

EDUCATION, TRAINING & Online Learning

Plus K-12 STEAM GUIDE



Presented by





IMPROVING THE ONLINE LEARNING EXPERIENCE FOR ADULT LEARNERS

As a nationally-ranked private institution, Concordia University Irvine has helped set the standard for quality online and hybrid courses in graduate education.

Over the last decade, faculty members Tanya Tarbutton and Lori Doyle '97, MA '06, have conducted extensive research designed to continue the university's history of excellence in online learning. Today, the duo are co-authors of more than 14 projects, including journal articles and edited books, on the subject.

"We look at virtual learning environments specific to graduate programs and how to do that really well," says Doyle, associate professor of education and director of the Master of Arts in Educational Leadership program. "From designing the coursework and assignments to hiring faculty, we focus on the whole process of online learning and how educators can do that in the best possible way."

Joining Concordia in 2015, Doyle holds the distinction of being one of the university's first full-time remote faculty members. Tarbutton, who joined Concordia in 2016, is senior director of the Master of Arts in Education degree programs, educational administration practicum coordinator, and associate professor of education.

"Many of the School of Education's programs are online and are taught by adjunct instructors who bring invaluable contributions and unique perspectives to our virtual classrooms," says Tarbutton. "We embraced opportunities to investigate and sharpen best practices for adult learners."

One of the pair's first projects was a book chapter titled, "Virtual Ancillary Faculty: A Model of Support to Avoid Burnout and Foster Self-Efficacy." They concluded that adjunct faculty need to feel strongly connected to a university and share a sense of support and camaraderie with others there to have long-term success. Doyle and Tarbutton recommended offering plenty of professional development opportunities for instructors where they could learn and connect with others.



"Social, collaborative communities develop organically in traditional face-to-face settings, but in online platforms, curriculum designers need to be intentional to create collaborative communities to reap those same benefits."

Tanya Tarbutton, Senior Director of M.A.Ed. programs,
Educational Administration Practicum Coordinator, and Associate
Professor of Education

"There are purposeful things a university can do to build an online program and make online learning the best it can be," says Doyle. "You foster success by the way courses are designed, assignments are written, and faculty are trained and supported. It's a lot of effort to make online programs successful, and that's what Concordia has embraced. There's purpose behind everything we do."

Doyle and Tarbutton co-wrote a 16-chapter handbook, *Adjunct Faculty in Online Higher Education: Best Practices for Teaching Adult Learners*, which was released in early 2024 and is described as "an essential handbook that delves into the pivotal role of adjunct faculty instructors in the booming realm of online higher education." Their second co-edited research handbook, *Best Practices and Strategies for Online Instructors: Insights From Higher Education Online Faculty*, will be published this fall. Both function as textbooks.

Improving the experience of adult learners is one of their primary motivations.

"You have to understand the needs and styles of adult learners, specifically," says Doyle. "They are in careers wanting immediate take-aways they can put into effect tomorrow. You have to provide them opportunities to connect their experiences, careers, and personal lives with what you're doing in the classroom."

To learn more about Concordia University Irvine, visit cui.edu.



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Amanda N. '15

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Location: Costa Mesa, California

Welcome to Sofia University's distinguished Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) programs, located in the vibrant city of Costa Mesa, California. At Sofia, we are committed to fostering excellence in business education and preparing our students for success in today's dynamic global marketplace. Let's explore the unique features and benefits of our MBA and DBA programs:

Rigorous Curriculum:

Our MBA and DBA programs offer a rigorous curriculum that provides students with a comprehensive understanding of business principles, strategies, and practices. From finance to marketing, operations to management, our courses are designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills needed to excel in diverse business environments.

Experienced Faculty:

Our faculty members are industry experts and seasoned professionals with extensive experience in their respective fields. They bring real-world insights and perspectives into the classroom, enriching the learning experience and preparing students for the challenges and opportunities of the business world.

Affordable Tuition:

At Sofia University, we believe in providing high-quality education at an affordable cost. Our MBA and DBA programs offer competitive tuition rates, making advanced business education accessible to aspiring professionals without breaking the bank.

Global Perspective:

Our programs emphasize global business trends, cross-cultural communication, and international business practices. With a focus on global perspectives, our students are prepared to thrive in today's interconnected world and contribute to the success of multinational organizations.

Networking Opportunities:

Networking is essential for success in business, and at Sofia University, we

provide ample opportunities for students to connect with industry professionals, alumni, and fellow classmates. From networking events to guest lectures, students have the chance to expand their professional network and forge valuable connections that can lead to career advancement and opportunities.



