




# BASIS

## Charter Schools

● ● ● ORO VALLEY

# BASIS

 Oro Valley  
Grades 6–12



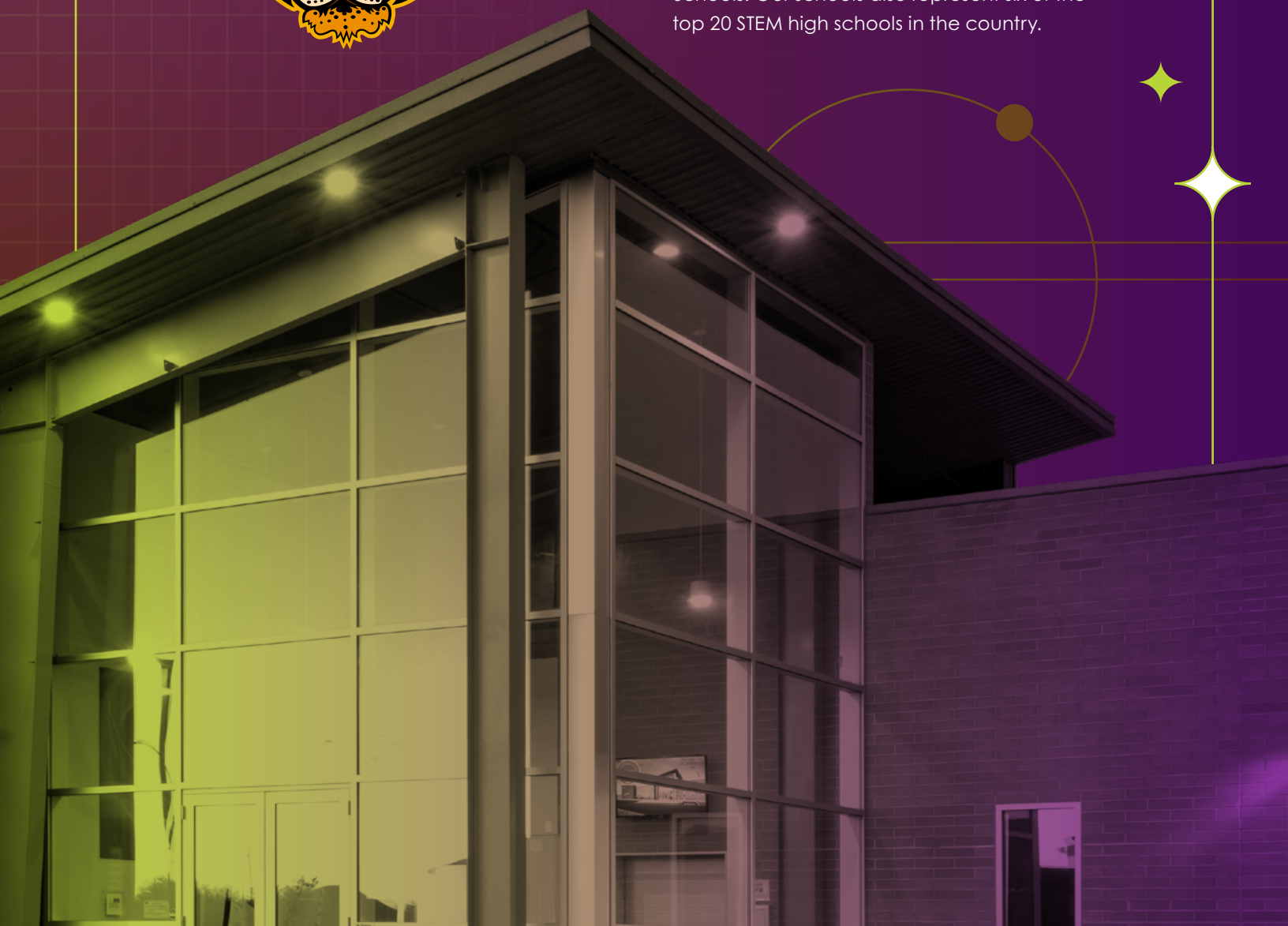
The mission of BASIS Charter Schools is to empower students to achieve at globally competitive levels with a transformative K–12 academic program.

