% RANGES AND MEANS

	GSSM MEAN N=79	GSSM MIDDLE 50% RANGE
Composite	28.8	26-33

GRADE DISTRIBUTION JUNIOR YEAR, CLASS OF 2023

MATH	A (90-100)	B (80-89)	C (70-79)	D (60-69)
Essentials for Calculus	0	4	4	6
Advanced Math II 111	11	14	0	0
Advanced Math III 112	6	19	0	0
Analysis I	15	20	8	5
Analysis II	21	16	4	2
AP Calculus AB 201	11	11	0	0
AP Calculus AB 202	14	12	2	0
AP Calculus BC (year-long course)	19	4	2	0
SCIENCE				
AP Biology 201	13	21	6	0
AP Biology 202	24	30	11	2
Principles of Chemistry (year-long course)	27	12	3	0
AP Chemistry 201	14	15	4	0
AP Chemistry 202	11	14	1	0
AP Physics 1-A	10	7	3	0
AP Physics 1-B	10	4	6	0
AP Physics C:M	5	7	1	0
AP Physics C:EM	6	5	0	0
COMPUTER SCIENCE				
AP Computer Science	18	9	7	1
ENGLISH				
College English 111	101	43	5	0
College English 112	97	39	8	0
SOCIAL SCIENCE				
AP U.S. History (year-long course)	101	19	3	0

SAT CLASS OF 2023, SPRING JUNIOR YEAR: MIDDLE 50% RANGES AND MEANS

	GSSM MEAN N=116	GSSM MIDDLE 50% RANGE
Evidence Based Reading & Writing	666	630-710
Math	682	620-740

SCIENCE CORE COURSES	BIOLOGY ELECTIVES (*ABOVE AP)	CHEMISTRY ELECTIVES (*ABOVE AP)	PHYSICS ELECTIVES (*ABOVE AP)
AP Biology	Marine Biology	Molecular Spectroscopy	*Fluids, Thermodynamics & Optics
Principles of Chemistry	Research in Restoration Ecology	*Introduction to Organics & Biochemistry	*Modern Physics
AP Chemistry	*Molecular Biology of the Cell	*Introduction to Analytical Chemistry	
Chemistry I & II (Dual Enrollment)	*Human Anatomy & Physiology	*Computational Chemistry	
General Physics I & II (Dual Enrollment)	*Principles of Microbiology	*Introduction to Inorganic Chemistry	
AP Physics C:M	*Introduction to Neuroscience	Research in Microwave Spectroscopy	
AP Physics C:EM	*Advanced Genetics	Research in Computational Drug Design	
	*Botany		
	*Biological Evolution		

MATHEMATICS CORE COURSES	MATHEMATICS ELECTIVES (*ABOVE AP)
Essentials for Calculus	*Linear Algebra
Foundations for Calculus	*Abstract Algebra
Concepts for Calculus	AP Statistics
Calculus with Applications	*Multivariable Calculus
Prep for Dual Enrollment Calculus	*Discrete Structures
Calculus I & II (Dual Enrollment)	*Number Theory
	*Ordinary Differential Equations
	Research in Computer Assisted Proof Writing

ENGINEERING VIRTUAL COURSES
Biomedical Engineering
Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering

ENGINEERING ELECTIVES	
Engineering Disciplines & Skills (Dual Enrollment)	Engineering Design and Modeling (Dual Enrollment)
Computer Programming 1 with MATLAB (Dual Enrollment)	Engineering: Product Design
Applications of Engineering Design	Research in Multimodal Transportation Systems
Engineering Mechanics: Statics	Robotics
Engineering: Electronics	

ENGLISH CORE COURSES	ENGLISH ELECTIVES
English Composition and Rhetoric (Dual Enrollment)	Writing in STEM (Dual Enrollment)
Introduction to Literature (Dual Enrollment)	Studies in Dramatic Literature
Reading & Writing Fiction, Drama, & Poetry (Dual Enrollment)	Introduction to Film
	Studies in Creative Writing: Fiction
	African-American Literature
	Studies in Creative Writing: Nonfiction
	Introduction to Philosophy
	Introduction to Science Fiction: Literature
	Gender Studies
	Shakespeare
	Eco-Fiction

FOREIGN LANGUAGE CORE COURSES	FOREIGN LANGUAGE ELECTIVES (*ABOVE AP)
French I	French IV
French II	AP French
French III	Spanish IV
Spanish II	AP Spanish Language
Spanish III	*Advanced Spanish Studies
German II	*Topics in Hispanic Culture and Linguistics
German III	
Introduction to Chinese I (Dual Enrollment)	
Introduction to Chinese II (Dual Enrollment)	
Intermediate Chinese III (Dual Enrollment)	
Intermediate Chinese IV (Dual Enrollment)	

GENERAL SCIENCES	
AP Environmental Science	Physics in the Arts
Your Cosmic Context	Astronomy

COMPUTER SCIENCE CORE COURSES	COMPUTER SCIENCE ELECTIVES
AP Computer Science	Introduction to Computer Networking
Computer Science I: Python for Scientist (Dual Enrollment)	Game Design, Prototyping, and Production
	Interactive Visual Programming Using Processing
	Data Structures and Algorithms
	Introduction to Database Design
	Computer Science II: C++ Applications (Dual Enrollment)
	Introduction to Artificial Intelligence

