INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE Magnet Programme

Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, Maryland

For Grades 9 through 12

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

Applications available at:
www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/curriculum/specialprograms
**What is the International Baccalaureate?**
The International Baccalaureate® (IB) is a non-profit educational foundation, motivated by its mission, focused on the student. Founded in 1968, the IB currently works with 3,182 schools in 153 countries to develop and offer four challenging programmes to over one million students aged 3 to 19 years. These programmes develop intellectual, personal, emotional and social skills in all students, prepare students to live, learn and work in a rapidly globalizing world. For more information about the IB and its programmes, please refer to the organization’s website www.ibo.org.

**The IB at Richard Montgomery High School**
The IB Programme at Richard Montgomery High School (RMHS) was established in 1987 as a countywide academic program for highly capable and committed students interested in pursuing a rigorous pre-university course of studies. The programme has evolved into the largest full IB Diploma programme in Montgomery County, and continues to offer a nationally recognized IB academic experience.

Students who successfully complete the program earn an MCPS diploma and the internationally recognized IB diploma. Many students demonstrate proficiency in their selected world language and consequently earn a Bilingual Diploma from the IBO.

**What is the selection process?**
The screening committee reviews all applications with careful consideration and selects students based on standardized test scores, teacher recommendations, grades, and evidence of motivation.

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

- Reside in Montgomery County.
- Enrolled in at least Algebra 1.
- Enrolled in at least level I of Spanish, French, or Chinese or are bilingual in one of those languages.
What are the Magnet and IB curricula?

The IB Middle Years programme model is offered to students in Grades 9 and 10 as preparation for the two-year IB Diploma programme in Grades 11 and 12. Magnet students are required to take English, a World Language, Social Studies, Science, and Mathematics, as well as select from a complement of electives. IB topics and curriculum foundations are integrated within the curriculum for the first two years of the Magnet Programme.

The IBO defines the IB Diploma 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 inquiry, content, writing skills, critical thinking, and the application of concepts in the six subject groups. The Theory of Knowledge course, Creativity, Activity, and Service (CAS) and the Extended Essay complete the programme.
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 below indicates the level of study within the IB subjects offered at RMHS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GROUP</th>
<th>STANDARD LEVEL</th>
<th>HIGHER LEVEL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>English</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Chinese, French, Spanish</td>
<td>Chinese, French, Spanish</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>History, Social Anthropology, Economics, Psychology, Global Politics</td>
<td>History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Environmental Systems and Societies</td>
<td>Biology, Chemistry, Physics</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Mathematics, Math Studies</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Art &amp; Design, Computer Science, Film, Theater, A 2nd group 2, 3, or 4</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
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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.
- Write an Extended Essay in one of the IB subject areas.
- Complete the IB Signature Course, Theory of Knowledge, a course of designed to foster critical thinking skills.
- Complete CAS activities designed to promote experiential learning outside the classroom.

More information

For more information about the International Baccalaureate Magnet programme, please contact us at 240-740-6165.