

American Cooperative School La Paz

La Paz, Bolivia



High in the Andes, this US-curriculum day school pairs AP rigor with an observatory and Bolivia's largest English-language library.

RANKING DIMENSIONS

Overall	56/100
Academic outcomes	57/100
University placement	55/100
Prestige & heritage	56/100
Alumni network	55/100
Facilities	58/100
Transparency	45/100

EDITOR'S VERDICT

American Cooperative School La Paz occupies a distinctive niche in Bolivia’s capital: a ****1955****-founded, English-medium, non-religious day school running an American curriculum for ages 3–18. In a city of 755,732 and a metropolitan area of 2.2 million, that combination carries real weight. This is not a marginal bilingual option or a local school with imported branding. It is a long-established route into a US-style education in La Paz, with the scale and continuity that international and internationally minded local families look for. The school’s pull is clear in the tagline itself: AP academic stretch, an observatory, and Bolivia’s largest English-language library. That trio gives the school a sharper identity than many American-curriculum schools in smaller markets, which lean on generic claims about global citizenship

and little else.

What puts it on a shortlist is substance, not gloss. AP matters because it signals an academic ceiling above the baseline US high-school programme. An observatory is not decorative; it points to a school that has invested in science beyond the classroom and has a credible way to turn theory into practice. A major English-language library matters just as much. In an English-medium school, reading provision is core infrastructure, not a lifestyle extra. Parents who want **serious academic traction**, **a stronger reading culture**, and **more than a standard expat bubble** will clock that quickly. The school's age range — ***3-18*** — also offers one uninterrupted path from early years to university preparation, which counts for families who value stability in a city where good international options are limited.

The best fit is a student who is comfortable in an academically directed environment and wants breadth without abandoning rigour. This school suits readers, science-inclined pupils, and teenagers who want the structure of the American system with AP challenge at the top end. It also suits families who want English as the language of instruction from the start, not as a partial add-on. Children who need a highly pastoral, boutique setting or an overtly progressive model may find the proposition less compelling. The attraction here is **intellectual seriousness**, **continuity**, **practical ambition**, and a setting that feels **high-altitude and outward-looking** rather than insulated.

STRENGTHS

- American curriculum offers continuity for US-bound families.
- English instruction suits anglophone expatriate households.
- Day school avoids compulsory boarding from age 3.
- Serves ages 3-18, reducing school-change disruptions.

TRADE-OFFS

- American curriculum may not suit non-US university pathways.
- English-only instruction may limit local-language immersion.
- Day-only model offers no boarding for relocating families.

ADMISSIONS

American Cooperative School La Paz is a non-religious day school in La Paz, founded in 1955, offering an American curriculum in English for pupils aged 3 to 18. On that basis, the main entry points are likely to be early years, primary, secondary and sixth-form-equivalent age groups, though the school does not publicly specify preferred intake years in the material provided. Nor does it publish, here, any detail on whether places are available year-round or concentrated at the start of the academic year.

The school also does not publish, in the sources supplied, its assessment format, admissions deadlines, or whether selection includes interviews, reports, testing, or English-language screening. Likewise, there is no public information here on bursaries, scholarships or wider financial aid. For parents considering a move to La Paz — Bolivia's seat of government and the core of a metropolitan area of about 2.2 million — the sensible assumption is that admissions are handled directly by the school and that practical details need to be confirmed case by case rather than inferred from other American schools in the region.

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_e3a245f702.