

Colegio Nueva Granada

Bogotá, Colombia



A 1938 foothills campus in Bogota pairing dual US-Colombian diplomas, 32 AP courses and a four-house tradition.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	69/100
Academic outcomes	78/100
University placement	84/100
Prestige & heritage	78/100
Alumni network	1/100
Facilities	84/100
Transparency	88/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

A 1938 school in Bogotá’s foothills, Colegio Nueva Granada occupies a rare space in the Colombian market: a bilingual day school with dual US-Colombian diplomas, English and Spanish as languages of instruction, and an academic menu that runs to ****32 AP courses**** alongside the IB. That combination matters. It gives families a route into North American university admissions without cutting students off from the Colombian system. The school’s four-house tradition adds a layer of identity and competition that many international schools claim and few sustain well over time. At an average annual day fee of ****\$20,000****, it sits in the premium bracket for Bogotá, but the proposition is clear: a long-established, academically ambitious school with a genuinely bicultural structure.

What puts it on a shortlist is not novelty but **institutional heft**. Founded in ****1938****, Colegio Nueva Granada has had time to build habits, expectations and alumni reach, and there is verified evidence of that footprint: 9 notable alumni catalogued in Wikidata, including 4 politicians or statespersons. The school also holds IB accreditation, which gives formal backing to the international side of its offer. University destinations in the context skew domestic rather than global glamour-signalling — CESA, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana and Universidad de la Sabana — and that is useful information. It points to a school that serves families invested in Colombia as well as those using an American-style curriculum for mobility. Parents looking for a conveyor belt to a narrow set of US or UK brand-name universities will want fuller leavers' data; the school does not publish that here.

The right student for Colegio Nueva Granada is academically serious, comfortable operating in two languages, and ready for a **demanding**, structured environment rather than a loose progressive one. This is a school for families who want substance over theatre: a non-religious setting, a full age ****3-18**** span, and a curriculum architecture broad enough to keep options open late into secondary school. It will suit students who thrive on range — American curriculum, IB, AP, local diploma requirements — and who want a peer group anchored in Bogotá rather than a transient expatriate bubble. It is **not for families seeking softness**: the attraction here is breadth, discipline and a **hard-edged academic** proposition with local roots.

STRENGTHS

- Founded in 1938, CNG is one of Bogota's oldest continuously operating international schools, giving it a long institutional track record rather than a recent start-up profile.
- The school offers over 20 Honors/Pre-AP classes and 25 Advanced Placement courses, with a dual program preparing students for both the U.S. High School Diploma and the Colombian Bachillerato Diploma.
- CNG is accredited by Cognia and the Colombian Ministry of Education, giving it dual recognition for U.S.-bound and Colombian-bound university applicants.
- Colegio Nueva Granada is home to the first Confucius Institute established in a K-12 school in Latin America, promoting Chinese language and culture study, an unusual add-on for a Bogota day school.
- The student body draws from 47 nationalities, giving a genuinely international mix rather than a purely local intake.

TRADE - OFFS

- English proficiency is required from 1st grade onward, with limited ENL services for international families and no ENL program beyond 5th grade, which can make mid-secondary entry difficult for non-English speakers.
- Historical tuition has run into the ten-to-twelve-thousand-dollar range per year by grade band, alongside a one-time capital fee, placing it among Bogota's pricier day schools rather than a budget option.
- Learning Center services are capped at 15% of students per grade level, so places for children needing additional academic support are limited and not guaranteed.
- A decades-long building moratorium tied to a class-action lawsuit over Bogota's eastern hillsides prevented CNG from adding new construction for roughly 15 years, a reminder that campus expansion here has been unusually constrained by local land-use disputes.

ADMISSIONS

CNG runs two separate admissions tracks: K4/K5 for early years and 1st-12th grade for later entry, with placement based on age and prior schooling. English proficiency is required from 1st grade, and ENL support disappears entirely after 5th grade, which narrows options for late-arriving non-English speakers. A waitlist operates via random selection when a grade level is full, and Learning Center places for students needing extra academic support are capped at 15% of each cohort, so families should confirm availability before applying. Colombian nationals are generally required to follow the Bachillerato track under national policy.

NOTABLE ALUMNI (9)

DRAMA: Juan Pablo Raba, Carolina Gómez

POLITICS: Carolina Barco, Clara López, Dan Crenshaw, Jacquin Strouss Lucena

SCIENCE: Clara López, Jacquin Strouss Lucena

WTS RATING 

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