BASIS Oro Valley is a **TUITION-FREE** public charter school serving grades 6–12. We offer a world-class, STEM-infused, liberal arts curriculum with a strong student support system.

## **WHAT MAKES BASIS CHARTER SCHOOLS' ACADEMIC PROGRAM EXCEPTIONAL?**

**We are a global leader in education.**

BASIS Charter Schools are consistently named among the top schools in the nation. According to *U.S. News & World Report* 2023 rankings, 10 of the top 20 charter high schools in the nation are BASIS Charter Schools. Our schools also represent six of the top 20 STEM high schools in the country.





BASIS Charter Schools are dedicated to raising the standards of student learning to the highest international levels. Our students engage in the world-class BASIS Charter School Curriculum, which fuels critical thinking, problem-solving, and creativity. Classes are led by knowledgeable Subject Expert Teachers who design challenging and engaging lessons that appeal to different learning styles. As a result, BASIS Charter School students achieve excellent academic outcomes and become self-motivated learners.

### **Our students earn some of the top scores in the world.**

Our robust academic program allows students to advance to AP-level courses across all disciplines, and our curriculum is on par with Europe and Asia's high-achieving educational systems.

BASIS Charter School students not only acquire knowledge through our curriculum; they are able to apply it in real-world situations. Results from the OECD Test for Schools (based on PISA), a highly regarded exam taken by students in more than 70 countries, show that BASIS Charter School students outscore their peers in critical thinking. To learn more about our results, visit [enrollBASIS.com/oro-valley](https://enrollBASIS.com/oro-valley).

### **We hold students to high academic standards.**

The BASIS Charter School Curriculum requires students to demonstrate mastery of challenging material. We use the College Board's AP Exams® as opportunities for them to demonstrate this mastery. Students are prepared to start taking AP Exams® as early as grade 8, are required to take AP courses beginning in grade 9 and will complete at least six AP Exams® prior to graduation. The externally generated and graded AP Exams® also count as final exams for AP courses. This ensures that we are holding our students to the highest possible standards.

### **We hire Subject Expert Teachers for every course.**

Due to the challenging nature of the BASIS Charter School Curriculum, Subject Expert Teachers—many of whom hold advanced degrees—instruct our students. We are committed to the philosophy that all students can succeed when provided with an advanced curriculum and supportive, knowledgeable teachers to guide them through it. As content experts, our teachers are responsible for planning, preparing, and carrying out all aspects of lessons. As such, their lessons are rich in content and deep in insight.

Subject Expert Teachers consistently extend their knowledge, expertise, and enthusiasm to students—maximizing comprehension and engagement.

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Since opening in 2010, BASIS Oro Valley has been dedicated to fostering student learning and growth. We take great pride in our diverse school community and our exceptional student outcomes. We are ranked #21 in National Rankings, #3 in Arizona High Schools, #1 in Tucson, AZ Metro Area High Schools, #5 in Charter High Schools, and #18 in STEM High Schools in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*, 2023. We also excel in athletics with our High School Boys Basketball team placing 1st in the SAAA League, and the Middle School Girls Soccer team placing 1st in the TIAL League in 2022.





# BASIS CHARTER SCHOOLS CLASS OF 2023

Total Scholarship by graduates

**\$79,837,396**

*Naviance, 2023 (based on self-reported data)*

Average scholarship award  
earned per graduate

**\$112,447**

*Naviance, 2023 (based on self-reported data)*

Average  
ACT score

**30**

Average  
SAT score

**1397**

*The College Board, 2023*

*SAT® is a trademark registered/owned by the College Board and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, and ACT® is a registered trademark of ACT, Inc., which do not endorse and were not involved in the production of this publication.*

## College Acceptance Rates

Percent of 2023 BASIS Charter School graduates accepted to one or more  
U.S. News & World Report top National Universities and National Liberal Arts Colleges

Top 100

**62%**

Top 50

**43%**

Top 25

**23%**

Top 20

**16%**

*U.S. News & World Report National University Rankings and National Liberal Arts College Rankings, 2023  
College acceptance information self-reported by students: Naviance, 2023*



# MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Our comprehensive middle school curriculum is designed to progressively move students toward a greater understanding of fundamental concepts in each subject. Teachers set high expectations and design instruction that is challenging and engaging, requiring students to refine their critical thinking skills and analyze content in deeper, more meaningful ways. As such, BASIS Charter School students far exceed traditional middle school standards and master advanced material that is normally taught in high school. For example, starting in grade 6 students take three science courses—biology, physics, and chemistry—each year to prepare for Honors and AP science courses. Through this progression of content, students master the material needed to excel in our high school program.

