

## Requirements to Earn a High School Diploma from Riverstone International School

As a school whose mission is to inspire academic and personal development, Riverstone International School specializes in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Programmes, a superior college preparatory program recognized around the world.

The IB continuum programs (PYP, MYP, and DP) prepare students with a breadth of academic skills, but they also develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring individuals. Each school must be authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization in order to ensure a high level of instructional quality and commitment to the IB philosophy. The IB programs are designed so that the required elements complement each other to ensure that a student grows both academically and personally, much in alignment with Riverstone's mission.

As the first IB school in Idaho, Riverstone has developed the teaching skills and school culture to support students as they challenge themselves to strive for success in the IB programs. In addition to the support of faculty, a shared commitment by peers to completing all elements of the IB programs is an important aspect of a students' experience at Riverstone.

In grades 9-10, students are enrolled in the Middle Years Programme. In grades 11-12, students are enrolled in the Diploma Programme. Both programs have specific course requirements and core program requirements, but the Diploma Programme also has an evaluation process in which students are assessed against their peers around the world. Students have the opportunity to earn an IB diploma, which is an additional diploma to the Riverstone International School diploma. The IB diploma is highly respected by colleges and universities.

Given that the IB Diploma Programme exams are held in May of their senior year, students must remain enrolled and committed to putting forth their personal best with these culminating exams. Early graduation is not an option at Riverstone International School.

### Credits Required to Earn a Riverstone International School High School Diploma

Grade student enrolled at RIS	Number of credits that must be obtained to earn a Riverstone High School Diploma
9	57
10	43
11	29
12	14

### Grades, Grade Point Average and Credits

Students receive grades at the end of each semester. Courses are graded on a scale of A to F and earn the following points for purposes of calculating Grade Point Averages:

A = 4.00   C+ = 2.25   F = 0  
 A- = 3.75   C = 2.00  
 B+ = 3.25   C- = 1.75  
 B = 3.00   D+ = 1.25  
 B- = 2.75   D = 1.00

Students must earn a minimum of a "D" letter grade to earn credit for that course.

If a student receives an F in a course, no credit will be awarded for that class. *In order to graduate, students may only fail one class during their time enrolled at Riverstone International School.*

### Required Courses and Credits

Grade	Course Requirements*	Possible credits**
9	English Language and Literature or L1 (when offered) (2 semesters)	2
	Language Acquisition (Language B) (2 semesters)	2

	Individuals and Societies (2 semesters)	2
	Physics (2 semesters)	2
	Math (2 semesters)	2
	Visual Arts (1 semester)	1
	Music (1 semester)	1
	"Choice Block/Elective" (graded) (2 semesters)	2
	PE (Pass/Fail; no credit) (2 semesters)	
	<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE CREDITS EARNED GRADE 9</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>10</b>	English Language and Literature or L1 (when offered) (2 semesters)	2
	Language Acquisition (Language B) (2 semesters)	2
	Individuals and Societies (2 semesters)	2
	Physics (2 semesters)	2
	Math (2 semesters)	2
	Visual Arts (1 semester)	1
	Music (1 semester)	1
	"Choice Block/Elective" (graded) (2 semesters)	2
	PE (Pass/Fail; no credit) (2 semesters)	
	<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE CREDITS EARNED GRADE 10</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>11</b>	English Language and Literature or SSST (2 semesters)	2
	Language Acquisition (Language B) (2 semesters)	2

	Individuals and Societies (2 semesters)	2
	Physics (2 semesters)	2
	Math (2 semesters)	2
	Arts (2 semesters)	2
	Research Writing (2 semesters)	2
	Theory of Knowledge (TOK) (2 semesters)	2
	<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE CREDITS EARNED GRADE 11</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>12</b>	English Language and Literature or SSST (2 semesters)	2
	Language Acquisition (Language B) (2 semesters)	2
	Individuals and Societies (2 semesters)	2
	Physics (2 semesters)	2
	Math (2 semesters)	2
	Arts (2 semesters)	2
	Research Writing (2 semesters)	2
	Theory of Knowledge (TOK) (2 semesters)	2
	Study Hall (not graded; no credit) (2 semesters)	0
	<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE CREDITS EARNED GRADE 12</b>	<b>14</b>
Notes	Total possible credits for grades 9-12: 58 credits Total possible credits for grades 8-12: 60 credits***	

Considerations and exceptions: Students may be exempt from taking a class in rare situations. Consultation with the family and approval from the Director of the High School are required. Examples might include if there is a medical or psychoeducational reason.

\*Course listings are updated each year and available upon request.

\*\*Students must earn a minimum of a “D” letter grade to earn credit for that course. If a student receives an F in a course, no credit will be awarded for that class.

\*\*\*Students who attend Riverstone in Grade 8 and receive a letter grade of D or better in both semesters of Science will be awarded 2 additional high school credits on their transcripts. These credits do not offset a shortage of credits from Grades 9-12.

*Regardless of how many credits a student has earned from a previous school, students must complete a minimum of 14 credits at RIS before a diploma will be issued.*

### **IB Diploma Exams**

The IB Diploma Program includes specific elements and end-of-program examinations, in addition to the required coursework to graduate from Riverstone International School. Students are encouraged to sit for all Diploma Program examinations, with the goal of earning an IB Diploma. In situations where the family and Director of the High School agree that the student will not be a Diploma candidate, students are encouraged to take individual exams with the goal of achieving individual subject area certificates.

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