

Tampa Bay Area Schools and Colleges

The public school system and public school funding in Florida is organized very differently compared to many areas of the United States. Lack of knowledge about how our public school system is organized and operates often leads newcomers to our state to form misconceptions about our schools.

In Florida, over 70% of the funding for schools is appropriated by the Florida State Legislature. The balance is funded by each of the 67 counties. The geographic boundaries of each school district are the geographic boundaries of the county the school district serves. Local control is county control subject to state and county mandates. If you are moving to the Tampa Bay area, you will most likely be locating in one of three counties -- Hillsborough County, Pinellas County or Pasco County.

Hillsborough County is on the east side of Tampa Bay and includes the cities of Tampa, Temple Terrace and Plant City as well as significant unincorporated areas. It is the twelfth largest school district in the United States and the third largest in Florida. Hillsborough County has 133 elementary schools, 42 middle/junior high schools, 25 high schools and 4 career centers. There are 73 additional schools including Charter Schools, Magnet Schools, ESE, and Early Childhood schools. There are several specialized schools for students with special needs and some regular elementary schools house specialized programs for exceptional children. Most schools have a gifted program the extent of which is determined by the makeup of their student body.

Hillsborough County ranks first among the ten largest counties in Florida on the High School Competency Test taken by eleventh graders statewide with 93% of the students passing communications and 85% passing mathematics compared to 89% and 77% statewide respectively. ACT and SAT scores for college-bound juniors and seniors are above the state and national averages. The composite score on the ACT was 21.8; State and national composite was 20.8. The combined SAT average for Hillsborough County seniors is 906, above the state average of 879 and the national average of 902. Hillsborough County has led the state for nine years in numbers of seniors named Florida Academic Scholars and Florida Undergraduate Fund Scholars. It has led the state for two years in County participants in the Advanced Placement Program offering college courses to high school juniors and seniors. It has three high schools, Hillsborough High School, King High School, and Robinson High School which offer the prestigious

International Baccalaureate program.

Hillsborough County School District

<http://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us/>

Individual Schools in Hillsborough County

<http://www.sdhc.k12.fl.us/schools/SelectSchool.asp>

Pasco County borders both Hillsborough and Pinellas County to the north. It is predominantly rural in nature except for pockets of suburbia in Port Richey, New Port Richey, Land O' Lakes and Wesley Chapel. Other small towns in the county include Brooksville, Zephyrhills and Dade City. Pasco County has 25 elementary schools, 8 middle/junior high schools and 10 high schools.

Pasco County School District

<http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/>

Individual Schools in Pasco County

<http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/schools/pages/schools.html>

Pinellas County is on the west side of Tampa Bay and borders the Gulf of Mexico. It has 37 municipalities including St. Petersburg, Clearwater, and Tarpon Springs. It is almost as large as Hillsborough and is the fourth largest school district in Florida. It has 80 elementary schools, 23 middle schools and 15 high schools.

Pinellas County School District

<http://www.pinellas.k12.fl.us/>

Individual Schools in Pinellas County

<http://www.pinellas.k12.fl.us/schools/>

Due to the size of our school districts and the diversity of the schools

within them, it is much more accurate to research the specific schools you are considering for your children to see how they measure up on the criteria that you deem most important rather than looking at statistics for the school district as a whole.

Florida also has a school grading system which grades schools A-F depending upon both test scores and how well students in ALL quartiles are progressing(not just the top quartile). Looking for Test Scores? Visit the Florida Student Assessment Test, Grade Ten Assessment and the Florida Writes scores are summarized in the School Report Cards. There is also more detailed information on how our students are doing on national tests such as the ACT and SAT test and AP tests.

Florida School Grades and Report Cards

<http://schoolgrades.fldoe.org/default.asp>

ACT-SAT-AP Scores

<http://firm.edu/doe/evaluation/act-sat-ap.htm>

There are also numerous private schools in all three counties, both religious and unaffiliated. There are schools and programs for exceptional children at both ends of the spectrum and schools which meet the needs of those who are physically challenged.

Tampa Bay Area Private Schools

[Academy At The Lakes](#) A learning community of shared values celebrating the love of learning and the joy in the journey.

