

Academic Planning Guide & Course Description

Lake Oconee Academy

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LOA's Philosophy

At Lake Oconee Academy, our philosophy is based on the belief that every child can learn. To accomplish this, the school's curriculum embraces specific points of distinction that include data-driven and standards-based instruction, required parental contracts outlining the roles and expectations for parents and guardians, a uniform dress code, college preparatory diplomas for all students, and real world experiences through job shadowing and internship opportunities.

LOA Oconee Academy Mission

The mission of Lake Oconee Academy is to increase student achievement by building a culture of high expectations for all students. The Academy will incorporate common sense and proven principles, such as a research-based curriculum, high expectations for students, both academically and behaviorally, an emphasis on outstanding school leadership and faculty, and parental involvement. The culture of the Academy is built on these fundamental principles.

Additional Graduation Requirements

LOA Community Service

Community service is a requirement at Lake Oconee Academy. The following is a suggested time-line for completion of service hours:

- by the end of the freshman year: 10 hours
- by the end of the sophomore year: 15 hours
- by the end of the junior year: 20 hours
- by the end of the senior year: 25 hours

70 hours or more will earn the student an honor recognition for community service worn at graduation

What are Acceptable Projects? Acceptable projects for which a student can receive volunteer hours may include but are not limited to the following:

WHAT COUNTS?	WHAT DOES NOT COUNT?
Volunteering with any agency, non-profit group, hospital, church, student organization, civic group, community organization, etc.	Service for which you receive course credit, such as internships or class assignments, unless you work more hours than required.
Time that you spend planning or organizing a service event.	Participating in “drives” where you drop off items for a collection.
Meeting that you attend in order to plan or organize a service event, learn about service opportunities, or learn community leadership skills.	Participation in a school event or activity, such as rehearsing for performances, participation in athletic events or other extracurricular activities.
Mission or work trips with your church or a community group for the actual volunteer work hours.	Time at conventions, mission, or work trips when you are sleeping, attending social functions, eating, etc.

<i>Service</i> projects of school clubs, organizations, and teams.	Court mandated community service or service mandated for a school disciplinary referral.
Community organizing including voter registration and political campaigns.	Paid work of any kind or work for which you receive any kind of compensation.
Time that you spend planning for drives and fund-raising activities for charities such as the United Way, American Red Cross, American Cancer Society, etc.	Hours spent attending religious events in a church, synagogue, mosque, or faith-based institution will not be recognized. However, hours spent volunteering at religious pre-schools, daycares, or community outreach centers (food pantries, clothing centers) may be claimed.
Unpaid Internships with non-profit groups that serve the community.	
Time that you spend organizing and preparing for a charity event or fundraiser.	
As a Teacher Cadet in the work-study program, the time spent outside of normal instructional time (peer tutoring, preparation of materials, etc.).	Time spent as Teacher Cadet within the normal hours of instruction (because you are earning work-study credit).
Assisting with SAT Test Center	Taking the SAT at the LOA Test Center.
Peer Tutoring for the National Honor Society or content Honor Societies under supervision of NHS or other sponsors	Being tutored

ALL SERVICE PROJECTS ARE SUBJECT TO A MAXIMUM CREDIT OF 16 HOURS per DAY FOR ANY ONE EVENT.

Hours must be submitted within the school year in which they are earned.

Once you have determined that your project meets the acceptable guidelines, complete

the Community Service log (found under the resource tab). If you do not have the log when you perform the community service, you may submit a letter signed by the event sponsor and attach it to the log.

Each event must be entered separately and signed by the adult responsible.

A student may submit one form with verification relating to a repeating event, (i.e. the group meets every Monday for 1 hour). List multiple dates with a total number of hours. You may submit one verification letter for this repeated activity.

Hours will not be counted until the verification is received.

For school sponsored events, verification lists may be submitted directly by the activity sponsor.

Extracurricular Activities

Students must maintain good academic standing in order to participate in extracurricular activities such as sports, cheerleading and drama performances. A grade of 70 and above in all subject areas is required for eligibility as well as satisfactory conduct reports. If a student's final grades at the conclusion of a school year renders that student ineligible, he/she will not be able to participate in a fall sport/activity in the new school year until the first interim grades are posted at 4 1/2 weeks. Students on academic or disciplinary probation, in-school suspension, or out-of-school suspension will not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities until the probation period or suspension has been completed and the student is fully reinstated into classes by the CEO or his designee.

Athletics and Extracurricular Sports

Fall	Winter	Spring
Boys: cross country Girls: softball, volleyball, cross country	Boys: basketball Girls: cheerleading, basketball	Boys: soccer, golf, tennis, baseball Girls: soccer, golf, tennis



- Extracurriculars
 - Pep band
 - Jazz band
 - Student Government (6th and up)
 - Senior Beta (9th-12th)
 - Junior Beta (6th-8th)
 - Fellowship of Christian Athletes (6th and up)
 - Writing Club (4th & 5th)
 - 4H
 - Governor's Honors
 - Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA- Middle School & High)
 - SKillsUSA (High School)

Assessments

Georgia Milestones Assessment System

The purpose of the Georgia Student Assessment Program is to measure student achievement of the state-adopted content standards and inform efforts to improve teaching and learning. Results of the assessment program are utilized to identify students failing to achieve mastery of content, to provide teachers with feedback about instructional practice, and to assist school districts in identifying strengths and weaknesses in order to establish priorities in planning educational programs.

The assessment program includes customized summative criterion-referenced tests at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. In addition, Georgia participates in the National Assessment of Educational Progress in grades 4, 8 and 12. A variety of resources, including formative tools, are provided to assist parents, educators, students and the public with efforts improve educational opportunities for students.

Courses with EOC:

- Algebra 1
- Geometry
- Physical Sciences
- Biology

- US History
- Economics
- 9th Literature
- 11th Literature

College Entrance Exams

- American College Test (ACT)
- Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)
- Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT)