



THE
ROXBURY LATIN
SCHOOL
FOUNDED IN 1645

AT A GLANCE

Student body: 303 boys

Class of 2027: 46 boys

Students of color: 42%

Boys from City of Boston: 36%

Student-Teacher Ratio: 6:1

Students going on to four-year colleges: 100%

Students receiving financial aid: 37%

Average financial aid grant: 73% of tuition

ADMINISTRATION

Head of School

Samuel L. Schaffer

Director of College Counseling

Robert F. O'Rourke

rob.orourke@roxburylatin.org

Senior Director of College Counseling

Thomas E. Walsh, Jr.

tom.walsh@roxburylatin.org

Associate Director of College Counseling

Megan E. Fraker

megan.fraker@roxburylatin.org

College Counseling Associate

Meredith H. Reynolds

meredith.reynolds@roxburylatin.org

Registrar

Keri Maguire

keri.maguire@roxburylatin.org

The Roxbury Latin School

101 St. Theresa Avenue

West Roxbury, Massachusetts 02132

617-325-4920 www.roxburylatin.org

CEEB Code: 220345

*Accredited by the New England Association
of Schools and Colleges*

SCHOOL PROFILE

2026–2027

Academic Overview: Roxbury Latin is known for offering a rigorous and sophisticated academic program, and the school is lucky to have a student body comprising academically advanced and intellectually curious young men. Students who enroll at RL come with the understanding that they will be challenged, pushed, and expected to partake in a course load that adequately prepares them for college academia and life beyond. When it comes to college admission, match matters most for us, and our students regularly match at the top colleges and universities. We have long believed that A and B level work at RL prepares students for the challenge of collegiate coursework, and RL students typically go on to thrive in similarly fast-paced and stimulating environments.

Our Students: Roxbury Latin seeks and enrolls bright, energetic, talented students, committed to exploring and developing their many skills. Most boys attend Roxbury Latin for six years. In recent years, the school's admit rate has hovered around 17%; our yield is typically near 90%. Each year, the admit rate at Grade 9, our other major entry point (10–12 boys), is lower than that of Grade 7.

Socio-Economics: We cherish the socio-economic diversity of the school. Roxbury Latin is need-blind and meets the entirety of the demonstrated need of our families. To ensure accessibility to middle-income families, tuition at Roxbury Latin is approximately \$20,000 less than that of other Boston-area independent schools. The education of every student is substantially subsidized by our endowment, and the average contribution of a family receiving financial aid is \$11,777, enabling access to families across the socio-economic spectrum.

Weighted GPA: On the Secondary School Report you will find a weighted GPA for each applicant. We work on a 9-point scale (9 = A+, 8 = A, etc.) and include all major courses completed in Grades 9–11. We update the GPA at the conclusion of the first semester of the senior year. We add one “quality point” for all courses designated as Honors or Advanced, and any classes taught at an accelerated rate (e.g., Latin 1–2, Latin 2–3, and Multivariable Calculus). **In the last five years, no more than two boys per graduating class have had a weighted GPA above a 9.0.** We do not provide class rank.

Academic Calendar and Course Load: We operate on a traditional semester calendar. **Students in Grades 11 and 12 are not allowed to take more than five major courses per semester.** The only exception to this policy is the senior-year Arts elective.

Requirements for Diploma:

- **English:** Required every year.
- **Math:** Required through the end of the sophomore year and/or the completion of Geometry. Students complete Algebra in our eighth grade.

- **Math-Science Investigations (MSI):** Required of Grade 9 boys; MSI is a rigorous interdisciplinary course that explores Algebra II concepts through a hands-on, problems-based approach and leverages the resources of the IDEA Lab, RL's state-of-the-art makerspace.
- **Science:** Two additional core laboratory science courses (Physics, Chemistry, or Biology) are required in Grades 10-12.
- **Languages:** Latin and either French or Spanish through the third-year level. (Students can opt for Ancient Greek in place of a third year of modern language.) Anything beyond the third-year level of Latin, Spanish, or French reflects a deep commitment to languages and exceeds our requirements.
- **History:** Western Civilization is required in Grade 9; U.S. History is required in Grade 11 or 12.
- All freshmen take half-credit arts electives; sophomores take two one-semester arts electives.
- Seniors must complete a month-long Independent Study Project in the spring, including a written summation and an oral presentation.
- Involvement in team sports or independent physical education is mandated throughout a boy's time at the school.

Our Move Away from AP Courses: After nearly a decade of analysis, reflection, and discussion, the Roxbury Latin faculty voted to abandon all Advanced Placement courses in the spring of 2023. The 2023-2024 academic year was the last year that AP courses were offered. The decision was motivated by several factors, most notably a desire to promote and enhance our own Honors courses and regain control of two critical weeks of teaching and learning in May.