Personalized Support:

We prioritize the success and well-being of our students, offering personalized support every step of the way. Whether you need academic assistance, career guidance, or support with personal challenges, our team is here to help you succeed and thrive in your academic and professional endeavors.

Research Opportunities:

Our DBA program offers an exceptional opportunity for students to engage in advanced research and contribute to the body of knowledge in their field. With faculty mentorship and research resources, DBA students have the opportunity to explore cutting-edge topics and make meaningful contributions to their chosen field of study.

Affordable DBA Program:

Sofia University's DBA program stands out for its affordability. Compared to similar programs in the Los Angeles and Orange County areas, which can cost nearly \$100,000 more, our DBA program offers exceptional value without compromising on quality. With affordable tuition and a rigorous curriculum, our DBA program is an excellent investment in your future.

Join Us at Sofia University:

Whether you're seeking to advance your career with an MBA or pursue doctoral studies with a DBA, Sofia University offers a transformative educational experience that prepares you for success in business and beyond. Located in Costa Mesa, California, our campus provides a vibrant and supportive learning environment where you can thrive and excel.

For more information about our MBA and DBA programs, visit www.sofia.edu or contact our admissions office at admissions@sofia.edu. We look forward to welcoming you to the Sofia University community and helping you achieve your academic and professional goals.

Name of Institution

Sofia University

Name of School or Program

Institute of Applied and Professional Studies

Highest Ranking Officer

President, Dr. Carol Humphreys

Year School or Program was founded

1975

Total Enrollment (all platforms offered)

382

Platforms Offered

In person, Full Time, Weekend, Hybrid, NEW - MBA Online Program

Areas of Emphasis Offered

Master of Business Administration
Data Analytics Concentration (STEM certified)
Possible Career Outcomes Include:

- Data Analyst
- Data Scientist
- Statistical Analyst

Doctor of Business Administration
General Concentration

Possible Career Outcomes Include:

- Executive Business Leadership
- Global Team and Project Leadership
- Professor in Global Business
- Coach and Mentor of Global Business Leaders
- Executive Global Business Strategist & Policy Analyst

Length of Programs

Doctor of Business Administration – 36 months

Master of Business Administration – 18 months, with option to go 24 months

Program Accreditations

WASC

Total Cost

Visit www.sofia.edu or email our admissions team at admissions@sofia.edu for program cost and scholarship opportunities.

Important Admissions Dates

- Spring Term 2026, Begins April 6 - *Application Deadline: March 16*
- Summer Term 2026, Begins July 6 - *Application Deadline: June 15*
- Fall Term 2026, Begins September 28 - *Application Deadline: September 7th*

Program Contact Information

Website: www.sofia.edu

Contact Admissions: admissions@sofia.edu

Ph: (888) 820-1484



This program was about much more than just algorithms and coding

– it was about growing as a whole person. Developing not just our minds, but also our hearts and resilience. That's the kind of education Sofia has embraced for 50 years."

Jennifer Vargas

MS in Computer Science, Class of 2025

Experience Sofia University

Discover Sofia University's Undergraduate, Graduate, Masters, and Certificate Programs at our Costa Mesa campus – or Online.

Program Offerings:

- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology (Completion Program)
- Master of Arts in Transpersonal Psychology
- Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology
- Master of Science in Computer Science
- Master of Business Administration
- PhD in Transpersonal Psychology
- Doctor of Business Administration (D.B.A)

Certificate Programs:

- Dream Studies Certificate
- Certificate of Transpersonal Ecopsychology
- AI & Machine Learning Certificate
- Cybersecurity & Information Assurance Certificate



GET STARTED



Costa Mesa: 3333 Harbor Blvd., Costa Mesa, CA 92626
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Illuminating Potential and Educating Future Leaders

How Whittier College Is Redefining Career-Ready Learning – and Why Philanthropy Is Paying Attention

When philanthropist MacKenzie Scott chooses an institution for one of her catalytic gifts, higher education leaders notice. When she chooses that institution twice, it signals something extraordinary. This fall, Whittier College received an unrestricted \$13 million commitment from Scott, its largest single donation ever and her second major investment in the College. Only a handful of U.S. institutions have received such dual recognition.

For Whittier, this second gift is more than a financial milestone. It is a national endorsement of a college fostering social mobility through integrating the agility of a liberal arts foundation and real-world experience, one building a powerful model for connecting liberal arts learning with real-world experience. Scott's gift will be used to accelerate **Whittier Works**, a signature initiative that integrates career readiness, hands-on experiential learning, and community engagement (including paid internships) into every student's education. The goal is bold and unmistakable: to prepare graduates who are not only well-educated, but workforce-ready from day one.

