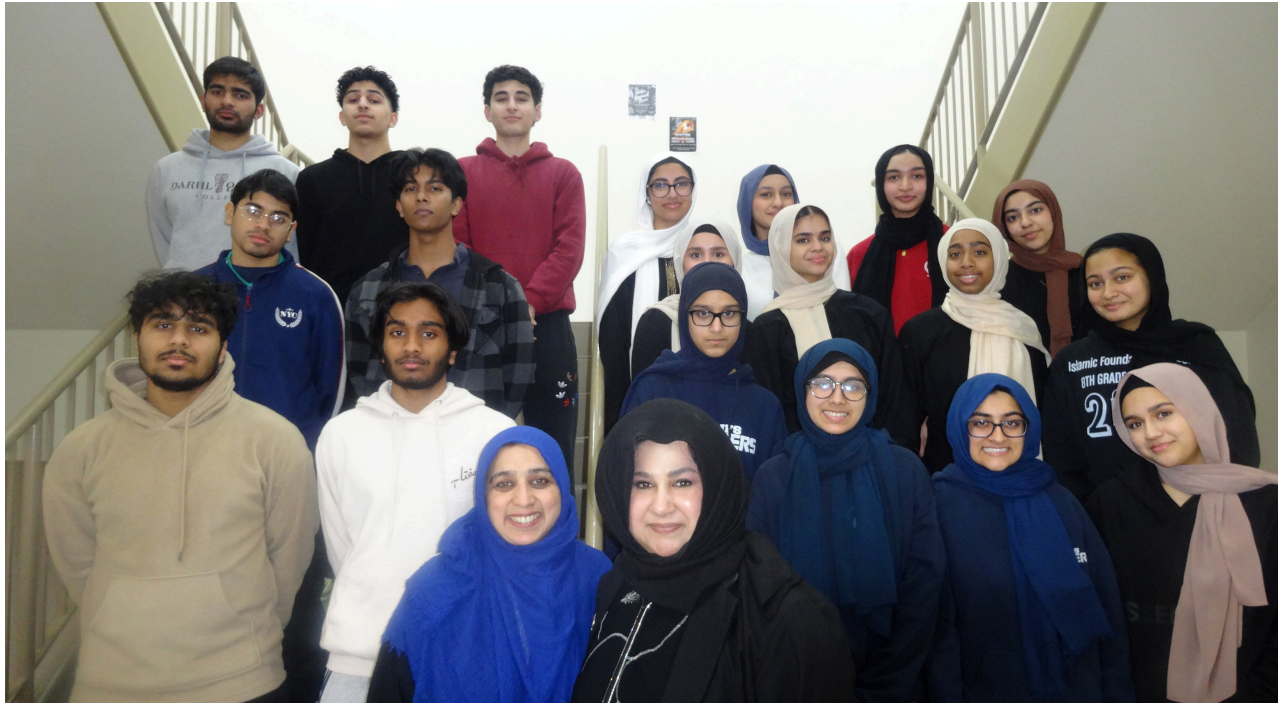


ISLAMIC FOUNDATION SCHOOL

SCHOLARSHIP • CHARACTER • SERVICE

The Story Behind IFS



For over 30 years, Islamic Foundation School has served as the home of a community of American Muslims who care about the world around them. IFS attracts people who want to see a difference in the world. Through spiritual focus, academic integrity, and deep focus on character, our students grow to be positive contributors to society

IFS At A Glance

Islamic Morals
Character Focused
Challenging Academics
Quran Rooted
Collaborative Work
Individually Specialized
Leadership Oriented
Knowledge Driven

IFS At A Glance

100% College Acceptance

Male and Female Athletics Programs

Wide Variety of Student Activities

Daily Exposure to Mosque & Spiritual Program

Many Honors and Advanced Placement courses

3 Different Quran Programs

National Merit Scholar recognized



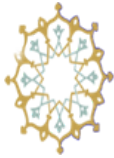
Overall Niche Rating

NICHE 



Recognized for developing an AP program that creates a college-going culture and gives students opportunities to earn college credit and to maximize their college outcomes





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School Profile

Mrs. Shereen Hussain
Principal

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Villa Park, IL 60181
(630) 941-8800
www.ifsvp.org

Islamic Foundation School (IFS) is a private school located in Villa Park, Illinois that provides a rigorous academic program of studies, focusing on college success. Additionally, IFS provides comprehensive religious instruction. IFS serves students from all parts of the Chicagoland area from economically and culturally diverse backgrounds. IFS is accredited by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), now known as COGNIA. Our faculty is composed of certified teachers, many of whom hold master's level degrees in their field.