Private and Co-educational
Pre-Kindergarten to 12th Grade
College Preparatory
Serving Northern Hillsborough & Pasco
Located in Land O' Lakes, Florida

[Admiral Farragut Academy](#)

America's first preparatory school with Naval training
Private, boarding
Co-educational
5th to 12th Grade
300+ Students
Located in St. Petersburg, Florida

[Beach Park School](#)

Montessori curriculum
Private
Co-educational
Pre-school to 6th Grade
Located in Tampa, Florida

[Berkeley Preparatory School](#)

Private
Co-educational
Pre-school to 12th Grade
Located in Tampa, Florida

[The Bishop-Eton School](#)

Part of Academic Excellence Foundation, Inc
Private
Co-educational
For students who learn best through experience and individual recognition.
Located in Tampa, Florida

[Blessed Sacrament](#)

Private
Kindergarten to 8th Grade
Located in Seminole, Florida

[Carrollwood Day School](#)

CDS provides excellence in education, is fully-accredited by the FCIS, FKC, and NAEYC and offers a curriculum designed for students from pre-K through 8th grade with an emphasis on character development.
Private
Co-educational
Located in the Carrollwood section of Tampa, Florida

[The Canterbury School](#)

Since 1968, the school has been known for academic excellence, arts enrichment, competitive athletics and a student-centered curriculum.
Affiliated with the Episcopal church
College preparatory, prekindergarten through 12th
Co-educational
Located in Northeast St. Petersburg, Florida

Country Day School

Private
Co-Educational
Pre-Kindergarten to 8th Grade
Montessori through Preparatory
Located in Largo, Florida

Delphi Academy

Academics focus on providing a solid grounding in the basics, a rich and challenging hands-on curriculum, & the ability to study purposefully.
Private, non-sectarian, day school
Co-Educational
Preschool to 9th Grade
Located in Clearwater, Florida

Genesis Preparatory School

Private
Co-educational
6th to 12th Grade
Located in New Port Richey, Florida

Independent Day School

Fully accredited school offering curriculum designed for college bound students
Private
Co-educational
Pre-Kindergarten to 8th Grade
Located in Tampa, Florida

Indian Rocks Christian Schools

Private
Co-educational
Pre-Kindergarten to 12th Grade
Located in Largo, Florida

Keswick Christian School

Private
Co-educational
Pre-Kindergarten to 12th Grade
Located in St. Petersburg, Florida

Our Lady of Lourdes

Private
Co-educational
Pre-Kindergarten to 8th Grade
Located in Dunedin, Florida

[Pinellas County Jewish Day School](#)

Private, non-profit
Accredited, established 1980
Co-educational
Pre-Kindergarten to 8th Grade
Located in Clearwater, Florida

[St. Paul's](#)

Private
Co-educational
Pre-Kindergarten to 8th Grade
300+ Students
Located in Clearwater, Florida

[Shorecrest Preparatory School](#)

Founded in 1923
Independent, non-sectarian
College preparatory school,
Serving over 900 students.
Pre-Kindergarten to 12th Grade
Located in St. Petersburg, Florida

[Skycrest Christian School](#)

Private
Co-educational
Pre-Kindergarten to 8th Grade
Located in Clearwater, Florida

[Tampa Baptist Academy](#)

Private
Co-educational
Pre-Kindergarten to 12th Grade
Located in Tampa, Florida

[Tampa Preparatory School](#)

Co-educational
College-preparatory
Independent day school
Grades six through twelve.
Located in Tampa, Florida

[Temple Heights Christian School](#)

Private
Co-educational
Pre-Kindergarten to 12th Grade
Located in Tampa, Florida

[Wellington School](#)

Private
Co-educational
Seminole Campus -
Pre-Kindergarten to 5th Grade
St. Petersburg, Florida Campus -
Kindergarten to 8th Grade

[Westlake Christian School](#)

Private
Co-educational
Pre-Kindergarten to 8th Grade
Located in Palm Harbor, Florida

For specific information about particular schools or for help in finding the right schools to meet your children's needs, call our team today at 813-264-7644. Our thorough knowledge of our school system enables us to help you find just what you're looking for. You know that if your children are happy in their schools here, your move will be a much more pleasant one.

