

Academic Year at St Paul Prep School (Information Sheet)



CONTENTS :

- **DESCRIPTION..... 2**
- **LOCATION 3**
- **CURRICULUM..... 3**
- **SPECIAL PREPARATORY PROGRAM..... 6**
- **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS..... 6**
- **SCHOOL FACILITIES 7**
- **SCHOOL LIFE 7**
- **SCHOOL CLUBS 9**
- **ACCOMMODATION 9**
- **ARRIVAL..... 9**
- **AGE 10**
- **TERMS AND DATES 10**
- **APPLICATION..... 10**
- **TRANSFERS OF CREDITS AND TRANSCRIPTS OF GRADES 10**
- **PRICES..... 11**
- **PRICE CONDITIONS 11**
- **CANCELLATION POLICY 11**

Academic Year at St Paul Preparatory School, USA

DESCRIPTION

The St. Paul Preparatory School (SPP) is a small (around 150 students), private International high school located in St. Paul, Minnesota. Students come to this school from the Twin Cities and from around the world for a distinctive educational experience. Small class sizes allow for challenging individualized learning within a diverse educational environment. The school is an NCA (North Central Association) accredited, college preparatory school enrolling students in grades 9 through 12.

Students have the unique opportunity to prepare themselves for future success both through quality academics and personal interaction with world cultures. Our distinctive curriculum and educational environment aid students in the acquisition of valuable intercultural communication skills and greater intercultural understanding. We believe that to be successful, well rounded and socially conscious individuals, students must learn to effectively interact with others, regardless of cultural difference.

St. Paul Preparatory School is a college preparatory high school that works in partnership with St Thomas University to prepare students for professional success in the global community. Our unique internationally-focused curriculum equips students to become culturally literate by developing critical thinking and communication skills, as they gain a strong sense of personal and social responsibility.

More than 90 percent of SPP students matriculate to domestic or international colleges and universities upon graduation.

St. Paul Preparatory School graduates have been accepted into and/or have attended the following institutions:

Augsburg College, Bethany Lutheran College, Clark University, Drake University, Drexel University, Elmira College, Hamline University, Lake Forest College, Luther College, Macalester College, New York University, Rochester Institute of Technology, St. Olaf College, University of Arizona, University of St. Thomas etc.

St. Paul Preparatory School does not discriminate on the basis of race, colour, gender, creed, religion, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, or disability in administration of its admissions and scholarship programs, the administration of its educational, athletic, or other school programs, or its employment practices.

Educative mission

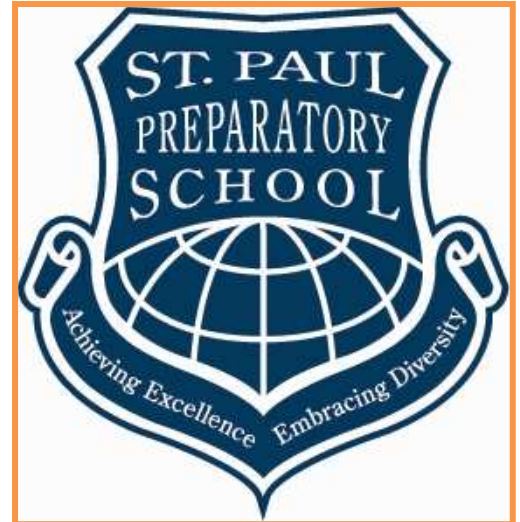
Our curriculum provides students with quality, college preparatory academics and enrichment through the arts and physical education. Our classes are taught from a culturally relativistic perspective and take advantage of the wealth of diversity within our student body. Through our course offerings, we meet the educational needs of a wide range of students from those with limited English ability to those requiring substantial academic rigor.

St. Paul Preparatory School's teachers share a passion for working with students from around the world. Our small classes allow us to provide students with individualized instruction. The majority of our faculty members hold a Master's degree or higher, and many have professional career experience beyond the classroom. We truly care about the well-being of our students and offer them a safe, supportive and nurturing environment in which to learn.

We seek to provide students with opportunities for the development of self-awareness, social consciousness, leadership skills and creativity through our enrichment activities, clubs and study abroad program. We also recognize the importance of providing our students with an enjoyable and memorable high school experience, and promote positive interaction through field trips, dances and other social events. Students are encouraged to take an active role in shaping the culture and climate of this international school, ensuring that it is a comfortable place to grow and learn.