All courses at Roxbury Latin are taught at a rapid pace and with rigorous expectations. Our selective admit rate (roughly 15-17% each year), more than 380-year commitment to academic excellence, and scrupulous standards make us confident that our self-designed courses prepare young men for the challenge of any and all collegiate courses, and that, freed from the binds of an external curriculum, our faculty are better able to hone our students' analytical and interdisciplinary talents in a broader, deeper, and more meaningful way.

We fervently believe that our Honors and accelerated classes offer and encourage more range, depth, nuance, and sophisticated analysis than any AP course.

Our most demanding sections receive an "Honors" or "Advanced" designation. Honors sections, however, are **not** offered in the following subjects:

All English courses	All Arts courses	Engineering
Environmental Science	European History	Western Civ (Grade 9)
French 1-3	US History	Math-Science Investigations (Grade 9)
Multivariable Calculus	Spanish 1-3	World Religions

SAT[®]

Class of 2026

MIDDLE 50%

700–770

EBRW

680–790

MATH



National Merit Competition

Class of 2027

6

SEMIFINALISTS

10

COMMENDED STUDENTS

35%

EARNED DISTINCTION

Nota bene:

- If a student "doubles" in languages, he has a hard time fitting in three years of laboratory science.
- Recent curricular additions: Honors Law & Philosophy, Honors Global Conflicts, and Honors American Religious History.
- Annually some students undertake semester- or year-long tutorials, focusing on topics of interest across the disciplines.
- The Applied Art course includes both art history and studio art components. Applied Art is a full course, which we consider on par with classes in all other disciplines. We also now offer a half course titled Topics in Art, for seniors particularly interested in the arts.

Discipline: The school’s fundamental precept is: “Honesty is expected in all dealings.” Our students, therefore, are required to be forthright in explaining any suspension that occurs during grades 9–12 in their applications to colleges that request such information. Our office will also engage in dialogue regarding suspensions with admissions representatives whenever they wish to discuss the matter over the phone or via Zoom. In every case, if a student was not asked to leave the school, he has earned our full and unwavering support.

On- and Off-Campus Extracurriculars: Students spend dedicated time each afternoon committed to a range of pursuits from athletics, to performance, to publications. Throughout the year, boys commit themselves to many service opportunities, either elective or as a class, extending long-standing and meaningful connections around the City of Boston. The majority of boys take advantage of school-sponsored and subsidized opportunities to travel abroad for cultural and linguistic immersion.

History and Mission: In our 382nd year, Roxbury Latin is the oldest school in continuous existence in North America. We are a small, independent day school for boys in grades 7–12. Our students commute from all the various neighborhoods in the City of Boston and from more than 40 surrounding towns. The campus comprises 117 acres in West Roxbury, a residential neighborhood in the southwestern corner of Boston.

John Eliot founded the school in 1645 with the mission of preparing boys for lives of public service. The school remains deeply committed to its original ideals and classical heritage. We stress honesty, simplicity, humility, respect, and concern for others, focusing on readying young men for lives of purpose and meaning. While we celebrate our students’ academic achievements, our primary concern is the moral character of our boys.

Matriculation: Graduates from the last five classes (2022–2026) have matriculated at the following institutions:

Babson College	2	Fairfield University	1	Salve Regina University	1
Bates College	1	George Washington University	1	Trinity College	8
Baylor University	1	Georgetown University	18	Tufts University	19
Boston College	11	Harvard College	29	Tulane University	4
Boston University	3	Haverford College	1	Union College	3
Bowdoin College	3	Howard University	1	University of California, Berkeley	1
Brandeis University	1	Johns Hopkins University	2	University of Chicago	4
Brown University	18	Marist College	1	University of Massachusetts, Amherst	10
Case Western Reserve University	1	Marquette University	1	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	1
Claremont McKenna College	1	McGill University	1	University of Notre Dame	2
Clemson University	1	Middlebury College	2	University of Pennsylvania	4
Colby College	7	MIT	3	University of Southern California	2
Colgate University	2	New York University	3	University of Vermont	1
College of the Holy Cross	7	Northeastern University	4	University of Virginia	1
College of William and Mary	1	Northwestern University	2	University of Wisconsin	2
Columbia University	2	Oberlin College	2	Vanderbilt University	3
Connecticut College	2	Ohio State University	1	Wake Forest University	5
Cornell University	6	Olin College of Engineering	1	Washington University in St. Louis	2
Dartmouth College	12	Pitzer College	1	Wesleyan University	3
Davidson College	1	Princeton University	3	Wheaton College (MA)	1
Denison University	1	Providence College	1	Williams College	1
Dickinson College	1	Purdue University	1	Worcester Polytechnic Institute	2
Durham University	1	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	1	Yale University	7
Elon University	1	Rutgers University	1		
Emory University	3	Saint Anselm College	2		