Momentum in Motion

Under the leadership of President Kristine Dillon '73, Ph.D., Whittier College has entered a new era of distinction. Enrollment is climbing, with this year's entering class having grown by 20%, with a 55% jump in new-student enrollment over 2023. Fundraising is already breaking philanthropy records with the largest Giving Tuesday ever and more than \$17 million raised this fiscal year so far. Major philanthropic partners such as the Ahmanson Foundation, Rose Hills Foundation, and Fletcher Jones Foundation have demonstrated their significant support and commitment to the College.

In a higher-education environment marked by uncertainty and national enrollment declines, Whittier's upward trajectory is bucking the trend.

"MacKenzie Scott's historic investment is an exceptional affirmation of who we are and what we stand for," President Dillon said. "She is placing her trust, once again, in Whittier College because our momentum is real, our mission is working, and our students are proving what access and opportunity can achieve."

Board of Trustees Chair Ron Gastelum '68 echoes that sentiment. Scott's second gift, he notes, is both a validation and an accelerant: "It is a powerful affirmation of President Dillon's leadership, of the combined power of the entire College community, and of the direction Whittier is heading."

A Mission That Resonates

Scott historically directs her philanthropy to institutions that successfully educate students from chronically underserved communities. Whittier College fits squarely within that mission.

- Ranked **#14 in Social Mobility** (U.S. News & World Report) and **#39 Most Transformative** (Money Magazine)
- **45%** of Whittier students are Pell Grant recipients
- Roughly **40%** are first-generation
- **100%** receive financial aid
- The College has been a federally designated Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) since 2012

For Scott, the decision reflects her belief that opportunity, especially educational opportunity, should be protected, expanded, and shared. Her own history underscores the point: as a young college student, she nearly dropped out when she couldn't afford tuition. A roommate's quiet act of generosity kept her enrolled and changed the trajectory of her life.



It is the ripple effect of that moment, the understanding that one act of support can unlock the potential for future leaders, that underpins her philanthropy today. Whittier College is creating those moments and illuminating the potential within every student every day.

"It's incredible to know that people are paying attention to what is happening here," said Delite Travis, Vice President of Development. "For Ms. Scott to make a second unrestricted commitment of this magnitude signals her belief in our mission, our students, and the strategic direction of this institution."

Whittier Works: Future-Ready Learning That Lives in the World

The College is using Scott's latest investment to power Whittier Works, the College's signature initiative aimed at ensuring every Whittier student graduates with both academic depth and practical experience. In a workforce reshaped by technology, global complexity, and shifting economic demands, Whittier Works and the College's unique liberal arts education positions students to learn by doing and create meaningful change in their lives, communities, and careers.

"Whittier Works connects the intellectual spark of classroom learning with preparation for lives of purpose, whether that's meaningful careers, graduate study, or community engagement," said President Dillon. "Education is most powerful in action."

Designed as an institution-wide framework, Whittier Works integrates three pillars:

- **Experiential Learning**
Students partner with local organizations, businesses, government agencies, and nonprofits—building relationships while solving real problems.
- **Career Readiness**
Career exploration is embedded early in the curriculum, offering students tools and experiences to identify strengths, refine goals, and build confidence.
- **Community Engagement**
Launched in 2021, the Scott Internship Program, supported through Scott's first gift to the College, laid the groundwork for a system of meaningful paid internship opportunities. Now, through the new \$13 million investment and the support of Fletcher Jones and Rose Hills, access to high-quality internships will expand dramatically.

"It's about creating career pathways and career awareness," said Environmental Science Professor Cinzia Fissore, faculty director for Whittier Works. "Exposure to environments like on-campus jobs, internships, and fellowships provides students the opportunity for self-reflection to understand their strengths."

Whittier Works is already reshaping learning. In the College's coffee orchard, for example, students from various majors explore sustainable agriculture, supply chain logistics, branding, graphic design, and market principles all within a single applied project. Elsewhere in the college, STEM majors participate in fieldwork and consulting-style capstones. First-year writing courses blend communication fundamentals with hands-on community projects.

Small class sizes and close mentoring relationships enable Whittier to tailor these experiences to each student. "We can do this type of personalized programming because we are small, we have nurturing relationships, and we tailor to our students," Fissore said.

Turning Aspiration into Action

Scott's second gift places Whittier College in rare company and signals to alumni, parents, philanthropists, foundations, and business leaders that Whittier is becoming a model for 21st-century higher education. Whittier College graduates think for themselves, ask deeper questions, and work with others to tackle real-world challenges, building the skills and confidence to navigate a complex world.

"Whittier College is demonstrating to our donors and friends that now is the time to join in supporting the College," said Travis. "We thank Ms. Scott for recognizing the power of a Whittier education and invite others to help ignite the momentum happening here."