Academic Year at St Paul Preparatory School, USA

History



St. Paul Preparatory School opened its doors in September of 2003 with 24 students from 10 different countries. Since then, our student population has grown to approximately 115 students representing more than 20 countries worldwide. The school was created for the purpose of bringing students together from around the globe for a unique and challenging educational experience. It provides intercultural learning opportunities to high school students around the world.

LOCATION

St. Paul Preparatory School is located in St. Paul, Minnesota. The Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul are located on opposite banks of the mighty Mississippi river. Together, the metropolitan area is home to approximately 2.8 million people. The cities are known as the cultural centre of the upper Midwest and are home to countless artistic, recreational, and educational opportunities. Residents enjoy the conveniences of urban city life in a beautiful, natural setting. Lakes, parks, and riverside trails are abundant throughout the metropolitan area.



- Fine dining restaurants and shopping
- Countless outdoor recreational activities



Twin Cities area attractions:

- Minneapolis Institute of Arts (the premier art museum of the upper-Midwest)
- Walker Art Centre (the newly remodelled contemporary art centre that is now one of the largest contemporary institutes in the US)
- Mall of America (the largest mall in America)
- Minnesota Zoo and Imax Theatre
- Valleyfair Amusement Park
- Numerous professional orchestras, theatre, opera and dance companies

The Twin Cities are also home to many professional sports teams including the Minnesota Vikings (football), Timberwolves (basketball), Twins (baseball), and Wild (ice hockey). A centre of industry and technology, the headquarters of many multi-national corporations are located throughout the metropolitan area including Target, Cargill, 3M, General Mills, and Best Buy.

The climate in spring, summer and fall is generally mild. The winter can be cold and snowy, but residents enjoy outdoor activities such as skiing, snowboarding, ice-skating, snowshoeing and ice fishing during these months.

Academic Year at St Paul Preparatory School, USA

CURRICULUM

The primary educational goal of St. Paul Preparatory School is to prepare students for professional success in the global community. We believe that students must be culturally literate and competent problem-solvers. Our curriculum emphasizes the development of critical thinking skills and intercultural learning within a college preparatory academic framework. We also recognize the benefits of the non-formal learning that students gain from their daily interactions.

The school values individualized learning. Our teacher to student ratio ranges from 1:6 to 1:20. The small classes create an environment for personal interaction between students and teachers, and provide the opportunity for

students to explore topics of personal interest. Teachers are able to focus on the individual instructional needs of their students, particularly those with developing abilities in English.

St. Paul Preparatory School is currently implementing a new curriculum that integrates the National and Minnesota State Academic Standards with international education benchmarks.

Significant global changes suggest a need for corresponding changes in the ways in which we think about ourselves and the world. International education is an approach to learning that is focused on thinking competencies that help students to perform successfully in intercultural contexts. This approach also includes the development of intercultural communication skills. The emphasis on personal and social responsibility supports the learning and helps young people apply their international education to everyday and global situations. Ultimately, we aim for students to make meaning of their international education and integrate this learning into their life experience.

Curricular goals

1. Students will demonstrate proficiency in International Academic Curriculum by

- Producing high-level work that prepares them for higher education and professional life in the global community.
- Demonstrating effective problem-solving skills in various settings.
- Integrating the knowledge and experience gained in all subject areas and applying it to real-world situations.
- Gathering and applying information gained from research, past learning, and different world perspectives.
- Appreciating the value of learning and taking an active role in their education.

2. Students will develop and refine their intercultural thinking skills by

- Learning to understand the viewpoints of others and allowing this information to shape their own perspective of the world.
- Challenging their personal biases and beliefs through the examination of other worldviews.
- Using knowledge and critical thinking to develop educated positions on topics and issues that will improve their interactions with others.

3. Students will demonstrate their ability to communicate effectively within an intercultural setting by

- Improving skills in oral and written language.
- Expressing thoughts and ideas with clarity, purpose, and cultural awareness.
- Recognizing, analyzing, and evaluating various methods of verbal and nonverbal communication.
- Developing mastery of English (or for U.S. students, another world language), to be successful in post secondary studies.

4. Students will exhibit personal and social responsibility by

- Practicing personal and academic integrity.
- Accepting, appreciating, and understanding human diversity as it relates to themselves and others.
- Developing cultural skills such as mindfulness, empathy, and patience in uncertain situations, self-reflection, and a culturally relative viewpoint.
- Understanding the impact of the actions and those of others (individuals and groups).
- Learning cross-cultural leadership skills in preparation for success as global



Academic Year at St Paul Preparatory School, USA

Course offerings

In our mission to prepare students to be competent global professionals, St. Paul Preparatory School offers a wide variety of courses in science, mathematics, language arts, foreign language, social science, arts, and physical education. We strive to provide an appropriate level of academic challenge for all students, and encourage their involvement in the arts and other enrichment courses. In each of our classes we endeavour to maintain a culturally relativistic viewpoint, and encourage students to share their personal experiences to increase the awareness and understanding of their peers.

