



# CAMBRIDGE ACADEMY

## High School Cougar Guide

103 Eastman St.  
Greenwood, SC 29649  
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*Cambridge Academy is fully accredited by the  
South Carolina Independent School Association (“SCISA”) and COGNIA.*

SCISA is a non-profit voluntary association of independent schools. Founded originally on August 10, 1965, the State of South Carolina incorporated the SCISA as an exclusively educational organization, with responsibilities to establish accreditation standards, coordinate athletic and academic competition, and raise funds for member organizations. To learn more about SCISA, visit [www.scisa.org](http://www.scisa.org).

***Mission Statement***

Cambridge Academy provides students with an academically excellent curriculum, while fostering physical, social, and spiritual wellness within a nurturing environment.

***Purpose Statement***

Cambridge Academy believes that high academic expectations within an atmosphere of caring and mutual respect generate the most effective college preparatory education possible. The school’s philosophy affirms that each individual is of infinite worth and dignity. Cambridge Academy seeks student applicants of all races, religions, and nationalities. We strive to assist each student to reach his or her potential – intellectually, socially, emotionally, and spiritually. Cambridge Academy consistently nurtures a love of learning that will enable students to respond enthusiastically to a lifetime of challenge.

***School Motto***

*PETITE OPTIMUM:*

Be your best in all your interactions with others  
and in everything you do: *AIM HIGH.*

## **Class Rank and GPA**

All courses taken for high school graduation credit are included in the calculation of class rank. The instructional level of each course, the student's grade for each course, and the total number of courses attempted are included in the computation of class rank. Under the South Carolina Uniform Grading Policy passed by the SC State Board of Education, all course grades are based on a state-defined grading scale with corresponding grade point values for each numerical grade. In addition, the policy specifies that only courses taught at the Honors, Advanced Placement, and International Baccalaureate levels, and/or dual enrollment in college courses, may be awarded additional weighting values to be used in computing grade point averages and class rank. Once a GPA has been computed for all students, all grade point ratios are rank ordered numerically from highest to lowest, and each student's class rank is determined by the position of his/her GPA relative to all other students in a given grade. In instances of equal GPAs for more than one student, the same class rank is given, and the following value in sequence will be omitted.

## **Course Load**

All CA full-time High School students, except seniors, are required to be enrolled in at least five academic credits each year, and will therefore will likely graduate with more credits than required by SCISA. Since it is common for CA students to graduate with more credits than required for a diploma, CA does not allow early graduation. There are specific rules that apply to the course load for athletes. Rules concerning course load for athletes can be found in the CA Athletic Handbook. Please refer to the Upper School Curriculum Overview for complete graduation requirements and course descriptions.

## **Dual Enrollment Courses for Grades 11-12**

Dual enrollment courses may be offered for students in grades 11-12, granting both high school and college credits. In order to maintain our course sequence, CA will only approve the courses taught on our campus for juniors. Exceptions to this policy must be approved in advance by the Head of School.

Only second-semester juniors who are actively pursuing an applied degree or certificate through Piedmont Technical College or a similar institution will be allowed to deviate from the established Cambridge course sequence. Seniors may take and are encouraged to take additional off-campus dual enrollment courses of their choice. The Head of School and Upper School Principal will work closely with seniors to help them select their off-campus dual enrollment courses. CA students in 10<sup>th</sup> grade who want to participate in dual enrollment courses must be approved by the Head of School. To be approved, students must have an established record of extraordinary academic performance. In cases of CA's offering of courses similar to those available at other institutions, CA students must take the in-house courses presented at CA, unless permission for other courses is granted by the Head of School. Students are required to pay any fees associated with Dual Enrollment courses directly through the institution hosting the course.

**Grading System**

CA has adopted the South Carolina Uniform Grading Scale for Grades 6-12. The transcripts will list both the numerical grades and the cumulative S. C. uniform grading policy weighted GPA. Effective with the 2016-2017 school year, CA will move to the ten-point grading scale adopted by the SC State Board of Education. Grades issued prior to the 2016-2017 academic year will not be recalculated and will remain on the previous grading scale.

- A = 90-100
- B = 80-89
- C = 70-79
- D = 60-69
- F = 0-59

**Grade Point Average**

*Table B-2: Computing GPAs: 10 Point Scale – 2016 to Present*

Note: Counselors, registrars, and other school or district administrators are to follow procedures shown in this CGPA Chart to transcribe grades for courses taken during the 2016–17 school year and forward. Computations for numerical averages should be **rounded** to the third decimal place to follow changes beginning with the **fall term**, 2016–17 school year.

