



# We are real-world problem solvers with a social conscience.

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## GRADING AND CLASS RANK

TEA practices Mastery or Standards-Based grading to assess, evaluate and report on each student's academic progress, growth and performance. As TEA is a small, academically rigorous school, the school does not provide a class rank. TEA utilizes a grade scale of A to C-, with less than a C- as incomplete. TEA does not offer AP and Honors level courses because our philosophy is to provide rigorous project-based learning to all students causing our baseline curriculum to be at a standard honors level. Starting with the 2022-2023 school year, TEA moved to semester grading from year long grading. All academic classes have a value of 1.0 credit and intensives have a value of 0.5.

For the 2022-2023 school year, we are back to our pre-COVID field work curriculum, which we anticipate to include up to 30 days a year outside of the classroom engaging in hands-on / real-world curriculum. Students were online during the 2020-2021 school year.

## THE SCHOOL

Enrollment Pre-K to 12th:	240
Class of 2021:	9 students
Financial Aid:	33% of students
Student/Faculty Ratio:	8:1
Full-time Teaching Faculty:	29
Faculty with Advanced Degrees:	90%
First Graduating Class:	2017

## HISTORY

In 2011, TEA launched a new independent school that values academic excellence, character building, and real-world adventures. Our students master academic skills and apply them to real-world problems. We are harnessing the power of young people - not only by preparing future leaders, but by tapping their creative action, right now. Since its inception, TEA has grown from 72 students in Pre-K through 8th grade to 240 students in Pre-K through 12th grade in 2022-23. Since the launch of our high school program in 2017, we have graduated a total of 54 students ready to engage with the world as creative problem solvers with a social conscience. In 2023, TEA will graduate its seventh class.

## OUR PROGRAM

Tahoe Expedition Academy's (TEA) program connects a rigorous standards-based academic program with a modern experiential learning approach. In addition to earning the highest level of accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) in 2017, all high school courses are University of California, A-G approved.

The following learner outcomes are derived from national standards like Common Core ELA and Math, Next Generation Science, National Social Science, Secondary Language Standards, as well as character and adventure standards we created.

### STUDENTS AT TEA DEVELOP THE TOOLS THEY NEED TO EMBRACE CHALLENGES AS OPPORTUNITIES.

We teach our Adapt to Thrive learner outcome by strategically pushing students out of their comfort zone both inside and outside of the classroom. Examples include engaging with adult experts on a peer-to-peer level, grappling with real-world problems that can result in failed prototypes, extended physical challenges including multiple day 30+ mile hikes, and embracing mental curveballs that simulate a variety of challenges professionals face on any given day.

### STUDENTS AT TEA UTILIZE DIVERSE PERSPECTIVES TO EXAMINE ISSUES OF JUSTICE AND EQUITY THROUGH A TRIPLE BOTTOM LINE OF SUSTAINABILITY LENS.

We teach our Triple Bottom Line for a Just and Equitable World learner outcome through hands-on investigations of topics like climate change and the balance of power. Students learn the impact on different populations through statistical analysis, and evaluate solutions by looking at the social, political, economic, and environmental opportunities and impacts. We seek to teach our students how to critically think and analyze multiple perspectives so they can identify how they wish to contribute to the world in line with their own personal values.

## DISTINCTIVE PROGRAMS

### CHARACTER EDUCATION: POWERED BY CONSTRUCTIVE ADVERSITY

Our program intentionally pushes all students to and even beyond their intellectual, social, emotional, and physical comfort zones. This calculated risk-taking is the foundation of our school and builds confidence, augments character and helps students exceed their own ideas of what is possible. We know our students are ready for the real world because they have been trained to navigate and contribute to it.

### A MODERN EXPERIENTIAL APPROACH

Students spend 30+ days/nights in the field and work with an average of 10-15 different industry experts per year to actively engage in solution generating processes for some of the world's most pressing issues. TEA students learn how to do hard things by actually doing hard things.