HISTORY AND SOCIAL SCIENCE	
AP U.S. History	The Civil War and Reconstruction
Colonial Latin America	The Sizzling Sixties
Native American Studies	AP Psychology
Ethics, Beauty, & the Environment	

RESEARCH AND INQUIRY	
Mentored Summer Research & Inquiry	Advanced Research & Inquiry Communication

GOVERNMENT, ECONOMICS AND FINANCE	
U.S. Government/Economics	Principles of Economics: Microeconomic Concepts (Dual Enrollment)
AP U.S. Government	Technology Ventures
AP Comparative Government	Quantitative Financial Analysis
Principles of Economics: Macroeconomic Concepts (Dual Enrollment)	International Economics

MUSIC, VISUAL ARTS & ASL ELECTIVES	
Chamber Orchestra I, II, III, IV	2D Art Exploration
Concert Choir I, II, III, IV	Advanced 2D Art Exploration
AP Music Theory	AP Art History
Introduction to Ceramics	Introduction to American Sign Language I, II
Advanced Ceramics	

DISCIPLINARY REPORTING POLICY
As recommended in NACAC's *Guide to Ethical Practice in College Admission*, GSSM clearly states its policy: The Office of College Counseling and Advising will disclose all infractions that result in suspension, expulsion, withdrawal pending disciplinary action, or any other probation status to the colleges to which a student applies. Whether the offense occurred before or after the time of application, or if a student has received an offer of admission, will not preclude an infraction from being reported.

CAMPUS LIFE

We see co-curricular engagement as essential to the holistic experience of students. We encourage all students to get involved in co-curricular activities and expect all students to get involved in the life of the school beyond their academic pursuits, whether through participation, leadership or community service.

Our more than 50 clubs include Business Club, Creative Writing Club, Common Ground, ENGAGE and GirlUP. Our Dean of Students leads our campus life program; our two student activity center coordinators, six residence life coordinators and 12 resident assistants manage it. Our residential halls have a house system with each of the six floors forming a house: Praesidium, Fidelitas, Lux, Veritas, Libertatum, and Fortem. The houses are led by six full-time live-in professional staff members who all have bachelor's or master's degrees. Our staff members facilitate developmental co-curricular programs based on the residential spheres of influence programming model: Social, Leadership, Health and Wellness, Academic and Professional Development. Our students also support the campus, local, and South Carolina communities through a required community engagement program. The program develops citizenship and shows our students gratitude to the State of South Carolina for the opportunity to attend GSSM, and to the local community for supporting our school. We encourage students to design and develop projects related to their personal interests, passions, and community needs. Past projects include:

- Student 2 Student – a tutoring initiative with the local Boys and Girls Club
- Beta Club, National Honor Society, 4H, Student Council, and Service Saturdays at the Humane Society
- A Mental Health Walk-5K coordinated by GSSM students

