

Founded in 1950, Mater Dei is a co-educational college preparatory high school in Santa Ana, California, nationally known for its strong sports program. The school is an Apple Distinguished School with a 1:1 iPad program.

For more than 70 years, Mater Dei alumni have been achieving incredible things. Alumni have gone onto top universities and have been National Merit Finalists, county-wide science fair winners, scholarship recipients, award-winning performers, artists, athletes and so much more.

- Year Founded: 1950
- Niche Ranking: A+
- Total Enrollment: 2,000
- International Student Number: 5%
- Grade levels: 9 -11
- Number of Honors and AP Courses: 75
- Average Class Size: 25
- Number of Sports and Clubs: 115 +



Rooted in our tradition of Honor, Glory and Love, we serve a diverse student community committed to knowledge, faith, and service.



SCAN CODE TO APPLY AND LEARN MORE

Rankings

#3 Best High Schools for Athletes in California

#22 in Best Catholic High Schools in California

Highly desirable location in Orange County, California, with the state-of-art school facilities.

Nestled in the city of Santa Ana, Mater Dei is centrally located in Orange County, California. The school offers students top-tier facilities, including an aquatic center, athletic fields, a track, weight room, baseball complex and a golf practice facility.

One of the Top Athletic Programs in the United States

Mater Dei offers one of the most reputable high school athletic programs in the United States, with 28 California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) sports teams.

- 7 club sports teams are offered at Mater Dei including Boys Beach Volleyball, Esports, Equestrian, Ice Hockey, Roller Hockey, Sailing and Surfing.
- Mater Dei’s high school football program ranks No. 1 in California high schools and 3rd in the Nation.
- The school’s nationally-renowned Basketball program has won numerous championships, including a National Championship and multiple State Titles.
- Mater Dei has many athletic championships, including 10 national championships, 120 CIF championships and 387 Trinity League championships.
- The school has produced 23 Gatorade Players of the Year and has 12 Olympian alumni. It is also the only high school in America that has produced three Heisman Trophy winners.

Advanced Academic Program

Mater Dei offers a comprehensive academic program with 75 AP & Honors Courses and 109+ Electives.

Mater Dei offers students a robust four-year STEM program. Students interested in medicine, engineering, computer programming, animal science and forensics - as well as biology, chemistry and physics - have access to tailored pathways.

Through the school’s Science Department, students can customize their STEM experience towards their unique interests and needs.

Mater Dei partners with Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College to offer the Biotechnology Certificate, which makes a student eligible to work in a Biotechnology lab after graduating. Additionally, participating students earn one college credit.

Exceptional Art Department

Mater Dei’s Arts Department offers an exciting arts curriculum that gives students experience both inside and outside of the classroom. Students can take part in Instrumental Music, Theatre Arts, Film and Media, Dance, Choral and Vocal Music.



A Theatre Capstone Program is offered to students who are passionate about the dramatic arts. Through this, students can discover their interests and pursue their passion – ranging from creating a solo performance, directing or writing their own show, designing a Main Stage production or more. Over 10 theatre shows will be performed every semester.

Daily Peer-to-Peer and Faculty Tutoring Offers Students Additional Help

Mater Dei partners with multiple organizations to offer tutoring opportunities to students who need additional help in their classes. Both online and in-person tutoring is available.

Signature Clubs and Activities

- Asian American Club
- Badminton Club
- Book Club
- Chess Club
- Chinese Tutoring Club
- Criminal Justice Club
- Entrepreneurship Club
- International Students Club
- Junior State of America
- Mock Trial
- Model United Nations
- Robotics
- And Many More



College Acceptances in the Past 5 Years

- Brown University
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Los Angeles
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- University of Florida
- Harvard University
- Johns Hopkins University
- University of Maryland
- University of Michigan
- New York University
- Northeastern University
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Pittsburgh
- Princeton University
- University of Southern California
- Stanford University
- University of Virginia
- University of Wisconsin, Madison
- Yale University

Cost

Tuition	\$42,100.00
Tuition with Homestay	\$62,100.00

*Additional Fees May Apply

Admissions

Open Grades for Applications: 9 -11

Language Requirements	TOEFL ibt Grades 9-10: 60 Grade 11: 80 The equivalent of Duolingo, IELTS and ELTiS score can be accepted
Application Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Years of Transcripts and list of courses for the current year • English and Math Recommendation Letters • Passport
Interview	Required