**STUDENT EXAMPLE**

Course Taken	Numerical Average	Quality Points	Unit
English 1	91	<u>4.100</u>	1
Algebra 1	87	<u>3.700</u>	1
Physical Science	94	<u>4.400</u>	1
World Geography, Honors	83	<u>3.800</u>	1
Physical Education	92	<u>4.200</u>	1
French 1	84	<u>3.400</u>	1

**COMPUTATION**

Quality Points		Units		
<u>4.100</u>	×	1.0	=	4.100
<u>3.700</u>	×	1.0	=	3.700
<u>4.400</u>	×	1.0	=	4.400
<u>3.800</u>	×	1.0	=	3.800
<u>4.200</u>	×	1.0	=	4.200
<u>3.400</u>	×	1.0	=	3.400

sum of units attempted      **6.0**      **23.600**      sum of quality points × units sum  
of (quality points x units) sum of units attempted, **rounded** to 3 decimal places  
**23.600 ÷ 6.0**      rounded **3.9333333** to **3.933**

*Table A-2: Grade Point Conversion Chart, 10 Point Scale – 2016 and forward*

Note: Use this Grade Point Conversion Chart when counselors, registrars, or other school/district administrators need to transcribe grades for courses taken after to 2016.

<b>Numerical Average</b>	<b>Letter Grade</b>	<b>College Prep Weighting</b>	<b>Honors Weighting</b>	<b>Extended Quality Points*</b>
100	A	5.000	5.500	6.000
99	A	4.900	5.400	5.900
98	A	4.800	5.300	5.800
97	A	4.700	5.200	5.700
96	A	4.600	5.100	5.600
95	A	4.500	5.000	5.500
94	A	4.400	4.900	5.400
93	A	4.300	4.800	5.300
92	A	4.200	4.700	5.200
91	A	4.100	4.600	5.100
90	A	4.000	4.500	5.000
89	B	3.900	4.400	4.900
88	B	3.800	4.300	4.800
87	B	3.700	4.200	4.700
86	B	3.600	4.100	4.600
85	B	3.500	4.000	4.500
84	B	3.400	3.900	4.400
83	B	3.300	3.800	4.300
82	B	3.200	3.700	4.200
81	B	3.100	3.600	4.100
80	B	3.000	3.500	4.000
79	C	2.900	3.400	3.900
78	C	2.800	3.300	3.800
77	C	2.700	3.200	3.700

Numerical Average	Letter Grade	College Prep Weighting	Honors Weighting	Extended Quality Points*
76	C	2.600	3.100	3.600
75	C	2.500	3.000	3.500
74	C	2.400	2.900	3.400
73	C	2.300	2.800	3.300
72	C	2.200	2.700	3.200
71	C	2.100	2.600	3.100
70	C	2.000	2.500	3.000
69	D	1.900	2.400	2.900
68	D	1.800	2.300	2.800
67	D	1.700	2.200	2.700
66	D	1.600	2.100	2.600
65	D	1.500	2.000	2.500
64	D	1.400	1.900	2.400
63	D	1.300	1.800	2.300
62	D	1.200	1.700	2.200
61	D	1.100	1.600	2.100
60	D	1.000	1.500	2.000
59	F	0.900	1.400	1.900
58	F	0.800	1.300	1.800
57	F	0.700	1.200	1.700
56	F	0.600	1.100	1.600
55	F	0.500	1.000	1.500
54	F	0.400	0.900	1.400
53	F	0.300	0.800	1.300
52	F	0.200	0.700	1.200
51	F	0.100	0.600	1.100
0-50	F	0.000	0.000	0.000
50	WF	0.000	0.000	0.000
50	FA	0.000	0.000	0.000
-	WP	0.000	0.000	0.000
-	P	0.000	0.000	0.000
-	NP	0.000	0.000	0.000
-	AU	0.000	0.000	0.000

\*Extended Quality Points Based on Placement/Potential College Placement

## Honor Roll

Middle School and Upper School Honor Roll lists for each quarter are determined by the quarter averages. All grades are weighted and are used to determine the Honor Roll and Headmaster's List. Middle School classes that report a grade of pass or fail on report cards will not be used in the numerical grade average. Example: Art, Music, Drama, PE. Although these courses are not used for a numerical calculation, if a student receives a grade of "fail" in a special class, they will not be eligible for honor roll placement.

- Headmaster’s List: Students who maintain at least a 93 average with no individual quarter grade below 85.
- Honor Roll: Students who maintain an overall average of 88 or higher, with no individual quarter grade below 80.

For the purposes of determining Awards Day and Scholar Athlete achievements, the cumulative averages over the first three marking periods of the current school year are used. The exception is dual enrollment courses, where only the end-of-course grade is used.

