



Northfield International Baccalaureate Information



What is International Baccalaureate (IB)?

International Baccalaureate programming challenges students and prepares them for today’s rapidly evolving world. IB emphasizes the development of skills rather than mere memorization of content, with emphasis on communication and critical thinking. IB World Schools are on six continents, offering courses in dozens of languages. “IB aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.” (IBO)

Northfield IB Pathway Options and Expectations

Northfield High School is an IB for All School, meaning all students will take at least two IB classes during their junior and senior years. NHS students are expected to participate in all aspects of IB classes in which they enroll including IB internal assessments (occurring at various times throughout the course) and IB external assessments (occurring in May, at the conclusion of the course). Northfield High School, in partnership with the Denver Foundation for Sustainable Urban Communities, will provide financial support in paying for exams and other course materials for all students who request such support. During their sophomore year, students at Northfield will choose to pursue one of two pathways – Diploma Programme or Course Option – for their junior and senior years.

Diploma Programme	Course Option
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students must take one class from each of Groups 1-5, and a sixth course in Group 6, or an additional course in Group 2, 3, or 4 (see Groups on back) for six IB classes in total. Three (or four) of the six classes must be taken at the Higher Level (HL) and three (or two) must be taken at the Standard Level (SL) Complete the “IB Core”: Theory of Knowledge (ToK), CAS experiences & projects, and the Extended Essay (EE) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students take IB Language and Literature and one additional course that aligns with their interests Students complete CAS (community service and extracurriculars) Students will complete remaining DPS graduation requirements by completing non-IB coursework

Benefits of the Diploma Pathway

The IB Diploma Programme (DP) is a challenging and engaging two-year program that prepares students for future success. IB coursework is widely considered by the world’s leading universities as evidence of student initiative and academic excellence. ToK and the EE help students develop vital research skills and the ability to persist through challenges. Most Colorado institutions award 24 credit hours to students who receive the IB Diploma – nearly a full year of credit. Most other universities award credit as well – check university websites for more information. Regardless of whether a student receives the IB Diploma, peer-reviewed research indicates that students who complete the DP are substantially more likely to graduate college than their peers.

Benefits of IB Course Pathway

Students enrolling in the IB Course option will take a minimum of two IB classes, whose challenging and engaging curricula will prepare students for success in college and in life. Depending on their score on IB examinations, students can earn credit from most universities around the world (check individual university websites for specific information). Regardless of whether a student receives credit for their IB coursework, peer-reviewed research indicates that students who go through the IB program are significantly more likely to graduate college than their peers.

Higher Level (HL) vs. Standard Level (SL)

HL courses explore subjects in greater depth, often with additional case studies or topics that add greater breadth as well. HL courses always last two years, while SL courses may be one-year or two-year courses. Students should choose HL subjects in the content areas where they are most confident and curious, and round out the rest of their schedule with SL courses.

Requirements to Receive IB Diploma

In order to receive their IB Diploma, students who go through the IB Diploma Programme must:

- Receive at least 24 points from their IB exams (each is scored on a 1-7 scale).
- Have received at least 12 points on HL subjects (students with four HL subjects will have their top three counted).
- Have received at least 9 points on their SL subjects (students with two SL subjects must gain at least 5 points).
- Not have received any exam score of 1, more than two scores of 2, or more than three scores of 3.
- Not have received an “N” grade for Theory of Knowledge, Extended Essay, or any of their IB exams.
- Must complete all CAS requirements.
- Abide by the Northfield IB academic integrity policy.

More questions? Visit ibo.org or contact IB Coordinator Peter Wright | (720) 423-8041 | peter_wright@dpsk12.org