For students in need of intensive language training, the school offers multiple levels of ESL (English as a second language) courses to help students transition into regular academic classes. Our ESL program concentrates not only on the mechanics of English, but on the application of English in the content areas.

Advanced Placement Courses

To provide students with additional academic challenge, the school offers several Advanced Placement (AP) courses. These courses allow students to explore subject matter at an accelerated level, and prepare them to take the standardized AP examinations in May. College and Universities around the world award credit for qualifying AP exam scores.

Current AP course offerings:

- AP Biology
- AP Chemistry
- AP Physics
- AP Calculus
- AP English Literature and Composition
- AP World History

Please ask for the current course list.



Graduation

SPP graduation requirements correspond with the NCA guidelines for college preparatory schools and meet or exceed the Minnesota state graduation standards.



51 semester credits* are required for graduation:

- 8 Language Arts credits
- 6 Mathematics credits
- 7 Social Studies credits
- 6 Science credits
- 2 Physical Education credits
- 1 Health credit
- 2 Fine /Performing Arts credits
- 1 Technology credit
- 8 Foreign Language credits (4 in the same language)
- 10 Elective credits

* 1 credit is earned for each semester course.

Requirements for International Students

International students who have fulfilled following requirements are eligible to receive a high school diploma from SPP:

- Completion of an equivalent of four years of high school
- Completion of the above academic credits
- Proven proficiency in English (80% or higher on the SLEP test)
- Attendance at NIS for a minimum of two semesters

Students must submit complete, translated academic transcripts for each year of high school in order to be considered as a candidate for graduation.

Academic Year at St Paul Preparatory School, USA

ESL courses

For students in need of intensive language training, the school offers multiple levels of ESL (English as a second language) courses to help students transition into regular academic classes. Our ESL program concentrates not only on the mechanics of English, but on the application of English in the content areas.

Daily schedule

The school follows a standards schedule in which students attend 6 classes per day, 5 days a week. Time in the middle of the day is set aside for clubs, study hall, and lunch. The following schedule shows the structure of a typical school day.

Hour	Begin	End	Course
1	8:30 am	9:20 am	American Government
2	9:25 am	10:15 am	English Composition
3	10:20 am	11:10 am	Choir
L1	11:15 am	11:40 am	Club Meeting Time/Study Hall
L2	11:45 am	12:10 pm	Lunch
4	12:15 pm	1:05 pm	Geometry
5	1:10 pm	2:00 pm	Chinese I
6	2:05 pm	2:55 pm	Biology

SPECIAL PREPARATORY PROGRAM

This special preparatory program is intended for students who would like to participate in regular academic programs in public and private schools in the USA but do not have the requested English skills or have never attended an American school or lived with an American host family. Requirements of most American public and private schools are more and more stringent.

The program will be content based, but will focus on an **English language acquisition** (intense English lessons). It will also focus on teaching **American school methodology** in terms of classroom expectation, doing research papers, preparing for tests, and succeeding in an American educational environment. Students on the preparatory program will also participate in some school's activities and courses such as music, physical education and art.

We will also promote good relationships with host families, use of community resources and learning to live in American culture.

Students may stay in this program for up to **one academic year**.

They will receive academic credit from the school and will be assisted in applying to other private schools.

Students achieving appropriate English language level scores and recommendations from their teachers will also receive up to **\$1000 in scholarship funds for the next**



Academic Year at St Paul Preparatory School, USA



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

- From 2005 to the present, 9 students have scored a 5 (the highest possible) on the following AP exams: Calculus AB, Statistics, and German Language.
- In its first year of competition, the SPP math team placed third in the St. Paul city division, and placed 12th in the state among Tier 2 high schools.
- One student achieved an 800 on the math portion of the SAT.

- A student submitted a correct response to a New England Journal of Medicine mystery case – one of about 900 correct responses in the world, and one of 450 responses that were so specifically correct.
- SPP graduates have been accepted at a number of top-ranking colleges and universities, both in the U. S. and abroad.

