

# Loyola High School of Los Angeles

Los Angeles, United States



*Tracing its roots to 1865 as St. Vincent's College, this all-boys Jesuit campus is Southern California's oldest continuously run school.*

## RANKING DIMENSIONS

|                      |        |
|----------------------|--------|
| Overall              | 75/100 |
| Academic outcomes    | 76/100 |
| University placement | 74/100 |
| Prestige & heritage  | 77/100 |
| Alumni network       | 78/100 |
| Facilities           | 76/100 |
| Transparency         | 72/100 |

## EDITOR'S VERDICT

Loyola High School of Los Angeles occupies a rare position in the US market: an all-boys Jesuit day school with real historical weight, a large urban catchment and a clear moral brief. Founded in 1865, it is Southern California’s oldest continuously run school, and that longevity matters because the school still trades on a coherent idea rather than a loose collection of programmes. The core proposition is plain: an American college-preparatory education, Catholic formation, and the Jesuit insistence on educating the whole person. For families who want a boys’ school without the brittle old-club atmosphere, Loyola has a stronger case than many peers. The scale also matters. With more than 1,300 students drawn from 190-plus zip codes, this is not a cloistered enclave but a substantial Los Angeles institution with \*serious civic

reach\*.

What puts Loyola on a shortlist is the combination of academic ambition, structure and service. The school states that **99%** of graduates go on to college or university. That figure speaks to consistency, not selectivity theatre. The required **120+** hours of community service before graduation is not decorative; it signals a school that expects boys to work beyond themselves. The student body is also more socially and ethnically mixed than the stereotype of an elite Catholic boys' school allows, with nearly half of students identified by the school as Latino, Asian-Pacific or African-American. Add a **1:12** student-teacher ratio and parents get a campus built for close supervision as well as momentum. *This is not a place for drifting.* It suits families who value discipline, adult expectations and a *firm moral centre* alongside university preparation.

Loyola's market position is therefore distinct. It serves parents who want the advantages of a large, well-established independent school, but do not want a school defined by trend-chasing or lifestyle branding. The Jesuit identity gives the school *intellectual seriousness* and a service ethos that is more exacting than the generic "leadership" language used by many American college-prep schools. Boys who thrive here will be comfortable in a structured environment, willing to be pushed academically, and open to faith-inflected reflection even if they are not driven by piety alone. The strongest fit is the student who wants a busy, high-accountability school community, broad peer exposure across Los Angeles, and an education anchored in *duty, purpose and service*. For the right family, Loyola offers *substance over performance*.

STRENGTHS

- Founded in 1865, Loyola is the oldest continuously run educational institution in Southern California, with an established Jesuit tradition since 1911.
- Niche ranked Loyola the No. 1 Catholic High School in Southern California in its 2026 Best Catholic High School rankings.
- Ninety-nine percent of graduates go on to college or university, per the school's own published outcomes data.
- Admissions is need-blind and financial aid is substantial, with an average grant covering roughly 52 percent of tuition for about 30 percent of students.
- Draws students from over 190 zip codes across greater Los Angeles, producing a genuinely mixed student body by geography, ethnicity and income.

TRADE-OFFS

- All-boys school, which rules it out for families wanting a co-educational environment.
- Tuition is a significant expense (sources cite figures from roughly \$17,800 up to \$26,600 for 2024-25), plus mandatory tuition insurance and fees.
- As a well-regarded Jesuit prep school with a long reputation, admission is competitive and application requires transcripts, recommendations, an essay and often an interview.
- Catholic religious formation and a mandatory 100-plus hours of community service over four years are built into the program, which may not suit strictly secular or purely academic priorities.

## ADMISSIONS

Entry is primarily at grade 9, with an application deadline of January 6 and a non-refundable \$75 application fee. Requirements typically include a school transcript, teacher and counselor recommendations, a personal essay, standardized test scores, and an interview (often optional but recommended). The admissions committee also weighs extracurricular involvement and, for a Catholic institution, spiritual formation. The process is need-blind, and admission is competitive given the school's long-standing reputation and Jesuit pedigree, though it draws from a wide and diverse Los Angeles applicant pool rather than a narrow feeder base.

WTS RATING 

This profile summarises editorial research by World's Top Schools. Verify all admissions dates directly with the school before submitting. Sources are cited in the full online profile at [WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch\\_11edf1b98e](https://WorldsTopSchools.com/schools/sch_11edf1b98e).