As your student enters grade 8, they will be mastering complex concepts and skills, taking responsibility for their educational goals, and focusing on their post-BASIS future. The rigor of grade 8 will help students prepare for the challenges of grades 9–12, where they will have the opportunity to take a wide range of Advanced Placement® Exams, as well as post-AP and Capstone courses. On average, your student may take 11 to 12 AP® Exams prior to graduation, with their overall grades reflecting test performance.

Due to the accelerated nature of the BASIS Charter School Curriculum, your student could meet the state requirements to graduate after grade 11. However, most students continue their studies into grade 12 and take advantage of the advanced study opportunities we offer to our seniors. A daily College Counseling Seminar fosters the exploration of different universities, career paths, and scholarship opportunities to encourage your student's achievement of post-graduation goals. Additionally, our counselors will help your student navigate financial aid, prepare for interviews, and facilitate college planning nights for families.





## LINGUISTICS (Grades 6–7)

BASIS Charter Schools are thrilled to offer a groundbreaking program developed by experts that teaches students to analyze the fundamentals of language. Addressing topics that are typically only taught at the university level, BASIS Linguistics includes Linguistics 6 and Linguistics 7 as a precursor to world language selections in grade 8. In Linguistics 6, students gain a foundational understanding of the scientific study of language with lessons on topics ranging from historical linguistics to the psychology of language. In Linguistics 7, students deepen their content knowledge by analyzing data sets, diagramming sentences, and exploring the phonetics and phonology of the languages that will be offered in grade 8. The BASIS Linguistics course sequence equips students with the necessary tools to be successful language learners and teaches them that science can be used to understand language.

## SPORK MATH

SPORK Math is comprised of the following courses: Pre-Algebra (grade 6), Algebra I (grade 7), Algebra II (grade 8), Pre-Calculus A, AB, and B (grades 9–10). SPORK Math is delivered through tablets, allowing us to update the curriculum every year, to ensure that we are responsive to our students' needs. This method of delivery facilitates rapid homework communication between teachers and students, making time spent in the classroom more productive. For example, while students are doing homework, they can mark the problems they are struggling with the most. Their teacher will receive that information in real-time and can come to class the next day with a lesson prepared to address those concepts. Long term, SPORK Math will help teachers identify the areas students struggle with the most, allowing them to adapt their lessons and plan for extra practice.





## ART HISTORY & PRACTICE (Grade 6)

In Art History & Practice, students explore the world of art through a historical lens. They apply key concepts—themes, materials, or techniques—and vocabulary from each time period to their own creations and performances. In addition, students make connections across cultures, beliefs, and artists' perspectives to learn what inspires artists to create.

## VISUAL ARTS (Grades 7–12)

Visual Arts courses focus on identifying and achieving artistic goals; creating, reflecting, and evaluating art; and understanding art in social and cultural context.

## THEATRE (Grades 7–12)

Theatre courses require students to apply previously learned skills and knowledge in the context of a production-based class.

## MUSIC (Grades 7–12)

Music courses focus on technique and performance.



# THE SENIOR PROGRAM

The BASIS Charter School Curriculum culminates with the Senior Program, which plays a vital role in preparing students for college. After completing their junior year, most BASIS Charter School students have earned enough credits to meet state graduation requirements and have the option to graduate early; however, the majority choose to complete their senior year and earn the BASIS Diploma with Honors or High Honors.

The Senior Program is comprised of a daily College Counseling Seminar, advanced Capstone courses, and a Senior Project that is completed off campus.



## COLLEGE COUNSELING SEMINAR

A unique aspect of our Senior Program is the College Counseling Seminar. In this course, students explore different colleges and universities, write application essays, apply for scholarships, navigate financial aid, and prepare for interviews. Our dedicated College Guidance Coordinators work hard to ensure that all students are prepared for the college application process and find the school that is the best fit for them as an individual. College Guidance Coordinators help students navigate the college application process by facilitating campus visits, hosting university admissions representatives, providing feedback on applications and personal essays, supplying news about scholarships, and hosting financial aid and college planning nights for families.