As employers nationwide call for graduates who can think critically, collaborate effectively, and **adapt quickly**, Whittier College is answering with a bold blueprint. It is educating students not just for jobs, but for leadership, resilience, and purpose. And thanks to Whittier Works, and the generosity fueling its growth, students are stepping into the working world with the skills and experience to navigate a complex landscape.



ILLUMINATING
POTENTIAL 

WHITTIER COLLEGE ANNOUNCES A HISTORIC \$13 MILLION GIFT FROM PHILANTHROPIST MACKENZIE SCOTT.

This is Scott's second major investment in Whittier's mission.

This rare second gift is a powerful vote of confidence in Whittier College's direction and impact. Few institutions have received multiple investments from Scott, and her renewed support signals national recognition of Whittier's momentum. Ranked No. 14 in the nation for social mobility by *U.S. News & World Report*, Whittier is a proven engine of opportunity, delivering a transformative liberal arts education that opens doors, prepares students for what's next, and reflects the dynamism of Southern California.



Learn more about joining this moment of acceleration for an institution on the rise, where experiential learning transforms aspiration into action for generations to come.



whittier.edu

WE HAVE A PLACE *For You!*

Fairmont Schools has more than a seven-decade history of putting students first, and the educational outcomes to prove a culture of high expectations creates learners who thrive. Offering P-12 instruction across five Orange County campuses, Fairmont unleashes the genius in each child, whether a “late bloomer” or the highest achiever, empowering them to amplify their strengths and talents to reach their highest potential. Students are prepared to be future-ready in an ever-changing world, and the educational community embraces a growth mindset and fosters a culture of excellence. *From STEM to liberal arts, from cultural exchange opportunities to athletics and visual and performing arts, a Fairmont education places no limits on what your child can achieve. Where will Fairmont Schools take your child?*



Empowered Educators



Fairmont employs caring, passionate educators who participate in thoughtful training and ongoing evaluation. Teachers are skilled practitioners of the art and science of education. They lead from the heart - connecting with students on a personal level and partnering with parents to create memorable educational experiences.

Proven Results



Fairmont students perform in the top percentiles in math, science, and critical thinking skills year after year. The curriculum prepares them to work, on average, a grade level ahead of peers in public school programs. High school graduates are routinely offered admission to the nation's top colleges and universities.

Continuity of Instruction



The most established secular, co-ed P-12 private school in Orange County, Fairmont has been educating young minds and nurturing young hearts since 1953. With programs that begin in preschool and culminate with a high school diploma, students can experience a Fairmont education from start to finish.

Culture of Excellence



Fairmont students are focused, prepared, and motivated. A spirit of teamwork, collegiality, and mutual respect brings the community together and motivates students to make a difference. Fairmont believes in the rewards of working hard, taking risks, and never giving up.





Balanced Approach



Fairmont's educational program combines time-honored fundamentals with innovative approaches to learning, balancing intellectual growth with social and emotional well-being. From preschool through high school, students are challenged to strive for their best while understanding that care for themselves and others is fundamental to success in school and in life.

Specialized Programs



Students receive one-on-one guidance to help them discover unique strengths and talents through a multitude of academic, visual, and performing arts, and athletic opportunities. Campuses feature a variety of specialized program offerings designed to appeal to a wide range of student interests and talents.

Care for Community



Community service has been a hallmark of a Fairmont education since its founding and continues to drive a spirit of connectedness, compassion, and civic engagement. Students routinely lead service projects and philanthropic work in the local community and around the world.

31:1

SENIORS-TO-COLLEGE COUNSELORS

98%

OF STUDENTS WHO HAVE BEEN AT FAIRMONT SINCE AT LEAST 7TH GRADE WERE ADMITTED TO A TOP 100 COLLEGE



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20:1

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE

184:1

STUDENT-TO-COUNSELOR RATIO

27

ADVANCED PLACEMENT COURSES

63

HONORS COURSES

22

DUAL CREDIT COURSES

4

COHORT PROGRAMS

27

VARSITY SPORTS

MULTIPLE LEARNING OPTIONS

Students may take classes in various settings, including on-campus, online, and blended (a combination of on-campus and online).

CLASS OF 2025

96%

ATTENDING COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY

\$15M

AWARDED IN SCHOLARSHIPS



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Friday, March 6 • 6:00 p.m.

Have a friend or family member currently in 6th or 7th grade? Invite them to join us for an exciting experience at Crean Lutheran High School's 6th and 7th Grade Preview Night Pep Rally on Friday, March 6, at 6:00 p.m. We can't wait to meet you! Register at creanlutheran.org/previewday.

