



SCHOOL PROFILE

El Camino Academy

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School and Community

El Camino Academy was founded in 1980 to serve missionary families by providing a quality, Christ-centered, English-speaking, U.S.-based education for their children. The current student body is 298, with 131 students in elementary and an average of 22 students in each class, and 167 in secondary with an average of 21 students in each class. El Camino Academy serves 29 missions and has families from Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, England, France, Guatemala, Holland, Italy, Korea, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, South Korea, Spain, Suriname, Switzerland, Sweden, Taiwan, the United States, and Venezuela.

Facilities

In 1989 ECA purchase a 1.15-acre lot on the northern edge of Bogotá. Donated prefabricated buildings were erected on the site in 1994, with elementary and secondary around their own courtyards. In April 2000, an adjacent lot was purchased and a 2-story brick classroom building was finished in 2007. Currently the campus has two sections. The “new brick building” houses most of the classrooms, as well as teacher offices, administrative offices, computer lab, and library with 20,000+ volumes, 90% of which are in English. The “old building” holds the auditorium, science lab, music room, and cafeteria. An external dining area with an open kitchen is used for cooking projects and special events. Recreational facilities include a soccer field, basketball court, playground, and a large room used as a gym.

Staff

The academic staff has just over 50 teachers, including special teachers for music, art, physical education and Spanish. The majority of the faculty members are missionaries who have raised their own support. Primarily from the United States, most teachers are certified and often have many years of experience. Qualified Colombian teachers form the Spanish department.

Operation

El Camino Academy is governed by a self-perpetuating board chosen from Christian parents representing some of the missions involved in the school as well as Colombian Christian leaders. The director is responsible to the board and is a non-voting member.

Asociación Educando con Cristo is the Colombian legal entity which runs *Colegio El Camino Academy*.

Curriculum

ECA uses a U.S.-based curriculum for Pre-Kinder through high school, and students can also meet Colombian requirements. Bible, PE, and fine arts electives are an integral part of the curriculum for all students. Preparation for Advanced Placement exams is offered according to student interest and staff availability. Secondary class periods are 45 minutes and all major subjects meet 5 times a week, while Bible, PE and electives meet 2-4 times a week.

Accreditation and Graduation

ECA has been accredited by the Association of Christian Schools International (ACSI) since 1998. ECA is also officially approved by the Colombian Ministry of Education (Resolution # 1593, May 2003), so students are able to receive diplomas from the U.S. and Colombia. To receive a high school diploma students complete 22 credits. To receive a Colombian diploma, students must complete the six years of requirements of the Colombian government.

Mission Organizations

Foreign mission organizations that are currently represented at ECA are:

- Baptist Bible Fellowship International
- Baptist Mission
- Brethren in Christ World Missions
- CAM International Mission Board
- Church of the Nazarene
- Colombia Para Cristo
- First Love International
- Frontiers
- IMC
- International Bible Society
- JILOA Ministries
- La Red Business Network
- LAM - Latin America Mission
- Macedonia World
- Mission to the World International
- Multinational Missionary Foundation
- Navigators
- New Tribes Mission
- OMS
- Opportunity International
- Pan American Mission
- Precept Ministries International
- RCE - Resourcing Christian Education International
- Rhema
- Ripe for Harvest
- WEC International
- World Vision International
- Youth for Christ International
- YWAM - Youth with a Mission

Finances

ECA is a non-profit educational institution with an operating budget that is based solely on tuition fees. Donations are sought for major capital expenses.

Grades and GPA

Until May 2000 evaluation for 4th – 12th grades was based on the following scale:

A = 100-93
B = 92-85
C = 84-77
D = 76-70
F = below 70

Since August 2000 the scale and GPA has been the following, with the high school GPA formed by assigning the following points to the semester grade:

98-100 A+ = 4.0	87-89 B+ = 3.3	77-79 C+ = 2.3	67-69 D+ = 1.3	0-59 F = 0
93-97 A = 4.0	83-86 B = 3.0	73-76 C = 2.0	63-66 D = 1.0	P = Passing
90-92 A- = 3.7	80-82 B- = 2.7	70-72 C- = 1.7	60-62 D- = 0.7	I = Incomplete

Transfer grades or classes that meet less than two times a week are included on the transcript but are NOT included in the GPA.

Schedule

ECA meets 38 - 40 weeks, starting in early August and finishing in early June. The daily schedule runs from 7:40 – 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. There is a 1-week break each fall and spring (the week before Easter Sunday), and a break of about 3 weeks around Christmas.

Uniforms

All students wear ECA shirts, sweat shirts or jackets to school every day. All students must wear the ECA sweat suit and good athletic shoes for PE class.

Testing

Students in selected elementary and in middle school grades take standardized tests annually, currently TerraNova and/or WIDA (for ESL). Sophomores, juniors, and seniors may take PSAT, SAT, and AP tests. Colombian students take official Colombian tests such as ICFES and SABER.

Student Activities

Extracurricular school activities include yearbook, student government, drama, music, soccer, volleyball, basketball and retreats. All grade levels are involved in service projects. 9th and 10th graders must complete 20 hours of service per year while 11th and 12th graders are required to complete 40 hours of service per year. All students in secondary are involved in small groups and many are involved in discipleship relationships. These are designed to enhance the educational process and foster student growth, leadership and responsibility.

Colleges and Universities

Some of the colleges and universities where ECA graduates have studied include:

Canada: Bethany Bible College, Nipawin Bible Institute, Northwestern College, Prairie Bible Institute, University of Saskatchewan, and University of Winnipeg

Colombia: Universidad Fernando Sor (Música), Universidad Nacional, Universidad Distrital, Universidad de la Sabana, Universidad de los Andes, Universidad del Rosario, Universidad Externado de Colombia, Universidad Javeriana, Escuela Colombiana de Ingeniería Julio Garavito, and Politécnico Grancolombiano.

Korea: Korea University, Yonsei University

Norway: Ansgar Theological College

United States: Asbury College, Bryan College, Campbell University, Case Western Reserve University, Cedarville College, Clemson University, College of Lake Country, Community Christian College, Concord University, Emmaus Bible College, Evangel University, Goshen College, Houston Community College, Huntington University, Judson University, LeTourneau University, Liberty University, Miami Dade College, Miami Florida International University, Montreat College, Moody Bible Institute, Osak Technical College, Osark Christian College, Palm Beach Atlantic College, San Antonio College, Simon Fraser University, Simpson University, South Western University, Taylor University, Temple University, Union University Drive, University of Illinois, University of Mobile, University of North Carolina, University of Nevada, Western Illinois University, Wheaton College, and Winkler Bible Institute.