Building a Solid Foundation

The driving force behind the IFS experience is to instill the values of Scholarship, Character, and Service within the daily lives of our students.

Scholarship	Character	Service
The academic education at IFS allows for students to thrive in all grade levels with Low student-to-teacher ratios in K-5, with strong support continuing in 6th -12th. Students have access to specialized attention and personalized care. This ensures positive results and growth in all grade levels. Students graduate from IFS as lifelong learners and contributing members of society.	The core focus of the Islamic education at IFS centers on the development of character. Through understanding of hadith, delving into the meaning of the Quran, and discussing faith, students learn the character of a true Muslim. This program guides our students to navigate the various aspects of their spiritual identity to learn to lead a life of success.	All students participate in a two-day program dedicated to service-learning activities. They are provided with the opportunity to give back to the community and learn how to pay it forward through service. Lessons learned from these trips are then integrated into the classroom setting to allow students to incorporate service into their everyday lives.

Quran and Arabic

The mission of the Quran and Arabic Studies Department is to foster a love for the Holy Quran by providing students high-quality Arabic language and Quran instruction. We strive to help each student build a holistic Arabic skill set. We aim to produce Arabic-literate Muslim Americans who can interact with the Quran and other primary sources of Islamic tradition at a meaningful level. At the

Elementary level, both written and spoken Arabic are taught, with the initial focus on reading Quran with fluency. At the Middle School level, students have the unique opportunity to study Arabic grammar and conversation. At the High School level, 6 course options for full-year Arabic courses are offered over the course of a 4-year period. Advanced students are introduced to Arabic literature, and their language skills are put to the test with a close reading of the Prophetic Hadith.

Islamic Studies Integration

The Islamic Studies Department at IFS is committed to bettering the lives of our students by fostering an environment of proactive learning and spiritual growth. The curriculum focuses on the moral teachings, beliefs, and practices of Islam and on developing each student's understanding and commitment to their faith. Our connection to the mosque allows our students to develop a unique spiritual compass that will serve as guide in their lives. With the ability to ask faith-based question and receive deep, meaningful answers through our Islamic Studies program, our students engage in a journey of understanding the religion with a heightened awareness. We aim at developing each student's ability to navigate being Muslim in the social, moral, and intellectual milieu of contemporary society.

Social Emotional Education

The school counselors and teachers work together to integrate Islamic education and character development into the students' social and emotional education to create a truly unique program for all students. Our social emotional education program focuses on behavioral enhancement and emotional well-being through Positive Behavioral Interventional and Support (PBIS). PBIS is a model that is utilized nationally in schools and has proven increased success amongst students by creating a positive school culture and climate, nationwide.

School-Wide Writing Initiative

At IFS, we realize that in order to prepare students to be effective communicators for college and beyond, students must be able to express their ideas effectively. In 2020, Islamic Foundation School has launched a campus-wide writing initiative to make writing meaningful and relevant for each individual learner. Students are equipped with techniques and styles of writing in their Writing classes, then are encouraged to write with purpose in all other subjects.

Service Learning

Service Learning Service Learning is a teaching and learning methodology that connects classroom curriculum with identified community issues and needs. Service Learning engages students in projects that serve the community and build their social and academic capacities. Islamic Foundation School students dedicate two days per year to the community. In previous years, some of our destinations have been Beacon Hill Nursing Home, Schiller Woods, Islamic Relief, Food Banks, and Habitat for Humanity.

Athletics

With multiple gyms, one full-size basketball court with state-of-the-art features, IFS students have access to a competitive athletic program for boys and girls, as well as numerous extra-curricular activities. Participating in athletics allows our students to focus on physical activity, while training them to be responsible for their school, community, team, and their relationship with their Creator.

Athletics Include:

Basketball

Volleyball

Cross Country

Soccer

Archery

Wrestling



Elementary and Middle School

*Our **Elementary School** program offers a curriculum where academics is integrated with Islamic education. It aims to nurture the holistic development of a child. We emphasize learning through play, with a heavy emphasis on the use of manipulatives, arts and crafts, and creative writing and expression. Our elementary curriculum provides the foundation of learning the core concepts for reading, writing, language arts, math, social studies, science, Islamic Studies, Quran, Arabic, Art, and Physical Education.*

Academic Offerings

Elementary curriculum consists of holistic, engaging and academically challenging courses. Developing reading and writing skills is foundational at the early childhood years. The Language Arts and Reading curriculum is differentiated according to the student's abilities and Lexile scores. Teachers use the common core standards as a guide in planning their lessons. Math is taught with a focus on the mastery of skills. Along with the core curriculum, students take Arabic, Islamic Studies, Qur'an, Physical Education, Art, Computer Science, and Library Science.