WEBSITES FOR FLORIDA COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

[Argosy University, Tampa, Florida](#)

[Argosy University, Sarasota, Florida](#)

[Art Institute of Fort Lauderdale](#)

[Barry University](#)

[Beacon College](#)

[Bethune-Cookman College, Daytona Florida](#)

[Brevard Community College](#)

[Broward Community College](#)

[Central Florida Community College](#)

[Chipola Junior College, Marianna, Florida](#)

[Christian Leadership University](#)

[Clearwater Christian College](#)

[Concord Career Institute](#)

[Daytona Beach Community College](#)

[National-Louis University](#)

[New World School of the Arts, Miami Florida](#)

[North Florida Community College,](#)

[Madison Florida](#)

[Northwood University](#)

[Nova Southeastern University](#)

[Okaloosa-Walton Community College](#)

[Palm Beach Atlantic University](#)

[Palm Beach Community College](#)

[Pasco-Hernando Community College](#)

[Pensacola Christian College](#)

[Pensacola Junior College](#)

[Pinellas Technical Education Centers](#)

[Eckerd College](#)
[Edison Community College](#)
[Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University](#)
[Erwin Technical Center](#)
[Everglades University, Boca Raton, Orlando & Sarasota Florida](#)
[Flagler College](#)
[Florida Agricultural & Mechanical University](#)
[Florida Atlantic University](#)
[Florida Christian College](#)
[Florida College](#)
[Florida Community College](#)
[Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences](#)
[Florida Gulf Coast University](#)
[Florida Institute of Technology](#)
[Florida International University](#)
[Florida Keys Community College](#)
[Florida Memorial College](#)
[Florida Metropolitan University](#)
[Florida Technical College](#)
[Florida Southern College, Lakeland, Florida](#)
[Florida State University](#)
[Full Sail Real World Education](#)
[Gulf Coast Community College](#)
[Herzing College - Orlando Florida](#)
[Hillsborough Community College \(HCC\)](#)
[Hobe Sound Bible College](#)
[Indian River Community College](#)
[International Academy of Design](#)
[International College](#)
[ITT Technical Institute](#)
[Jacksonville University](#)
[Jones College](#)
[Keiser College](#)
[Lake City Community College](#)
[Lake-Sumter Community College](#)
[Lynn University](#)
[Manatee Community College, Brandon, Lakewood Ranch & Venice Florida](#)
[Miami Christian University](#)
[Miami-Dade College](#)
[Polk Community College, Winter Haven, Florida](#)
[Ringling School of Art & Design, Sarsota, Florida](#)
[Rollins College](#)
[Santa Fe Community College](#)
[Seminole Community College](#)
[St. John Vianney Minor Seminary](#)
[St. Johns River Community College](#)
[Saint Leo University](#)
[St. Petersburg College \(SPC\), St. Petersburg, Florida](#)
[St. Thomas University](#)
[St. Vincent De Paul Regional Seminary](#)
[Schiller International University, Dunedin Florida](#)
[Southeastern University, Lakeland, Florida](#)
[South Florida Community College](#)
[Southwest Florida College](#)
[Stetson University, Deland, Florida](#)
[Stetson University - College of Law, Gulfport and Tampa, Florida](#)
[Tallahassee Community College](#)
[Trinity International University](#)
[Troy State University](#)
[University of Central Florida](#)
[University of Florida](#)
[University of Miami](#)
[University of North Florida](#)
[University of Phoenix, Tampa, Florida](#)
[University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida](#)
[University of South Florida, Lakeland, Florida](#)
[University of South Florida, Sarasota/Manatee, Florida](#)
[University of South Florida, St. Petersburg, Florida](#)
[University of Tampa, Tampa Florida](#)
[University of West Florida](#)
[Valencia Community College, Orlando, Kissimmee, and Winter Park, Florida](#)
[Valencia Institute, Orlando, Florida](#)
[Warner Southern College, Lake Wales, Florida](#)

[Webber International University, Babson
Park, Florida](#)
[Webster College, Pasco County and Ocala,
Florida](#)
[Webster University, Orlando, Florida](#)



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