

Richard Montgomery High School

***International Baccalaureate
Magnet Program***

for Grades 9–12



**250 Richard Montgomery Drive
Rockville, MD 20852
301-610-8100**

Applications available at

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms



Rockville, Maryland



What is the International Baccalaureate?

In 1968, in Switzerland, the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) established a program of studies that ensures high-quality educational standards for students studying in international schools throughout the world. Today, the International Baccalaureate (IB) program is offered in more than 1,347 schools located in more than 121 countries. The Curriculum and Assessment Center in Cardiff, Wales, is responsible for continuously updating the curriculum, developing examinations, assessing student work, training teachers, and evaluating the program with input from IB teachers worldwide.

The IB at Richard Montgomery High School

The IB program at Richard Montgomery High School (RMHS) was established in 1987 as a countywide program for academically highly capable and committed students interested in pursuing a rigorous pre-university course of studies. Students are selected for Grade 9 through an application and screening process. This process begins in October of Grade 8 and requires an application fee. Students successfully completing the program earn an MCPS diploma, a Maryland Certificate of Merit, and the internationally recognized IB diploma. Students may earn college credit and advanced standing at institutions of higher learning throughout the world. The diploma achievement rate for RMHS IB students is among the highest in the world.

Who may apply?

Grade 8 students may apply if they meet the following requirements:

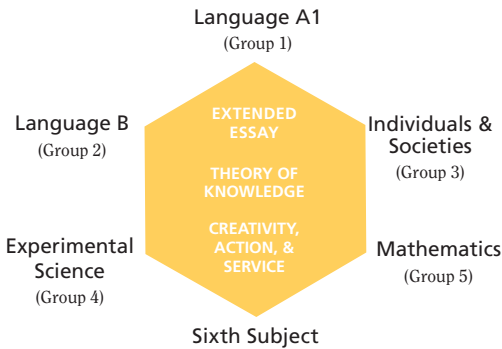
- ▲ Reside in MCPS.
- ▲ Enrolled in at least Algebra 1.
- ▲ Enrolled in at least level I of Spanish, French, Italian, or Chinese or are bilingual in one of those languages.
- ▲ Completed/enrolled in at least two Honors or advanced-level courses.

What is the selection process?

Students are selected for the RMHS IB program based on a variety of criteria that take into account the diverse talents of applicants. The screening committee selects students based on standardized test scores, teacher recommendations, grades, and evidence of motivation.

What are the Magnet and IB curricula?

The Magnet course of study is offered to students in Grades 9 and 10 as preparation for the two-year IB program in Grades 11 and 12. Magnet students are required to take English, a foreign language, social studies, science, and mathematics. IB topics and curriculum foundations are integrated within the curriculum for each of the first 2 years of the Magnet Program. The IBO defines the IB student as one who is in either Grade 11 or 12. Thus, in the last two years of high school, students prepare specifically for the IB examinations and diploma requirements. Courses in the junior and senior years continue to stress content, writing skills, critical thinking, and the application of concepts in the six subject groups and the Theory of Knowledge.



What are the IB diploma requirements?

To be eligible for the IB diploma, students must successfully meet the following requirements in their junior and senior years:

- ▲ Complete course work and IB examination requirements in three higher-level disciplines and three standard-level disciplines for Groups 1 through 5, and select from Groups 2, 3, 4, or 6 for the sixth discipline.
- ▲ Write an extended essay (3,500 words) in one of the IB subject areas.
- ▲ Complete the Theory of Knowledge course of study.
- ▲ Complete Creativity, Action, and Service (CAS) activities.

Exams

Students may take IB exams at the Standard Level (SL) in Grades 11 and 12 and at the Higher Level (HL) in Grade 12. The chart on the next page indicates the level of study within the IB subjects offered at RMHS.

GROUP	STANDARD LEVEL	HIGHER LEVEL
1		English
2	Chinese French Spanish	Chinese French Spanish Bilingual
3	Sociology Economics Psychology	History
4	Biology Chemistry Physics Environmental Systems and Societies	Physics Biology
5	Mathematics Math Studies	Mathematics
6	Art & Design Computer Science Film Studies Music Theater	Art & Design Computer Science Film Studies Music Theater

Recognition

Colleges and universities throughout the world recognize the IB program. The more prestigious colleges and universities have traditionally given preference and credit to successful IB students. In past years, students from RMHS have received as much as 60 credit hours and/or advanced standing. The official policies of colleges and universities in North America are cited at www.ibo.org. Participation and diligence in the IB program have led to awards and scholarships for RMHS students. In addition, the breadth and intensity of the IB program have prepared students well for pursuits in college, internships, and careers.

More information

For more information about the International Baccalaureate program, please contact the IB Office (301-610-8100) at Richard Montgomery High School in Rockville, Maryland.



Rockville, Maryland

Published by the Department of Materials Management
for the Division of Accelerated and Enriched Instruction
1565.11ct • Editorial, Graphics & Publishing Services • 8/11 • 1500