SHADOW DAY PROGRAM

Students in grades 7–11 are invited to experience a day in the life of a Crean Lutheran Saint through our Shadow Day Program. Prospective students will be paired with a current student, attend three classes, enjoy lunch, and immerse themselves in the Crean Lutheran community for the day. See dates and register at creanlutheran.org/admissions.



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YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

For 150 years, Centralia Elementary School District has been a cornerstone of public education in North Orange County. Serving generations of families across Anaheim, Buena Park and La Palma, CESD has built a legacy grounded in trust, stability and a steadfast commitment to student success. Throughout its history, the District has evolved alongside its community while maintaining a consistent focus on educational excellence.



(714) 228-3100

Anaheim | Buena Park | La Palma

TK-6 Grade

 www.cesd.us

   @centraliaESD

 @centraliaSUP



Preparing Students Through STEM Innovation

Through hands-on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) learning and responsible innovation, Centralia Elementary School District equips students to explore, create and solve real-world challenges while building confidence, curiosity and future-ready skills for long-term success.

Serving transitional kindergarten through sixth grade, CESD has embedded STEM learning into the core instructional experience for all students. These programs emphasize critical thinking, collaboration, creativity and problem-solving as essential skills.

Innovation Labs in Action

CESD's Innovation Labs engage students in STEM-focused, project-based learning rooted in real-world challenges. With an award-winning Innovation Lab at every school, students work collaboratively to analyze problems, design and test solutions and communicate their thinking using digital tools and hands-on applications. Learning is purposefully sequenced across grade levels, allowing students to develop skills progressively year over year, including coding foundations, digital literacy, presentation skills and global awareness aligned to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



Innovation Labs in Practice

- TK-1:** Screen-free coding, Code.org, Bee-Bots, Indi Cars, Ozobots and Seesaw
- 2-3:** Dash and Bolt robotics
- 4:** Snap Circuits and Microbits
- 5:** Rover with Microbits review and AI
- 6:** Tinkercad and 3D printing

Innovation with Technology

CESD complements its STEM programming with a districtwide approach to responsible technology and artificial intelligence use. AI is introduced as a supportive tool, guided by strong governance, ethical standards and a people-first philosophy. Students develop foundational AI literacy, including understanding how AI works, recognizing bias and using technology responsibly, while educators receive professional learning and district-approved tools that prioritize equity, privacy and transparency.



(714) 228-3100

Anaheim | Buena Park | La Palma

TK-6 Grade

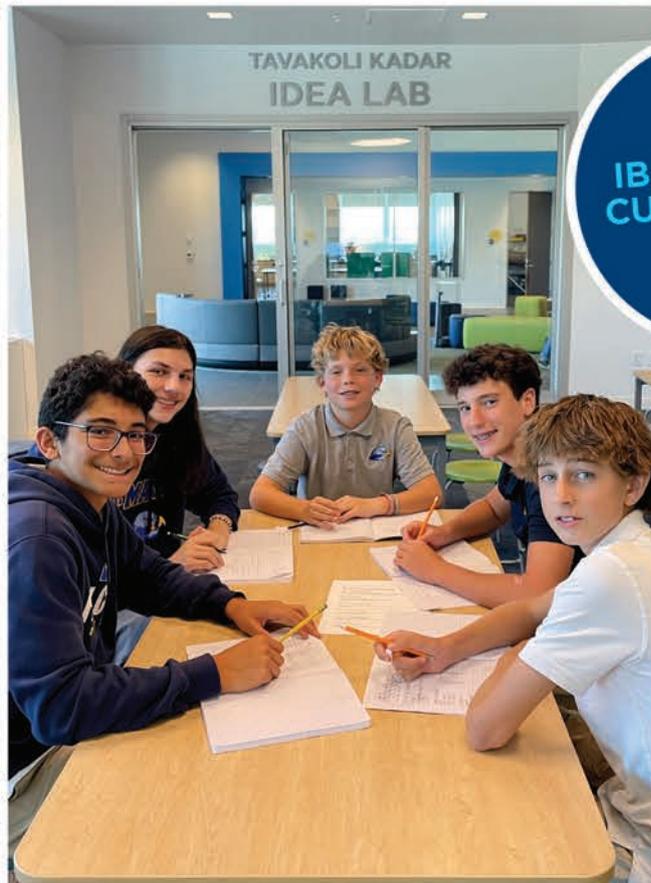
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DRIVING DREAMS TOGETHER

For 30 years, **TGR Foundation** has empowered students from under-resourced communities to pursue their passions through education, providing opportunities, experiences and support needed to achieve their dreams.