Early Childhood Program

IFS's early childhood preschool and prekindergarten programs follow the Illinois Early Learning Standards and focus on the social- emotional, physical, cognitive and language development of the child. Children learn how to nurture relationships with others using positive social interactions while being responsible towards self and others.

Middle School *is where strong learning habits along with social, and personal skills are solidified. Students are prepared in middle school for the advanced education they will experience in high school. Through a more rigorous educational experience and increased attention to emotional well-being, middle school students are provided with an environment conducive to personal and academic growth in preparation for high school.*

Academic Offerings

Middle School students are instructed in the following academic subjects: Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Quran, Arabic, and Islamic Studies. Middle School students also participate in Art, Physical Education, Library Services, and Computer Science.

Middle School Student Council

The purpose of the Middle School Student Council is to provide motivated students with the opportunity to develop their leadership skills. Acting as the voice of the student body, Student Council members raise school spirit and plan activities that contribute to the overall welfare of the community. Projects of the past include fundraisers for cancer research, walks to increase autism awareness, and service projects to show support for war-affected refugees.

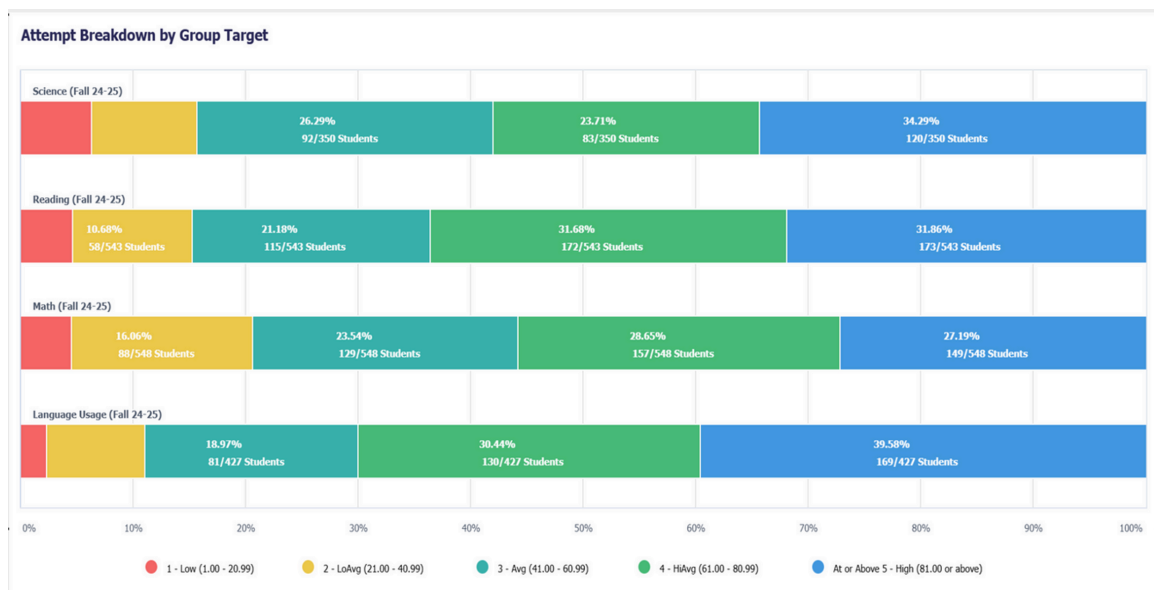
National Junior Honor Society

Membership in the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is one of the *highest* honors that can be awarded to a Middle School student. The IFS chapter strives to give practical meaning to the Society's standards of scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship, and character. These five ideals will be considered as the basis for selection, as well as a fundamental part of our chapter activities. The NJHS strives to recognize the total student – one who excels in all these areas. In past years, the Chapter has raised and donated funds towards Diabetes research, worked towards constructing water wells in third world countries, and hosted annual Iftaar and Eid celebrations for the community at large.

MAP Testing

IFS utilizes the NWEA Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) tests for KG - 8th grades. MAP is a formal assessment described as "a computer adaptive" test, which means every student gets a unique set of test questions based on responses to previous questions. As the student answers correctly, questions increase in complexity. If the student answers incorrectly, the questions become easier. By the end of the test, most students will answer about half the questions correctly." This helps to determine what skills a student is proficient in and what skills he or she is ready to learn next. The subject areas tested are Reading, Language Usage, Mathematics, and Science. The test is taken three times per year and progress is monitored at each quarter. The results are analyzed to differentiate instruction, tailor lesson plans, and set individual and classroom goals.