### REAL-WORLD INTENSIVES

Real-World Intensives, a.k.a. Electives, are one method TEA uses to bring learning to life. These real-world academic experiences are powered by Constructive Adversity to push students to the limits of their intellectual, social-emotional, and physical boundaries. In these semester-long graded courses aligned to national standards, students work individually and in groups to create solutions to 21st-century problems.



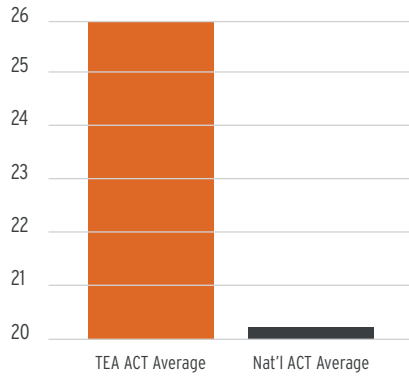
Tahoe Expedition Academy

## TESTING

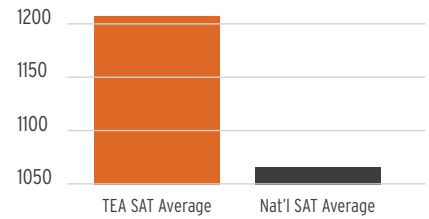
With ACT and SAT testing data starting with the class of 2017, our students have performed above the national averages.

In addition, with the de-emphasis on standardized testing for college admissions, more of our students are opting to not take an SAT or ACT.

ACT 2017-2023



SAT 2017-2023



## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students achieve a minimum level of mastery toward student learner outcomes in order to advance to the next grade level and/or receive a re-enrollment offer. Additionally, students meet specific credit requirements for graduation in order to earn a diploma from TEA.

**MINIMUM TOTAL CREDITS:**  
20 credits over four years

English	4 Credits
Math	4 Credits
Science	4 Credits
Social Science	3 Credits
Electives*	2 Credits
Second Language	2 Credits
Individual Senior Intensive	1 Credits

*\*At least one year of visual and performing arts is required*

## COURSE OFFERINGS 2022-2023

### ENGLISH

- ELA 9
- ELA 10
- ELA 11
- ELA 12

### MATH

- Integrated Math I
- Integrated Math II
- Integrated Math III
- Statistics

### SCIENCE

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Physics
- Earth Science

### SOCIAL SCIENCE

- Human Geography
- Modern World History
- US History
- Government & Politics

### FOREIGN LANGUAGE

- Spanish I
- Spanish II
- Spanish III
- Spanish IV

### REAL-WORLD INTENSIVES & ELECTIVES

- Physics of Flight
- Renewable Energy
- Wild California
- A Life Aquatic - Underwater Submersibles
- Aventura Dominicana
- Climbing the Sea-Level Staircase
- Let Food Be Thy Medicine
- Human-Animal Connection
- Digital Music
- Introduction to Film
- Fashion & Textiles
- Intro to Drawing and Painting
- Intro to 2D Media & Design Art
- Product Design I
- Design & Fabrication
- Intro to Computer Science
- Yearbook & Journalism
- Fitness
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Biomimicry
- Meteorology
- Sports Psychology
- Art & Science of Film
- Into the Wild



# Tahoe Expedition Academy

## COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES 2017 - 2022

100% of our seniors who applied to college since 2017, were accepted to 4-year colleges/universities, earning over \$4,336,360 in merit-based scholarships to date. Acceptances with bold listings are enrollments from 2017-2022:

### Academy of Art University

Arizona State University  
Babson College  
Baylor University  
Belmont University  
Boston University  
California Polytechnic, Humboldt  
California Polytechnic, Pomona  
**California Polytechnic, San Luis Obispo**  
California Polytechnics, San Luis Obispo (Honors)  
California State University, Channel Islands  
California State University, Chico  
California State University, Fullerton  
California State University, Long Beach  
California State University, Maritime  
California State University, San Francisco  
Case Western University