***"Getting accepted to college is simple. Distilling a student's purpose, gifts, and potential, then aligning them to colleges that will suit their future social, intellectual, and financial needs is the complex art at the center of the College Counseling Seminar."***

*—Meg Giles, Sr. College Guidance Coordinator, BASIS Mesa*

## CAPSTONE COURSES

During the first two trimesters of their senior year, BASIS Charter School students take Capstone courses designed to emulate a college classroom where students are engaged in independent research, lab work, and seminar-style discussion. Capstone courses cover complex material and require students to learn about a specific topic in depth. Courses span the academic disciplines and serve as a bridge between high school academic standards and college scholarship.

### Examples of Capstone Courses:

- Forensics
- Biology of Psychological Disorders
- Popular Music as Literature
- History of Food, Disease, and Immune Response
- Multivariable Calculus
- Statistics
- Organic Chemistry
- The Latin Roots of Italian
- World History Through Film
- Gender Studies
- Quantum Mechanics
- Marine Biology

*\* Capstone courses offered vary year-to-year and by campus.*



# SENIOR PROJECTS

Senior Projects are the true synthesis and culmination of a student's journey through the BASIS Charter School Curriculum. Through these comprehensive projects, BASIS Charter School seniors combine their creativity, critical thinking skills, and deep content knowledge to make a real and direct impact on their communities and the world. Students can complete the Senior Project in one of two ways: they can do a traditional Senior Project, or they can do a Senior Project that aligns with the AP Capstone™ curriculum. Students who successfully complete a Senior Project earn a BASIS Diploma with High Honors.

## TRADITIONAL SENIOR PROJECTS

The BASIS Diploma Senior Project is a selective program that requires students to dedicate the final trimester of their senior year to researching or developing an original idea in a field of their choosing. In addition to developing a project of the student's choice and design, Senior Projects also entail an off-campus experience, such as an internship, job shadow, or volunteer position. These experiences can take them across the nation or around the world. Students are guided by a faculty member at their BASIS Charter School, plus a mentor at their off-campus site. At the end of the trimester, students present their findings to their peers, teachers, and parents.



# GRADES 6–12

## COURSE OVERVIEW

\* All courses are subject to change

### MATH (minimum course-level requirements)

- **Grade 6** Pre-Algebra
- **Grade 7** Algebra and Geometry I
- **Grade 8** Algebra and Geometry II
- **Grade 9** Pre-Calculus A
- **Grades 9–10** AP Pre-Calculus
- **Grade 10** Pre-Calculus B
- **Grade 11** AP Calculus AB
- **Grade 12** Math Capstone

### SCIENCE

- **Grades 6–8** Biology, Chemistry, and Physics (all three each year)
- **Grade 9** First Honors Science (Biology, Chemistry, or Physics)
- **Grade 10** Second Honors Science; first AP Science
- **Grade 11** Third Honors Science, second AP Science, or AP Elective
- **Grade 12** Science Capstone

### SOCIAL SCIENCES

- **Grade 6** World History I (pre-history to Enlightenment)
- **Grade 7** World History II (Age of Exploration to Cold War Era) and Arizona History
- **Grade 8** U.S. History (Industrial Revolution to Civil Rights Movement)
- **Grade 9** AP U.S. Government and Politics
- **Grade 10** AP World History: Modern
- **Grade 11** AP U.S. History
- **Grade 12** Humanities Capstone

### ENGLISH/LANGUAGE ARTS

- **Grades 6–8** English
- **Grade 9** Honors English Literature; Honors English Language
- **Grade 10** AP English Literature or AP English Language
- **Grade 11** Second AP English course
- **Grade 12** Humanities Capstone

### WORLD LANGUAGE

- **Grades 6–7** Linguistics
- **Grades 8–11** French, Latin, Mandarin, or Spanish; AP optional
- **Grade 12** World Language Capstone

### FINE ARTS, PE, AND ELECTIVES

- **Grade 6** Art History & Practice (Visual Arts, Theatre, or Music), Creative Writing, PE & Sports
- **Grade 7** Visual Arts, Theatre, Music or PE
- **Grades 8–12** General electives,\* AP elective, or Post-AP elective

### OTHER

- **Grade 7** Logic
- **Grade 8** Economics

\* Minimum of one Fine Arts elective required.