NWEA Data Breakdown





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High School

Through an advanced curriculum and thoughtful attention from teachers, our high school program offers a strong learning base for students to excel at the University level. The program provides honors courses, electives, and a plethora of Advanced Placement (AP) courses. Our college counselor provides students and their parents with the guidance needed to make informed decisions regarding their academic and professional future. Our alumni have secured admission to renowned universities such as Yale, John Hopkins, Duke, Stanford, Northwestern, Madinah, Brown, UC Berkeley, and University of Chicago, as well as IIT, Benedictine, George Washington, Loyola, and DePaul, to name a few.

Potential Academic Offerings

IFS focuses on a rigorous, college-preparatory curriculum. A majority of classes are part of the weighted grading system since most courses offered are at the Honors and Advanced Placement level. The GPA scale is out of a 4.0 scale.

AP Courses	Honors Courses	Dual Credit
Biology	Algebra II	Biotechnology
Calculus AB	American	Introduction to
Calculus BC	Literature	Education
Chemistry	Biology	Physics
Geography	Chemistry	Sociology
Environmental	Conversational	Business
Science	Arabic	Communications
Language and	Elements of	
Composition	Writing	

Literature and Composition Macroeconomics Microeconomics Physics Psychology US History	Foundations of Science Geography Geometry Physics Pre-Calculus Statistics US History World History World Literature	
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National Honor Society

Being a member of the IFS Chapter of the National Honors Society (NHS) allows our highest-achieving students the opportunity to hone their leadership skills and to develop their character. Membership in NHS demands that a student demonstrate the pillars of scholarship, service, leadership, and character, daily. The Islamic Foundation School NHS members have provided aid to victims of natural disasters, helped fundraise to support students in need across the Chicagoland area, dedicated their time to support our firefighters and police officers, and contributed to many other events that have left a lasting impact on their community at large.

School Student Council

IFS High School Student Council members are elected officials who work together within a framework to provide a means for student expression. This form of collaboration gives opportunities for our students to experience leadership roles, interact on a deeper level with their teachers, peers, and community, and learn strategies to impact society and change the world. Student Council members have contributed towards team building amongst their peers, leading in the recognition of teachers, supporting the needs of the larger community through potlucks, pep rallies, and fundraisers.

Accolades

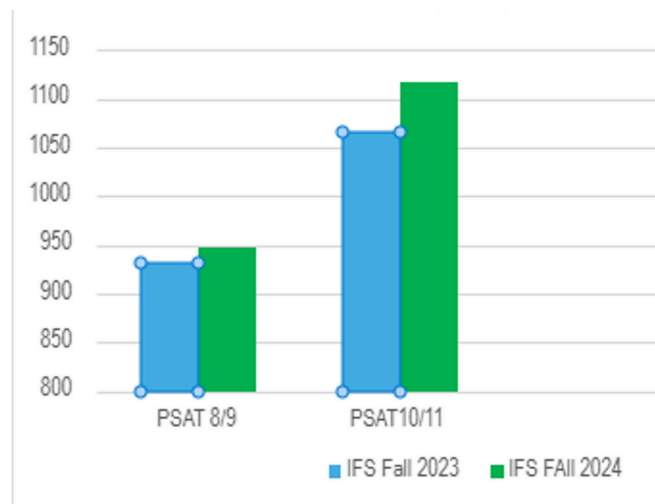
Islamic Foundation School graduates have gone on to receive not only admission to some of the nation's most prestigious universities

