



## 16 Weeks, A World Apart.

*“The curriculum is science,  
but this school is really about life,  
and girls discovering the confidence  
to make a difference in their world.”*

— Linda Greenlaw

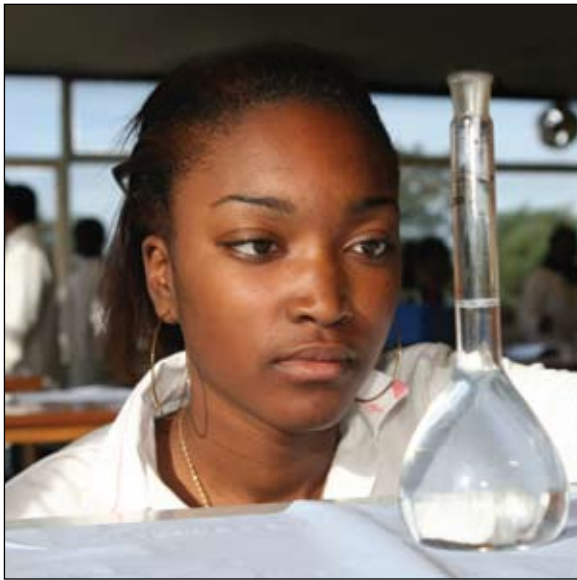


**COASTAL STUDIES FOR GIRLS**  
A SCIENCE & LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

Coastal Studies for Girls is a new semester-long marine and environmental science school for girls. The school brings girls from around the country to the coast of Maine for 16 weeks during either the Fall or Spring of their sophomore year of high school, enabling them to immerse themselves in a challenging and rewarding experience while living in a beautiful coastal landscape that serves as a natural laboratory.

Students at Coastal Studies for Girls (CSG) interact directly with resident scholars and guest lecturers as they pursue a rigorous marine science-based curriculum that, while centering on leadership and environmental science, also provides the courses and credits students need to keep pace with their home high school's requirements in English, history, foreign language and mathematics. As the only residential science school in the country that offers a single-gender setting, CSG promotes girls' aspirations in the sciences—a field in which research tells us that girls will excel if provided with consistent and purposeful encouragement. So while science is CSG's primary academic focus, the school's strong sense of community is a crucial component in nurturing its students' intellectual curiosity, confidence, commitment and leadership.

Coastal Studies for Girls provides a secure and accepting learning environment grounded in the pursuit of excellence. Girls leave here empowered to make a difference at home, in school, and in their communities.



*We need not only to believe that girls are capable of becoming scientists, but also to insist that excellence in any field is the result of sustained and supported effort.*

At CSG, we believe that fostering a girl's passion for discovery is critical not only to their own development, but also to the advancement of scientific frontiers for the benefit of us all. As noted by Dr. Kathryn Wheeler:

*“By virtue of their age, sex, and sociopolitical position, girls may bring a ‘different voice’ to science. And girls’ ideas, questions, methods, and discoveries may challenge and change scientific theory, methodology, and conclusions, just as bringing women’s voices to human development and medicine irrevocably changed those fields. The potential benefits of involving more young women of diverse backgrounds in the sciences have yet to be explored.”*

Scientific endeavor will be significantly impeded unless 100% of the world's population has the opportunity to contribute. Dr. Wheeler reminds us that girls need science, but perhaps even more importantly, science needs girls.

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*Kathryn A. Wheeler, “Sparking Connections: An Exploration of Adolescent Girls’ Relationships with Science,” unpublished dissertation, Harvard Graduate School of Education, 2000.*

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## What is a semester school?

An opportunity for a student to leave the public or private school where she is currently enrolled and attend another school for a 16-week residential semester.

Coastal Studies for Girls offers two semesters:  
Fall (September to December) and Spring (February to June).  
Students will receive full academic credit for their experience.

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## Why sophomore year?

This is a critical time when many adolescent girls lose confidence in their natural competence and direction. A single-gender setting can help girls remember what they already know about themselves—that they are strong, capable, and intelligent.

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## Who is eligible?

The program is open to any girl at the tenth grade level, including homeschooled and international students. Girls apply during their freshman year for the Fall or Spring term of their sophomore year.

*For the latest information on when we will begin accepting applications for our first semester, please check our website:  
[www.coastalstudiesforgirls.org](http://www.coastalstudiesforgirls.org)*

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## What makes CSG so strong academically?

Coastal Studies for Girls offers a dynamic academic program that is supported and enhanced through extensive collaboration with educational and scientific institutions and organizations.

*Our growing list of partnerships currently includes:*

BUCCOO REEF TRUST, TOBAGO  
COASTAL STUDIES CENTER AT BOWDOIN COLLEGE  
COLLEGE OF THE ATLANTIC  
LIVING CLASSROOMS FOUNDATION  
THE LOBSTER CONSERVANCY  
MAINE DEPARTMENT OF MARINE RESOURCES  
MAINE MATH AND SCIENCE ALLIANCE  
NATIONAL COALITION OF GIRLS’ SCHOOLS  
PLATFORM SHOES FORUM  
WORLD OCEAN SCHOOL

Coastal Studies for Girls’ applied-research curriculum gives girls an in-depth experience in scientific exploration using the latest technologies. The techniques they learn will become research tools for a lifetime. Students gather observations and data to use as the basis for classwork, but they also submit their findings directly to the appropriate partner organization and community. In so doing, girls have a sense of the immediate and lasting value of their work.