LEARN MORE



Celebrating 30 years of Driving Dreams and Empowering Lives



What started as a dream turned into a catalyst for transformation. At an early age, **Tiger Woods** understood the power of education to transform lives. Through the work of his nonprofit, **TGR Foundation**, Tiger committed to making a positive impact in the lives of young people, with education as the cornerstone. From this commitment, the TGR Learning Lab was created, with the first location in Anaheim, California, serving the community he grew up in.



At the opening of the **TGR Learning Lab Anaheim** on February 10, 2006, Tiger told young people in attendance, *"This is your Learning Lab, a safe place where you have the opportunity to learn, grow and chase after your dreams."* Since then, TGR Foundation has driven transformational impact in the lives of young people from the classroom to thriving lives and careers.

With programs centered on STEAM educational enrichment, health and well-being and career and college readiness, TGR Foundation has served more than 217,000 students from under-resourced communities through its Learning Labs and Earl Woods Scholar Program.



As TGR Foundation enters its next chapter of supporting more young people through new TGR Learning Labs nationwide, it remains committed to its mission, empowering students to pursue their passions through education. Alongside a community of dedicated supporters and partners, TGR Foundation drives forward, providing opportunities, experiences and support that help students prepare for their futures and achieve their dreams.

Join Tiger in driving dreams together for Orange County youth.

LEARN MORE



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Explore Upcoming Events

STEAM Fair & Open House: Feb 7 | 9 am - 12 pm



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Building Independent Thinkers in a Technology-Driven World

A closer look at innovation-focused learning at TVT Community Day School

As technology reshapes how students learn, work, and connect, schools face an important question: how do we prepare young people not only to use advanced tools, but to think critically, act ethically, and lead with purpose in an increasingly complex world?

At TVT Community Day School, that question has shaped a deliberate approach to innovation, particularly in Engineering and Computer Science.

Formal instruction in Engineering and Computer Science at TVT begins in 3rd grade, introducing students to computational thinking, design processes, and structured problem solving. Early learning emphasizes understanding systems, testing ideas, and building habits of reasoning and persistence, establishing a foundation before automation becomes second nature.

As students move into Middle and Upper School, expectations deepen. Engineering and Computer Science coursework grows more conceptually rigorous, challenging students to plan carefully, analyze outcomes, and communicate their process clearly. Instruction emphasizes judgment and approach rather than mastery of a single tool or language, helping students retain intellectual ownership as technologies continue to evolve.

Across grade levels and subject areas, technology at TVT is integrated thoughtfully, with attention to how it shapes student reasoning and decision-making. Students engage with emerging tools, including those shaped by artificial intelligence, and remain responsible for their ideas, analysis, and conclusions. This work is grounded in skills just as essential as technical fluency: ethical decision-making, reflection, and responsibility.

Learning is reinforced beyond the classroom through co-curricular opportunities that extend technical application into collaborative, real-world contexts. Robotics programs engage students in iterative design and testing under real constraints. Math and programming competitions strengthen analytical reasoning, perseverance, and creative problem-solving skills. TVT's STEM Racing team offers a high-level applied engineering experience; following strong results at this year's Western Regional Finals, all three Upper School teams and both Middle School teams will compete in the US National Championships in April.

TVT's philosophy reflects its commitment to preparing students for a future filled with possibilities, many of which do not yet exist. As technologies advance and career paths continue to evolve, students learn how to approach unfamiliar challenges with confidence, curiosity, and discernment. Rather than training for a single outcome, TVT emphasizes transferable ways of thinking: evaluating information critically, adapting to new tools, and considering the broader implications of innovation. Graduates leave equipped to navigate change with intention, ready to contribute meaningfully across disciplines and industries while shaping progress with purpose and responsibility.

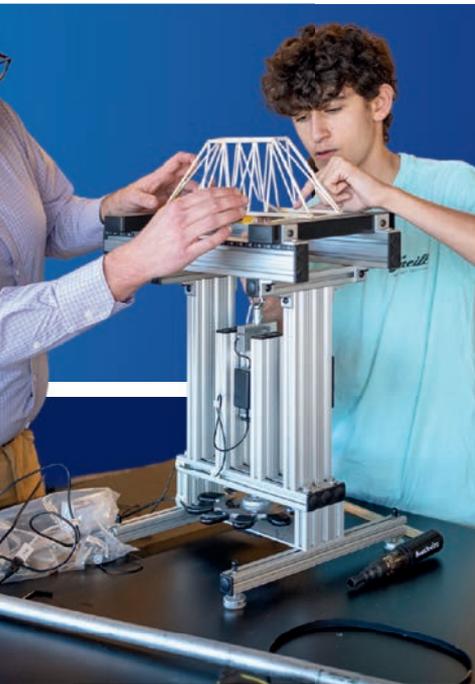
TVT's approach and outcomes reflect a broader view of innovation, one grounded in curiosity, discipline, and ethical awareness. Families interested in how engineering and computer science can strengthen student intellectual agency, rather than replace it, can learn more by exploring TVT's academic program at www.TARBUT.com