A variety of subjects, including AP courses, are available as electives. Please contact the school to review possible electives for the upcoming school year.





## EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular activities enhance the learning experience and provide opportunities for enrichment, socialization, and achievement beyond the classroom. These activities allow students to interact with different groups, pursue individual interests, and develop new skills. To participate in extracurricular activities, students must exhibit good behavior and maintain a strong academic standing. As such, they learn to balance outside activities with advanced coursework, an important time management skill that will benefit them throughout their education.

### EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES OFFERED AT BASIS ORO VALLEY MAY INCLUDE\*:

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Band</li> <li>• Basketball</li> <li>• Board Games</li> <li>• Brain Bee</li> <li>• Chess</li> <li>• Chinese Culinary Classics</li> <li>• Civics</li> <li>• Cross Country</li> <li>• Dance</li> <li>• Dungeons &amp; Dragons</li> <li>• Entrepreneur Club</li> <li>• First LEGO Club</li> <li>• Flag Football</li> <li>• French</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hiking</li> <li>• Improv</li> <li>• Jag Pack</li> <li>• Jags for Justice</li> <li>• Junior Classical League</li> <li>• Kenpo</li> <li>• Math Club</li> <li>• MOD UN</li> <li>• Mock Trial</li> <li>• Movie Club</li> <li>• National Honor Society</li> <li>• National Junior Honor Society</li> <li>• Peer Diversity</li> <li>• Pilates</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programming and Tech</li> <li>• Show Choir</li> <li>• Soccer</li> <li>• Spanish National Honor Society</li> <li>• SCUBA</li> <li>• Typing</li> <li>• USB (United Students of BASIS)</li> <li>• Volleyball</li> </ul> |
|---|---|---|

*\* Extracurricular activities offered vary by campus and from year-to-year based on student interest.*

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## WHAT ARE BASIS CHARTER SCHOOLS?

The BASIS Charter Schools network comprises 39 charter schools across Arizona, Louisiana, Texas, and Washington, D.C. All BASIS Charter Schools utilize the BASIS Charter School Curriculum, which encourages self-motivation and hard work, allows students to master advanced content and thoroughly prepares them for college.

## HOW DO I APPLY?

All applications must be submitted through the online enrollment portal at [enrollBASIS.com](https://enrollBASIS.com). Parents/guardians should complete and submit student enrollment applications during the Open Enrollment period. However, applications are accepted throughout the year. You may apply to more than one BASIS Charter School, but you must submit separate applications, per student, to each school. Applications do not need to be signed in order to be entered in the lottery. Applicants who are offered enrollment at a BASIS Charter School will be provided with instructions for accepting the offer, completing the online registration form, and submitting registration documents to the school.

## HOW DO THE LOTTERY AND WAITLIST WORK?

Every year, there is an Open Enrollment period for the following school year. Applications submitted during Open Enrollment and outside of Open Enrollment are processed differently. Please note that the exact Open Enrollment dates and lottery dates are determined on a year-to-year basis. Information will be available on [enrollBASIS.com](https://enrollBASIS.com) once this year's dates are finalized.

If you apply during Open Enrollment: If the number of applications received during Open Enrollment exceeds the number of openings (at any grade level), enrollment is determined by a lottery and waitlist. The Open Enrollment period for BASIS Charter Schools is NOT first-come, first-served. Instead, applicants are added to a lottery pool. To be included in the lottery, you need to apply by midnight on the last day of Open Enrollment. After the Open Enrollment period ends, lottery drawings are held. You will receive the results directly from the school(s) you applied to. Families that do not receive an enrollment offer from the lottery will be added to a waitlist.

If you apply outside of Open Enrollment: Applications submitted after the Open Enrollment period has ended will be added to a waitlist and processed on a first-come, first-served basis, following any applications received during Open Enrollment. Schools will continue to make offers to waitlisted applicants as seats become available. There is not a lottery for applications submitted outside of Open Enrollment.

*BASIS Charter School enrollment policies are available for review in the enrollment application portal at [enrollBASIS.com](https://enrollBASIS.com).*

## WILL I HAVE TO PAY TUITION?

No. BASIS Charter Schools are tuition-free. The only payment required is a security deposit, which is held in the event that school property is lost or damaged. Barring any such damage, the deposit is refunded once the student leaves or graduates from the school.