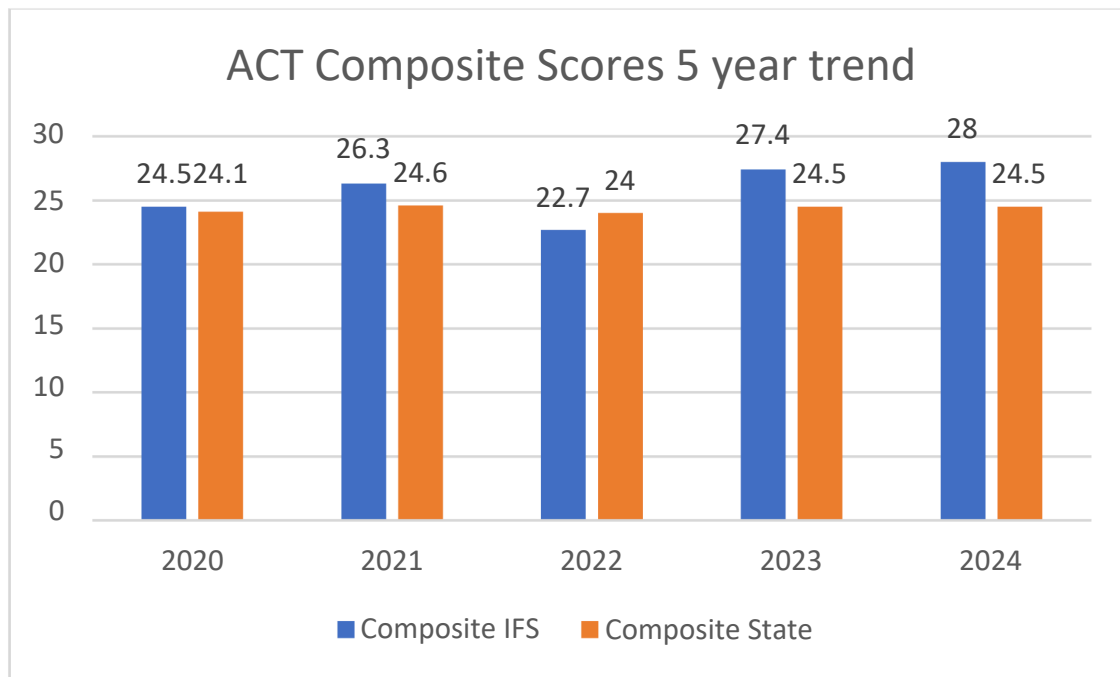
and programs, but also earn scholarships totaling millions and over \$5,000,000 last year alone. Through proper guidance and support from faculty and families, the graduating class of 2024 has accomplished the following:

- ❖ Gained acceptance to Guaranteed Medical Programs, such as the University of Illinois at Chicago GPPA (Business) and Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine (LECOM) programs
- ❖ Earned the title of College Board National Scholar, scoring in the top 2.5% nationally on the PSAT/NMSQT Test
- ❖ 50% of the graduating class earned the title of AP Scholar, AP Honors, or AP Distinction from the College Board
- ❖ 30% of the graduating class are Illinois State Scholars, ranking in the top 5% on standardized tests
- ❖ 60% of the graduating class have earned the Presidential Award for Academic Excellence, maintaining a high GPA, and scoring high on standardized tests
- ❖ 25% of the graduating class have the title of Hufaz
- ❖ Student received a full Athletic Scholarship

PSAT Composite Score

	IFS Fall 2023	IFS Fall 2024
PSAT 8/9	932	948
PSAT 10/11	1066	1118





Special Events/Programs and Extra Curricular Activities

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <p>ACES</p> <p>Amnesty International</p> <p>Anime Club</p> <p>Arabic Immersion</p> <p>Archery</p> <p>Art Club</p> <p>Basketball</p> <p>Board Game Club</p> <p>Book Buddies</p> <p>Broadcast Club</p> <p>Caudill Club</p> <p>College Prep Reading</p> <p>Communications Club</p> <p>Cool School Challenge</p> <p>Crochet Club</p> <p>Cross Country</p> <p>Cursive Club</p> <p>Dabka</p> <p>Embroidery Club</p> <p>Fashion Show Committee</p> <p>Field Day</p> | <p>Fit Club (Girls only)</p> <p>Hands On</p> <p>Handwriting Club</p> <p>Heroes of Islam</p> <p>HOSA</p> <p>ICTM</p> <p>Junior Achievement</p> <p>Lego Building Blocks</p> <p>Lego Club</p> <p>Life of the Prophet Muhammed (SAWS)</p> <p>Looming Club</p> <p>Math Club</p> <p>MIST</p> <p>Model UN</p> <p>National Honor Society</p> <p>Newspaper</p> <p>Pep Club</p> <p>Personal Development</p> <p>Poetry Writing Club</p> <p>Quran Competition</p> <p>Quran Reading Club</p> <p>Reading Book Club</p> | <p>Reading Club</p> <p>Robotics</p> <p>Science Bowl</p> <p>Science Fair</p> <p>Science/Green Club</p> <p>Seerah Club</p> <p>Soccer</p> <p>Spelling Bees</p> <p>STEAM Club</p> <p>STEAM Family Night</p> <p>Story Craft</p> <p>Student Council</p> <p>Students for Social Justice</p> <p>Team Building Club</p> <p>UNICEF</p> <p>Volleyball</p> <p>Wrestling</p> <p>WYSE</p> <p>Yearbook</p> |
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