### Chapman University

**Colby College**  
Columbia College Chicago

### Colorado College

**Georgetown University**  
Gonzaga University  
Holy Names University  
Hult International Business School  
Ithaca College  
John Cabot University (Italy)  
Lewis and Clark College

### Loyola Marymount University

Loyola University Chicago  
Marquette University  
Michigan State University  
Montana State University

### Principia College

Montana Technological University

New York University

### Northeastern University

Northern Arizona University  
Oberlin College  
**Colorado School of Mines**  
Colorado State University  
Eckerd College  
**Emerson College**  
Fort Lewis College  
Oregon Institute of Technology  
Oregon State University, Honors  
Pennsylvania State University  
Pepperdine University

### Pfizer College

Portland State University

### Quest College (Canada)

Reed College  
Regis University  
Saint Mary's College of California

### San Diego State University

San Francisco State University  
San Jose State University  
Santa Clara University  
**Scripps College**  
Seattle Pacific University  
Sierra Nevada University  
Simmons University  
Simon Fraser University (Canada)  
South Dakota School of Mines

### Southern Methodist University

### Stanford University

### Texas Christian University

The University of Alabama  
Tulane University  
University of Arizona

### University of British Columbia (Canada)

**University of California, Berkeley**  
**University of California, Davis**  
**University of California, Irvine**  
University of California, Los Angeles  
University of California, Merced  
University of California, Riverside  
University of California, Santa Cruz  
**University of California, San Diego**  
**University of Colorado, Boulder**  
University of Colorado, Colorado Springs  
University of Colorado, Denver  
University of Denver  
University of Edinburgh Napier  
University of Hawaii, Manoa

### University of Idaho

University of Montana

### University of Nevada, Reno

University of Oregon  
University of Oregon (Honors)

### University of San Diego

University of Puget Sound  
University of San Francisco  
University of Utah  
University of Vermont  
University of Washington, Seattle  
University of Wisconsin, Madison  
Washington State University  
Wesleyan University  
Western Colorado University  
Western Washington University  
Whittier College  
**Whitworth College**  
Willamette University

## SNAPSHOT OF THE CLASS OF 2023

### INDIVIDUAL SENIOR INTENSIVE

Each senior creates, develops and implements their own multi-week field intensive study. This capstone experience empowers students to create positive impacts on the world and to demonstrate what they are able to do, before going to college.

### SNAPSHOT OF REAL WORLD PROBLEM SOLVING OVER THE PAST FOUR YEARS

With over 100 days/nights in the field over the past four years, the class of 2023 is comfortable with change, uncertainty and traveling the world. Through dozens of stewardship and service-learning projects, our graduates understand how to do good for others and the environment. With over 300 hours spent working alongside industry experts from organizations like NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, NOAA, California Department of Juvenile Justice, Universal Studios, Anti-Recidivism Coalition, and the Bureau of Land Management, our students have learned how to combat important issues in the world that are happening now. This world map previews a small selection of the real world problems and field study highlights experienced by students from the class of 2023.

### GRIT, COMMUNITY AND SELF GROWTH: GRAND CANYON

During a backpacking trip that spanned 32 miles and 5,000 vertical feet, students learned about leadership, photography, geology, and climate change, but mostly they learned about themselves.

### WHAT UNITES US: CHICAGO

After 10 days in Chicago, students walked away with a better understanding of power, privilege, and identity, and what an individual can do to make the world a little bit better.

### CLIMATE CHANGE: MAINE

Examining how the Maine mountains and coastlines were sounding the alarm of a changing climate and how locals were addressing the arising problems on personal, organizational, and political levels.

### IS RENEWABLE ENERGY WORTH THE PRICE? CHILE

Observing the struggles that arise between a country's people and their fight to protect natural environments with governments and corporations who fight for scarce natural resources, land, sustainability with an ultimate goal of financial gains.