#1 K-12 School in OC
According to Niche.com 2026 rankings



6 Core Values
guide learning and development across all divisions



96%
AP Pass Rate
with 22 AP classes offered



K-12 STEAM GUIDE - Directory

Centralia Elementary School District

Head of School: Superintendent Ms. Norma E. Martinez

Address: 6625 La Palma Ave., Buena Park, CA 90620

Website: www.cesd.us

Grade Levels: TK - 6

Total Enrollment: 4,000

Student to Faculty Ratio: 10:1 TK, 24:1 Kindergarten, 26:1 (Grades 1 – 3), and 29:1 (Grades 4 - 6)

Average Class Size: 26:1

Application Deadline for the 26/27 School Year: Priority enrollment by March 15, 2026

Type of School: Public School

Unique Options/Programs: Innovation Labs utilizing STEM; Visual and Performing Arts in music, art, and dance; Free before- and after-school programs; Dual Language Immersion; and elementary AVID programs.

STEAM Mission: Through hands-on STEM learning and responsible innovation, our programs empower students to explore, create, and solve real-world challenges while building confidence, curiosity, and the skills needed to thrive in college, careers, and a changing world.

Crean Lutheran High School

Head of School: Dr. Daniel Moyer, Ed.D.

Address: 12500 Sand Canyon Ave., Irvine, CA 92620

Website: www.creanlutheran.org

Grade Levels: 9 - 12

Total Enrollment: 1,180

Average Class Size: 20:1

Application Deadline for the 26/27 School Year: November 2026

Type of School: Lutheran / Christian High School

Unique Options/Programs: "Christ-centered" approach, combining high-level academics—with SAT/ACT scores well above the national average—and a strong, intentional focus on faith. As a 2023 National Blue Ribbon School, it offers a diverse, 30-acre campus with robust athletics and specialized, high-tech athletic training programs, often boasting a 100% graduation rate. The school has shadow day programs, future saints' night, international admissions, summer youth camps, and cohort programs.

STEAM Mission: Crean Lutheran High School (CLHS) features a comprehensive, college-preparatory Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics focus as part of its academic program. The curriculum includes advanced courses, with a particular focus on hands-on application through an active Science Olympiad Team that competes in 23 topics, including engineering, chemistry, and physics.

Fairmont Schools

Head of School: Carolyn Lucia

Address: 1575 W. Mable St., Anaheim, CA 92802

Campuses in Anaheim Hills, North Tustin, Anaheim, San Juan Capistrano

Website: www.fairmontschools.com

Grade Levels: Preschool – 12

Total Enrollment: 2,640

Student to Faculty Ratio: 12:1

Average Class Size: 20

Application Deadline for the 26/27 School Year: No deadline, rolling admissions

Type of School: A secular, co-educational Preschool - 12th grade private school

Unique Options/Programs: International Baccalaureate (P-8), HS specialty programs: Advanced Science and Engineering, Advanced Business, Advanced Mathematics, Fairmont Athletic Academy, ice hockey program (6-12), nationally-ranked debate program

STEAM Mission: Fairmont fosters creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving through comprehensive curricular offerings in science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics, preparing students for college and beyond with hands-on learning and real-world applications.

Santa Margarita Catholic High School

Head of School: President J. Andrew Sulick

Address: 22062 Antonio Parkway, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688

Website: www.smhs.org

Grade Levels: 9 - 12

Total Enrollment: 1,792

Student to Faculty Ratio: 16:1

Average Class Size: 23

Application Deadline for the 26/27 School Year: Rolling applications until a waitlist is formed.

Type of School: Coeducational, college preparatory diocesan Catholic high school, International Baccalaureate World School

Unique Options/Programs: Flexible, rigorous online learning program; the county's only Catholic IB World School; comprehensive counseling program; Options certificate program for students with developmental and intellectual disabilities; ASP program supports students with specialized learning needs

STEAM Mission: Through the integration of science, technology, religion, engineering, arts, and math, students build bridges across disciplines, inspiring innovation while strengthening critical thinking skills for success in today's world.

St. Mary's School

Head of School: Doug Patterson

Address: 7 Pursuit, Aliso Viejo, CA 92656

Website: www.smaa.org

Grade Levels: Early Preschool – 8

Total Enrollment: 720

Student to Faculty Ratio: (averages)

Early Education 1:7

Lower School 1:10

Middle 1:20

Average Class Size:

Early Education 12 - 16

Lower and Middle School 20 - 22

Application Deadline for the 26/27 School Year: Actively accepting applications; prospective families should apply at www.smaa.org.