2019 – 2022 ACCEPTANCES & MATRICULATIONS BOLD INDICATES MATRICULATION

Agnes Scott College	Gettysburg College	Queen's University	University of Houston
Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences	Goucher College	Queens University of Charlotte	University of Illinois at Chicago
Albright College	Greenville Technical College	Reed College	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Allegheny College	Grinnell College	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	University of Kentucky
American University	Hamilton College	Rhodes College	University of Liverpool
Amherst College	Hampden-Sydney College	Rice University	University of Maine
Anderson University	Hampton University	Roanoke College	University of Mary Washington
Appalachian State University	Harvard University	Rochester Institute of Technology	University of Maryland (Baltimore County)
Arizona State University (Main Campus)	Hawaii Pacific University	Rollins College	University of Maryland (College Park)
Auburn University	High Point University	Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology	University of Massachusetts (Amherst)
Baylor University	Hofstra University	Rutgers University (New Brunswick)	University of Massachusetts (Lowell)
Beloit College	Hollins University	Rutgers University (Newark)	University of Miami
Berea College	Howard University	Saint Louis University	University of Michigan
Berry College	Illinois Institute of Technology	Samford University	University of Minnesota (Twin Cities)
Birmingham Southern College	Illinois Wesleyan University	Santa Clara University	University of Mississippi
Boston College	Indiana University (Bloomington)	Sarah Lawrence College	University of Missouri
Boston University	Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis	Savannah College of Art and Design	University of Mount Union
Brandeis University	Iowa State University	Sciences Po Paris	University of New England
Brevard College	Ithaca College	Scripps College	University of New Hampshire (Main Campus)
Brown University	Jacksonville University	Seton Hall University	University of North Carolina at Asheville
Bryn Mawr College	John Carroll University	Sewanee: The University of the South	University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Bucknell University	Johns Hopkins University	Smith College	University of North Carolina at Charlotte
California Baptist University	Kalamazoo College	South Dakota School of Mines and Technology	University of North Carolina at Greensboro
California Institute of Technology	Kenyon College	Southern Wesleyan University	University of North Carolina at Pembroke
Carnegie Mellon University	Lafayette College	Southwestern University	University of North Carolina Wilmington
Carson-Newman University	Lander University	Spelman College	University of North Dakota
Case Western Reserve University	Lehigh University	St. Andrews University	University of North Florida
Catholic University of America	Lenoir-Rhyne University	St. Bonaventure University	University of Notre Dame
Centre College	LeTourneau University	St. John's College (Santa Fe)	University of Oklahoma
Charleston Southern University	Lewis & Clark College	St. John's University (New York)	University of Oregon
Citadel Military College of South Carolina	Liberty University	St. Olaf College	University of Pennsylvania
Clafflin University	Lipscomb University	Stanford University	University of Pittsburgh (Main Campus)
Clark Atlanta University	Long Island University (Brooklyn)	Stevens Institute of Technology	University of Portland
Clark University	Loughborough University	Stony Brook University	University of Puget Sound
Clarkson University	Louisiana State University	SUNY at Binghamton	University of Richmond
Clemson University	Louisiana Tech University	SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry	University of Rochester
Coastal Carolina University	Loyola University Chicago	Swarthmore College	University of San Francisco
Coker University	Loyola University Maryland	Syracuse University	University of South Carolina
Colgate University	Macalester College	Temple University	University of South Carolina (Aiken)
College of Charleston	Maine Maritime Academy	Texas A&M University	University of South Carolina (Beaufort)
Colorado College	Manchester University	The College of Saint Rose	University of South Carolina (Lancaster)
Colorado School of Mines	Marquette University	The College of William and Mary	University of South Carolina (Upstate)
Colorado State University (Fort Collins)	Mary Baldwin University	The College of Wooster	University of South Florida (Main Campus)
Columbia College	Mercer University	The Ohio State University (Main Campus)	University of Southern California
Columbia University	Mesa Community College	The University of Alabama	University of Southern Mississippi
Connecticut College	Miami University (Oxford)	The University of Sheffield	University of the Sciences
Converse College	Michigan State University	The University of Tampa	University of Toronto
Cornell University	Michigan Technological University	The University of Tennessee (Knoxville)	University of Utah
Coventry University	Milwaukee School of Engineering	The University of Texas at Austin	University of Vermont
CUNY City College	Mississippi State University	The University of West Florida	University of Virginia (Main Campus)
Dalhousie University	Missouri University of Science and Technology	Tufts University	University of Washington (Seattle Campus)
Dartmouth College	Montreat College	Tulane University of Louisiana	University of Waterloo
Davidson College	Mount Holyoke College	Tuskegee University	University of Wisconsin (Madison)
Delaware Valley University	Muhlenberg College	Underwood International College, Yonsei University	Valdosta State University
Denison University	Nazareth College	Union College	Vanderbilt University
DePaul University	Neumont College of Computer Science	United States Military Academy at West Point	Vassar College
DePauw University	New College of Florida	United States Naval Academy	Villanova University
Dickinson College	New York Institute of Technology	University of Aberdeen	Virginia Commonwealth University
Drexel University	New York University	University of Akron Main Campus	Virginia Tech
Duke Kunshan University	North Carolina A & T State University	University of Alabama at Birmingham	Virginia Wesleyan University
Duke University	North Carolina State University	University of Alabama at Huntsville	Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
Earlham College	North Greenville University	University of Amsterdam	Wake Forest University
East Carolina University	Northeastern University	University of Arizona	Washington and Lee University
East Tennessee State University	Northern Michigan University	University of California (Berkeley)	Washington University in St Louis
Eckerd College	Northland College	University of California (Davis)	Wellesley College
Elon University	Notre Dame of Maryland University	University of California (Irvine)	Wells College
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (Daytona Beach)	Oberlin College	University of California (Los Angeles)	Wesleyan University
Emory & Henry College	Oglethorpe University	University of California (San Diego)	West Virginia University
Emory University	Ohio University (Main Campus)	University of California (Santa Barbara)	West Virginia University Institute of Technology
Florida Institute of Technology	Ohio Wesleyan University	University of California (Santa Cruz)	Western Carolina University
Florida Polytechnic University	Olin College of Engineering	University of Central Florida	Western University
Florida State University	Oregon State University	University of Chicago	Wheaton College
Fordham University	Oxford College of Emory University	University of Cincinnati (Main Campus)	Williams College
Francis Marion University	Parsons School of Design at The New School	University of Colorado Boulder	Wingate University
Franciscan University of Steubenville	Penn State University (Main Campus)	University of Connecticut	Winthrop University
Furman University	Penn State University (Scranton)	University of Delaware	Wofford College
Gardner-Webb University	Pepperdine University	University of Denver	Worcester Polytechnic Institute
George Mason University	Pratt Institute	University of Florida	Xavier University of Louisiana
George Washington University	Presbyterian College	University of Georgia	Yale University
Georgetown University	Princeton University	University of Glasgow	
Georgia Institute of Technology	Providence College	University of Hawaii at Manoa	
Georgia State University	Purdue University (Main Campus)	University of Health Sciences & Pharmacy	