### **National Beta Club and Honor Society (“NHS”)**

Cambridge Academy is proud to host a chapter of the National Beta Club and National Honor Society. Entrance into these clubs is based not solely on grades, but also on leadership, service, and character traits. Students who qualify will be asked to complete an application. A faculty council of at least four members will be appointed to approve candidates. Notification of acceptance will be given to students, and an induction ceremony will be held. Violations of the school Honor Policy may result in dismissal from either club.

Students must maintain a 90 average in core classes to be eligible for NHS membership. A weighted 4.0 GPA is required for Beta Club membership.

## **COLLEGE AND SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION**

### **College Application Day**

Every September, the Upper School Principal will host College Application Day. The SCCHE provides fee waivers for some universities during this time. Each senior will make an appointment with the Upper School Principal to begin the college review and the application process. Students can also receive guidance throughout the school year by appointment. Students are strongly encouraged to begin creating their account using the Common App at <https://www.commonapp.org/>. Please be mindful of deadlines with all college applications.

When applying to college, please note the difference between Early Action (EA) and Early Decision (ED). If you select ED, you are obligated to withdraw other applications. EA allows you to apply early and receive an early response, but it gives you until the regular decision deadline to decide and compare financial aid options.

### **Greenwood Promise**

The Greenwood Promise is available to all students who graduate from a public/private high school or an accredited homeschooling program whose primary residence is zoned for Districts 50, 51 or 52. Virtual and homeschool students, please email [info@greenwoodpromise.com](mailto:info@greenwoodpromise.com) for a form. To be eligible, students must complete and return the Promise consent form to their school and meet the following criteria:

## Residency Requirements

- Graduate from a public or private high school or an accredited homeschooling program.
- The student's primary residence must be zoned for either Greenwood School District 50, 51 or 52.
- Reside at a residence zoned for an approved District continuously since at least the beginning of 9th grade, funding levels increase depending on length of residency (school enrollment and residency must be continuous).

## GPA Requirements

- For technical degrees or certifications, there is no minimum GPA requirement upon high school graduation; however, students must qualify for admittance into a two-year technical college.
- Once admitted into a Technical College, students must maintain a 2.0 GPA.
- For a bachelor's degree, there is currently a 3.0 GPA requirement.

## Additional Requirements

- The student must be a U.S. citizen/legal permanent resident.
- The student must not be in default on a Federal student loan.
- The student must certify that he or she has never been convicted of any felonies.
- The student must certify that he or she has not been convicted of any second or subsequent alcohol and/or drug-related misdemeanors within the academic year.

## How Do I "Apply" for the Greenwood Promise?

For technical degrees: after students and their parents sign and return their Promise Consent Form to their high school guidance counselor, the student is eligible. There is no formal application. The consent form MUST be completed during their senior year of high school to receive funds for Fall or Spring enrollment at Piedmont Technical College or another SC technical college if the program of study is not offered at Piedmont Tech.

For bachelor's degrees: an application is required due to the limited number of scholarships available. The application opens in January, and students may apply during their sophomore year.

## Where Can I Use My Scholarship?

- If the student pursues a technical degree or certification, Promise funds may be used to attend Piedmont Technical College in Greenwood, SC or another SC technical college if the desired program is not offered at Piedmont Tech.
- Promise scholarships are for certificates, diplomas, and associate degrees requiring a minimum of 12 credit hours in non-developmental courses for completion.
- The Greenwood Promise is also offering a limited number of scholarships to pursue a bachelor's degree at Lander University in 30 specific majors. There are also a limited number of engineering degree scholarships for students who attend Clemson, USC, SC State, or the Citadel.
- The bachelor's degree scholarship requires an application which can be found on the front page

of our website. There are different eligibility rules for this program which can be found in the FAQ's on the front page.

#### How Do I Maintain My Scholarship Throughout College?

- A student must be enrolled full-time, taking a minimum of 12 credit hours of non-developmental courses per semester for technical degrees and 30 credit hours for bachelor's degrees.
- A student must have a cumulative GPA of 2.0 at the end of each academic year (Fall, Summer, Spring) to be eligible for their second year for technical degrees, and a cumulative GPA of 3.0 for bachelor's degrees.
- Students must complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and State Grant Forms by June 30th each year.
- A student must obtain an associate's degree or certificate within 3 years of the date of high school graduation, and a bachelor's degree within 5 years of the date of high school graduation (Exceptions to this requirement are granted for military service.)

#### How Much Will I Receive?

The scholarship program provides funds to cover the remaining tuition and mandatory fees for post-secondary education after any state or federal aid is applied to your balance. The amount varies by student. The financial aid office provides the calculations.