## WHAT IS THE SCHOOL-YEAR SCHEDULE?

The start date for each school is determined by the Head of School and leadership team, and then announced on the school's website. To reduce the chance of scheduling conflicts for BASIS Charter School families with students in multiple grade levels, or who attend different schools, we try to align our school calendars with district school calendars. To maximize academic instruction time, BASIS Charter Schools do not include professional development (in-service) days on the school calendar.

## DO YOU HAVE BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS?

Yes. BASIS Charter Schools offer the Early Bird and Late Bird programs to assist parents/guardians whose schedules do not align with the schools' scheduled start and end times.

## DO YOU PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION?

No. BASIS Charter Schools do not provide transportation for students at this time. However, we encourage members of our parent-volunteer booster clubs to identify carpool opportunities.

## HOW MUCH HOMEWORK DO STUDENTS RECEIVE?

Homework volume differs by grade level and by student. For example, the average grade 5 BASIS Charter School student is assigned between 30 minutes and two hours of homework per night. In high school, this time may increase to between one hour and three hours of homework per night.

## DO BASIS CHARTER SCHOOLS OFFER PHYSICAL EDUCATION?

Yes. Students in grade 6 are required to participate in PE and Sports classes three times per week. Beginning in grade 7, students can choose to continue with Physical Education as an elective course.

## WHAT EXTRACURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE?

BASIS Charter Schools offer extracurricular activities that enrich students' academic experience. We do our best to align extracurricular activities to serve our students' interests. As a result, extracurricular activities may not be identical at every BASIS Charter School. However, each BASIS Charter School campus offers an array of clubs and extracurricular activities in which students can participate.



### **DO STUDENTS STRUGGLE WHEN THEY TRANSFER TO A BASIS CHARTER SCHOOL DURING HIGH SCHOOL?**

High school students who transfer to a BASIS Charter School receive individualized academic plans based on the courses they have already completed at their previous school(s). These plans are intended to motivate students to reach their highest academic potential, while also considering their prior educational experience. Students who transfer to a BASIS Charter School later in the program still benefit from being part of an academically focused community and receive a more advanced education than they would at a traditional high school.

### **DO YOU OFFER COLLEGE COUNSELING?**

Yes. The college counseling process begins early in the BASIS Charter School Curriculum. Students attend educational seminars beginning in grade 10 to become more familiar with all facets of the college admissions process. BASIS Charter School seniors take a daily College Counseling Seminar, in which they explore potential colleges, submit applications, apply for scholarships, and prepare for interviews.

### **DO BASIS CHARTER SCHOOL GRADUATES RECEIVE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS?**

Yes. Each school's College Guidance Coordinator works diligently to help students find scholarship opportunities. On Average, each BASIS Charter School graduate earns over \$100,000 in scholarships.

### **WHAT COLLEGES DO BASIS CHARTER SCHOOL GRADUATES ATTEND?**

We encourage students to apply to the schools or programs that best align with their interests and goals. Our graduates attend some of the nation's most prestigious colleges and universities. In fact, 62% of 2023 BASIS Charter School graduates were accepted to a *U.S. News & World Report* top 100 ranked National University or National Liberal Arts College, including Columbia, Harvard, MIT, Princeton, Stanford, University of Chicago, and Yale.

Notice of Non-Discrimination: In accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Boy Scouts of America Equal Access Act and applicable state law, BASIS\* does not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, disability, gender identity or expression, or any other classification protected by law in any of its business activities, including its educational programs and activities which comply fully with the requirements of state and federal law and Title IX. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding BASIS' non-discrimination policies: Beverly Traver, Compliance and Equity Investigator, BASIS Educational Group, LLC., 7975 N. Hayden Rd, Scottsdale, AZ 85258, (480) 289-2088.

\*As used in this policy, the term "BASIS" refers to: BASIS Educational Group, LLC, BASIS Charter Schools, Inc., BASIS Texas Charter Schools, Inc., BDC, A Public School, Inc., BBR Schools, Inc., and all affiliated entities



## NOTES:

Scan the QR code to view a digital version of this brochure.



**Oro Valley**

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