SCHOOL FACILITIES

Galtier Plaza in downtown St. Paul is the new home of St. Paul Preparatory School. The school is housed in a self-contained, first floor space, with a completely new school design including 11 large classrooms, computer lab, office space, student activity space, storage, glassed-in hallways and our own lobby and entry way.

Students will also have the opportunity to use local St. Paul amenities, including the YMCA (weight room, indoor track, pool, basketball and racquetball courts) for fitness & athletics, the city libraries for research, and local theatres for performing arts, as well as a nearby food court.

St. Paul Preparatory School has access to the onsite conference center and theatre, and an in-building food court.

As an added benefit, our convenient downtown location will allow us to take full advantage of all of the educational and cultural activities the city of Saint Paul has to offer.



SCHOOL LIFE

Arts

Saint Paul Preparatory School has an active Arts Department that guides students in developing skills in the various disciplines of fine and performing arts. Student art work is showcased around the school and occasionally exhibited during school events.

Students abilities in the performing arts are displayed at wonderful productions twice a year. Past performances have showcased student talent both in original variety shows and musicals.

School events

Students enjoy socializing at various events throughout the year. The school generally plans a Halloween party, a winter semi-formal dance, and a spring prom. The prom is traditionally held aboard a riverboat where students enjoy dinner and dancing while cruising down the Mississippi river. Other events are planned throughout the year based upon student interest and involvement.

Academic Year at St Paul Preparatory School, USA

Testimonial

From having attended an American public school all of my life, and then switching to St Paul Preparatory School, my mind has opened up to a world a lot larger than I once thought it was. I attended the St Paul Preparatory School the last three of my high school years and gained experiences I couldn't get anywhere else. Being



surrounded by students, as well as the occasional teacher, from different countries has been one of the most educational experiences of my life. St Paul Preparatory School gave me the chance to gain friends from all over the world and I'll treasure those relationships forever. The St Paul Preparatory School was the best choice I have ever made in my life. (Luke, USA)



A school year at St Paul Preparatory School is one that you will never ever forget!!!

The best thing is that you make everlasting friendship with students from all around the world, and you get an interesting view of their life and culture. The international environment always brings the best out of you, and the cultural diversity is fascinating. The staff and teachers give their best, so they can get you ready not only for college, but for the life that lies ahead of you. So, if you want to have the best year of your life, come and join St Paul's big family from all around the world! (Katinka, Hungary)



Sports

Boy's soccer is offered as an after school option in the fall. It is played outside until the weather drives the team indoors, at which point games are held at Soccer Express in Maplewood. There is a fee for participation in this activity. After school pick-up soccer is also available on and off throughout the year.

The school has taken a big step forward by joining the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL), the official governing body of high school sports in Minnesota. Boy's basketball, girl's basketball and girl's badminton are now on offer.



Academic Year at St Paul Preparatory School, USA

SCHOOL CLUBS

Saint Paul Preparatory School students are encouraged to enjoy the camaraderie and educational benefits gained through participation in clubs. Time is built into the schedule for students to meet on a weekly basis with fellow club members. Each group is supervised by a faculty member. Below are our current club offerings; these may change from year to year in response student interest and staff availability.

Student Leadership Council

St. Paul Preparatory School has developed a Student Leadership Council, which meets every two weeks, to address some of the cultural issues that come up during the school day, along with planning social events for the school. In effect, the group is both a leadership team and a student council. Half of the students were elected to the council by their peers and half were appointed based on teacher recommendations, as well as gender and cultural balance. Throughout the year the students have an opportunity to perform community service, engage in cross cultural simulations, help orient new students to living and attending school in the United States and organize school activities to engage cross-cultural relationships among all of the students.

Math Club

The math club at St. Paul Preparatory School is for students interested in sharpening their math skills in many areas. The club competes in the Minnesota Math League competitions – a series of five meets held at local high schools in the area. Students may also compete in the American Mathematics Competition (AMC) contest to obtain entry into the prestigious AIME math contest. MN Math League competes from November until February, and the AMC and AIME events are held in February and March. All students at any level of math are invited to come, share their knowledge, and enjoy working together on math!

Model UN

Model UN is a program that has been in existence for fifty years. Students will become involved in looking at international issues and assume the role of UN ambassadors from member states in order to “debate international issues, prepare draft resolutions, negotiate with supporters and adversaries, resolve conflicts, and navigate the UN's rules of procedure - all in the interest of mobilizing ‘international cooperation’ to solve global problems.” Students will form teams in order to research a particular human rights issue and prepare to compete against other Twin Cities’ high schools.