- The student must be enrolled full-time, taking a minimum of 12 credit hours in non-developmental courses per semester.
- Summer school and remedial classes will not be covered, UNLESS they are REQUIRED by PTC's Curriculum. Students must submit an appeal online at [info@greenwoodpromise.com](mailto:info@greenwoodpromise.com) and contact the Promise office for approval.
- All funds will be paid directly to the educational institution AFTER the drop/add period of the fall, winter, and spring semesters.

#### Letters of Recommendation

Students in need of letters of recommendation are encouraged to give at least two weeks notice. This notice should include general information about where you are applying, what you plan to major in, and any academic, extracurricular, or athletic accomplishments.

#### Scholarships

All seniors will be provided with a general list of scholarship opportunities for which they can apply. Throughout the school year, the Upper School Principal will provide opportunities as they arise. Please see the graphic below for information on the eligibility criteria for South Carolina Scholarships and Grants. After the final transcripts are complete, the class rank will be submitted to the SCCHS for scholarships to be awarded. Please be mindful of deadlines with all scholarship applications.

**General Eligibility requirements for all programs:**

- US Citizen/Legal Permanent Resident\*
- SC Resident\*
- No felony convictions\*\*
- No second or subsequent alcohol/drug misdemeanors
- Not in default on any state or federal loans
- Enroll in a degree-seeking program at an eligible SC institution

\*This must be determined at the time of high school graduation & college enrollment.

\*\*Excluding Lottery Tuition Assistance.

QUALIFYING CRITERIA		CONTINUED ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
<p><b>SC HOPE</b> \$2,800</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend an eligible four-year institution</li> <li>• 3.0 SC UGP GPA</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.0 LIFE GPA; and</li> <li>• Earn an average of 30 credit hours by the end of the first academic year*</li> </ul> <p>If a SC HOPE recipient satisfies the above criteria, they move into the LIFE scholarship program beginning in their 2nd academic year</p>
<p><b>LIFE</b> \$5,000</p> <p><b>Two-Year Institution</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.0 SC UGP GPA</li> </ul> <p><b>Four-year Institution (Meet 2 out of 3)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.0 SC UGP GPA</li> <li>• 1100 SAT or 22 ACT</li> <li>• Rank in top 30% of graduating class*</li> </ul> <p>*Cannot use rank if graduating mid-year</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.0 LIFE GPA; and</li> <li>• Earn an average of 30 credit hours by the end of the first academic year*</li> </ul> <p>Up to eight terms of eligibility towards first Bachelors degree</p> <p>*Academic year: Fall, Spring, Summer ** Can use AP, IB, Dual Enrollment, and CLEP hours towards credit hour requirement</p>
<p><b>Palmetto Fellows</b> \$6,700 year 1 \$7,500 year 2-4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.5 SC UGP GPA; and</li> <li>• 1200 SAT or 25 ACT; and</li> <li>• Top 6% rank in either 10, 11, 12</li> </ul> <p>Without regard to rank (Alternative Criteria)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4.0 SC UGP GPA; and</li> <li>• 1400 SAT or 31 ACT</li> </ul> <p>*Mid-year graduates <u>MUST</u> apply prior to mid-year graduation date</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3.0 Institutional GPA; and</li> <li>• Earn 30 credit hours each academic year</li> </ul> <p>Up to eight terms of eligibility towards first Bachelors degree</p> <p>*Academic year: Fall, Spring, Summer **Cannot use AP, IB, Dual Enrollment, or CLEP hours towards credit hour requirement</p>
<p><b>Lottery Tuition Assistance</b></p> <p><b>2-Year institutions only</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complete the FAFSA or FAFSA waiver;</li> <li>• Enroll in at least six credit hours</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain Satisfactory Academic Progress</li> <li>• After attempting 24 hours, earn a minimum 2.0 GPA; and</li> <li>• Complete the FAFSA annually</li> </ul> <p>Students are not eligible to receive Lottery Tuition Assistance for more than one certificate, diploma, or degree earned within any five-year period unless the additional certificate, diploma, or degree constitutes progress in the same field of study.</p>
<p><b>SC Need-based Grant</b> \$3,500 (Full-time)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determined 'in need' by completing the FAFSA</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2.0 GPA; and</li> <li>• Earn 24 credit hours; and</li> <li>• Complete the FAFSA annually, so 'in need' status can be confirmed.</li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.che.sc.gov">www.che.sc.gov</a>   803-737-2260</p>

**University Studies Certificate**

Students wishing to receive their University Studies Certificate for completing 30 hours of dual enrollment courses must request that their Lander transcripts be sent to Piedmont Technical College.