Type of School: Independent International Baccalaureate

Unique Options/Programs: IB curriculum, project-based learning, service learning, leadership development, athletics, and learning spaces intentionally designed to prepare graduates for high school and beyond.

STEAM Mission: St. Mary's academic program integrates science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics to cultivate strategic innovation—empowering students to think critically and creatively, collaborate with purpose, and design thoughtful solutions to real-world challenges, all grounded in faith, service, and a commitment to the common good.

TVT Community Day School

Head of School: Jill Quigley

Address: 5 Federation Way, Irvine, CA 92603

Website: www.tarbut.com

Grade Levels: TK - 12

Total Enrollment: 845

Student to Faculty Ratio: 5:1

Average Class Size: 14

Application Deadline for the 26/27 School Year: Rolling

Type of School: Independent Jewish Day School

Unique Options/Programs: Engineering & Computer Science

STEAM Mission: We are an inclusive Jewish school of inquiry and innovation where academics are important and character is paramount.

Westcliff Early Learning Academy

Head of School: Jasmine Boller

Address: 2941 Alton Parkway, Irvine, CA 92606

Website: www.westcliffearlylearning.com

Grade Levels: Ages 18 months to 6 years

Total Enrollment: Growing program, serving up to 132 students

Student-to-Faculty Ratio: 1:6 (Toddler), 1:12 (Preschool/Kindergarten)

Average Class Size: 12 – 24

Application Deadline for 26–27 School Year: Ongoing/rolling enrollment

Type of School: Preschool / Early Childhood Education Center

Unique Options/Programs: Programs for ages 18 months – 6 years in English and Vietnamese, featuring Montessori, Reggio Emilia, Nature-Based Learning, and Dual Language Immersion—fostering creativity, independence, bilingual fluency, and early academic growth.

STEAM Mission: At WELA, children explore STEAM through hands-on projects—building, experimenting, and designing. Montessori and Reggio-inspired classrooms nurture curiosity, resilience, problem-solving, and collaboration, equipping students to innovate, think critically, and thrive in a complex world.



Educating for the Future

Santa Margarita Catholic High School leverages technology to create collaborative, student-centered classrooms that enhance learning outcomes and prepare students for the future.



Eagle Online Academy

The Eagle Online Academy offers a fully online, asynchronous learning experience tailored for students seeking flexibility in their education without compromising academic excellence. This unique program blends the rigor of Santa Margarita's nationally recognized academics with the flexibility of online learning and the resources of a premier high school — all within a faith-based, vibrant supportive community.

- Fully online and asynchronous: classes are 100% online and self-paced, ideal for balancing academics with other commitments.
- Over 50 courses offered
- Faculty provide personalized support through in-person and remote faculty office hours.
- Full access to SMCHS resources, including counseling and wellness services, campus ministry programming, athletics, arts, and extracurricular activities.

Learn more about the Eagle Online Academy:

www.smhs.org/online



Academic Programs

Santa Margarita's academic programs are designed to meet the diverse needs of learners, bringing learning to life through real-world application and innovation.

ROBOTICS PROGRAM

The robotics program empowers students to design, manufacture and program competition-ready robots while collaborating with professional mentors.

EAGLE TELEVISION BROADCASTING

SMCHS is home to a 3,700 square-foot digital media studio.

IB WORLD SCHOOL

SMCHS is the only Catholic International Baccalaureate high school in the county. The program emphasizes critical thinking and global-mindedness.

DIVERSE COURSE OFFERINGS

With 231 courses and tailored academic pathways, SMCHS students can explore fields such as cybersecurity, computer science, forensics, architecture, sports medicine, design technology and more. The school also offers an after-school conservatory in the arts, nurturing creative talent.

Digital Literacy

MEDIA LITERACY

SMCHS is committed to shaping responsible digital citizens. Through a digital media literacy curriculum, students develop critical thinking skills to become thoughtful problem solvers.

ETHICAL AI INTEGRATION

Guided by Catholic values, students learn to use AI responsibly, safely, and ethically to complement — not replace — essential skills like analysis, comprehension and critical thinking.

MICROSOFT SHOWCASE SCHOOL

As one of just 34 Microsoft Showcase Schools in the nation, SMCHS has been recognized as a global leader in educational technology for 12 consecutive years.



SANTA MARGARITA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

LEADING INNOVATION IN EDUCATION

We are a Showcase School



SANTA MARGARITA CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

A Diocese of Orange School • An International Baccalaureate World School
22062 Antonio Parkway, Rancho Santa Margarita, CA 92688 • 949-766-6000

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