Mock trial

Participation in the Minnesota State Bar Association Mock Trial competition is an engaging and fun way to learn generally about English courts and specifically about the American system of jurisprudence. Come, be part of a proud team. Learn what lawyering is all about - integrity, truth and the fair application of the rule of law.

Theatre Club (Introduction to Acting)

In this club, we will explore basic acting techniques, improvisation, mime, movement, and stage performance.

Speech Club

Preparation for competition can include writing and performing an original script, performing a selection from a published work of literature, participating in a small group discussion, or speaking extemporaneously (improvising) on current events.

ACCOMMODATION

Host family, full board. International students who attend the school live with host families during their stay. This provides the opportunity for total immersion into the culture and language of the United States. The host families are given a modest stipend to help cover the cost of food and lodging. The students have several options for lunch. Their host families are required to have lunch available for them to bring to school, however, several students choose to buy their own lunch at the food court or from the vending machines. If the students do not bring food from home, they are required to buy their own lunch.

ARRIVAL

The airport pick up is organized by the host family or the host families’ coordinator. The arrival airport is MSP - Minneapolis/St. Paul.

Academic Year at St Paul Preparatory School, USA

AGE

From 14 to 19 years old at arrival.

TERMS AND DATES

Winter term: August to December

Spring semester: January to June

Academic Year: August to June

APPLICATION

Please ask for the specific application form and recruitment guide.

At the beginning of their first term of study at St. Paul Preparatory School, all students are given tests to determine their level of ability in math and English. Students are then placed in classes that are appropriate for their skill level and interests. All students, including international students who are not planning to graduate from the school, must be enrolled in a full course of study at all times.



Scholarships

Full and partial scholarships are available. Selection for these awards is based upon student academic achievement, talents and abilities, leadership skills, and overall capacity to contribute positively to the school program.

Scholarship awards are not based on financial need, but may be combined with an offer of financial aid.

While there is not a final deadline for scholarship applications, priority is given to early applicants. Please see the scholarship application for specific instructions. A scholarship application has to be sent to the school with supporting documents.

Financial aid

Students may receive an academic scholarship in addition to an offer of financial aid.

Student Visa

The school issues the I-20 for the F-1 visa. This is a multi-year visa which can be transferred to a US college once the student has earned a diploma from our school. The application process for this type of visa is similar to the J-1 visa, but there is some additional financial documentation required.

TRANSFERS OF CREDITS AND TRANSCRIPTS OF GRADES

Please note that the student is not guaranteed placement in a certain grade level, or that transferable credits will be granted, or that a diploma will be awarded at the end of the academic program. These decisions remain at the entire discretion of the national educational authorities of the sending and of the receiving country. Kalba.It is not responsible for the procedures and information needed in this process. Applicants must clearly be aware that they may have to pass again the corresponding grade in their home country after return.



Academic Year at St Paul Preparatory School, USA

PRICES

Country	Program	Ref.	Gross Price in USD*
USA	St Paul Preparatory School	ZNIS1	22 500 USD
USA	Preparatory program	ZNIPP	22 500 USD

* Prices in US Dollars per participant.

**Partial scholarships and financial aid available.

The final price may depend on the amount of the scholarship awarded, if any.
Please consult our recruitment guide for application's question.
Semesters available.

PRICE CONDITIONS

Included

- Administration fees
- School registration and tuition fees
- Host family placement on a half board basis (full board on weekends).
- ESL classes and SLEP test at arrival
- Facilities and technology fees, textbooks, most school fieldtrips
- Transportation to and from the school
- Airport pick-up and transfer to the host family
- Support, assistance and 24 hours emergency phone number during the whole program
- Medical and Emergency Repatriation Insurance

Not Included

- International airfare
- International Travel insurance
- Visa, SEVIS, passport and medical exam fees
- Extra activities organized by the school and others
- Extra language courses
- Personal expenses and pocket money

CANCELLATION POLICY

A deposit of 2000 USD (per student) shall be due after students are accepted to the program or by June 30th, and before I-20 visa forms are issued. Deposit and remaining fees will be totally returned, except an administration fee of 200 USD, if a student is unable to receive a visa. In the case of cancellation for another reason, the deposit and remaining fees will not be returned.

Withdrawal Reimbursement

After arrival in the US, students who voluntarily or involuntarily withdraw from the program will not be reimbursed for payments made. Exceptions may be made in cases of illness, death of an immediate family member, or other extenuating circumstances beyond the student's control.



www.kalba.lt | www.studijosuzsienyje.lt