

# GRADUATES OF NAIS SCHOOLS ARE PREPPED FOR COLLEGE AND BEYOND

# 100%

Nearly 100% of graduates of independent schools that belong to the National Association of Independent Schools go to college. They are also more likely than other students to:



## Have higher average SAT scores

NAIS students on average score 293 points higher than other students.<sup>1</sup>

## Be engaged as high school seniors

NAIS grads are more likely to have performed community service and to have talked with teachers outside of class.<sup>2</sup>

## Enjoy being challenged academically

76% of NAIS students say their school work makes them curious to learn more (compared to 61% of public school students) and 74% enjoy tasks that require a lot of mental effort (compared to 59%).<sup>3</sup>



## Feel prepared for college

In their first year of college, NAIS grads are more likely to have learned to ask questions in class, integrate skills/knowledge, and support opinions with logical arguments.<sup>2</sup>



## Attend a highly ranked college

NAIS grads are more than three times more likely to attend top-ranked universities or liberal arts colleges than graduates of other high schools.<sup>4</sup>



## Participate in extracurricular activities in college that build important work skills

Nearly a third of NAIS grads (29%) were extremely active in key extracurricular activities compared to 19% of public school graduates. Nearly half (45%) held a leadership position in a club/organization, compared to 31% of public school grads.<sup>4</sup>

## Take part in experiential learning linked to workplace engagement and higher well-being later in life

42% of NAIS graduates conducted research with a professor in college (compared to 35% of public school graduates) and 42% worked on a long-term project (compared to 32%).<sup>4</sup>



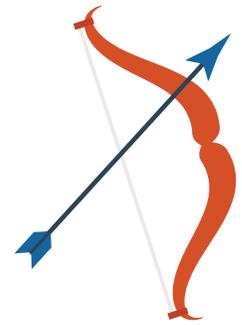
## Finish college on time

77% of NAIS grads complete college on time, compared to 64% of public school grads.<sup>4</sup>



# RESEARCH SHOWS

- Extracurriculars help students develop leadership, time-management, and communication skills that help them **succeed in jobs**.<sup>5</sup>
- NAIS grads who participate in extracurriculars show higher levels of **well-being later in life**.<sup>4</sup>
- NAIS grads who participate in experiential learning are more likely to be **engaged at work** and have higher rates of well-being later in life.<sup>4</sup>
- U.S. students who **finish college on time** face lower student loan debt and earn higher starting salaries than peers who take longer to finish college.<sup>6</sup>



## A PATH TO SUCCESS FOR FIRST-GENERATIONAL AND MINORITY STUDENTS

More than three-quarters of NAIS minority graduates (77%) graduated from college within four years, while 62% of minority graduates from public high schools did the same.<sup>4</sup>

## WHAT ARE INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS?

Independent schools are private, nonprofit schools that serve students in pre-kindergarten, elementary, middle and/or high school. These schools are governed by independent boards of trustees and each school has a unique mission and culture.



National Association  
of Independent Schools

[www.nais.org](http://www.nais.org)

Sources: 1. *NAIS 2015-16 SAT Test Scores Report*, NAIS. 2. "Independent School Graduates as College Freshmen" (based on the Higher Education Research Institute's "The Freshman Survey"), NAIS. 3. *NAIS Report on the 2016 High School Survey of Student Engagement*, NAIS. 4. *NAIS-Gallup Report on NAIS Graduates*, Gallup, Inc. 5. "It's everything else you do...: Alumni views on extracurricular activities and employability," *Sage Journals*. 6. *Four-Year Myth: Make College More Affordable. Restore the Promise of Graduating on Time*, Complete College America.