Think globally.
Learn deeply.
Build your future.



INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL OF DENVER
High School

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE • MULTILINGUAL • GRADES 9–12 • DENVER, CO

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF DENVER

AT A GLANCE

1977

Founded in Denver

4 languages

English (HELLO) French (BONJOUR)

(¡HOLA!) Spanish (你好) Chinese

PK–12

Colorado's only independent school building the full PK–12 IB continuum

IB Diploma Programme Candidate School

Advisories of 8

So every student is known by name

Founding Generation Incentive

Tuition incentives for families who enroll by 2029–30





A High School built on five decades of international education, with its biggest chapters still ahead.

ISDenver High School combines three rare advantages: a genuinely multilingual, multicultural community; a world-recognized International Baccalaureate foundation shaped to your goals; and a founding-class opportunity to play, lead, and build the culture of a High School from the first day.

Our multilingual, multicultural identity is not a feature of this school. It is the school.

Learn alongside people shaped by different cultures and experiences. Study ideas from more than one point of view. Build proficiency in a new language, or take an advanced one to academic fluency. No matter where you start, you carry that learning into Denver, into Colorado, and beyond.

You will also join a High School in its founding years, where the people who run it know your name and your ideas carry weight from day one. When you see something worth creating, improving, or rethinking, you have the access and the agency to speak up, take action, and make it real. You compete in athletics across Denver, launch the programs you care about, and own the stage, with teachers who know exactly what you can do.

01 · GLOBAL BY NATURE

See the world differently. Know how to move through it.

At ISDenver, global-mindedness is built into the way students learn, communicate, and understand one another.

You will learn in a community shaped by different languages, cultures, nationalities, and perspectives. Students here practice listening carefully, communicating across differences, questioning their own assumptions, and looking at ideas from more than one point of view. That is intercultural fluency. It is more than knowing facts about the world. It is knowing how to take part in it.

Immersion is the vehicle, not the destination. Learning across languages builds sharper thinkers, not only stronger speakers, and it shapes how students reason across every subject they take.

AN INCLUSIVE MULTILINGUAL HIGH SCHOOL

Every student belongs in our language program, whatever their starting point. You study Spanish, French, or Chinese at a level matched to your proficiency rather than your grade. Beginners are welcomed and supported. Experienced and highly proficient speakers are pushed toward academic literacy in two languages. The goal is a real pathway for every learner.

All students may work toward internationally recognized language credentials, including DELE Spanish, DELF French, HSK Chinese, and the Colorado Seal of Biliteracy where eligible. Advanced bilingual students can pursue the IB Bilingual Diploma upon IBDP authorization.

SHE GREW UP IN THE LANGUAGE

Jola O. started at ISDenver at three years old and never left. More than a decade of immersion later, she analyzes Arthur Rimbaud in French class and sometimes reaches for a French word before the English one arrives, still laughing about the grammar she trips over.

When the High School opened, staying was not a question. She knew there was only one choice.



"J'aime bien la diversité et toutes les différentes langues que notre école nous offre."

"I really like the diversity and all the different languages our school offers."

– JOLA O.
FOUNDING CLASS OF 2029
FRENCH PROGRAM

02 · ONE RIGOROUS FOUNDATION. MANY WAYS FORWARD.

IB rigor with pathways that meet students where they are and challenge them to grow.

The International Baccalaureate is the academic backbone of ISDenver High School, and IB education is inclusive by design. Every student experiences the core of an IB education: inquiry, research, evidence, reflection, collaboration, and intellectual independence. Students engage with these in different ways and at different levels of challenge, but every student is a full member of the learning community with room to grow as a thinker, a learner, and a person.

Students investigate rather than memorize, connect ideas across subjects, defend their reasoning with evidence, revise when the first answer is not good enough, research independently, and apply what they know to questions without one obvious answer. Rigor here does not mean every student takes the same path. It means every student is challenged, supported, and moving forward.

Our teachers expect a lot, and students do not face that challenge alone.

Teachers who know your work, differentiated support, and multiple academic pathways create room for both belonging and challenge. Inclusion here means designing learning so every student can access an IB education, contribute their strengths, and build real momentum.



They came back for the language

Kaiden B. and Saël C. spent kindergarten through Grade 8 learning Chinese at another immersion school, then a year at large public high schools that could not teach at their level. Both joined ISDenver in Grade 10.

Kaiden runs cross-country and shoots for the Photography and Media Club. Saël, an aspiring video game developer, takes on advanced math and Mock Trial. Neither felt new for long.

"I tested at a Chinese level higher than they could teach, and I still wanted to work toward a bilingual diploma."



– KAIDEN B.
CLASS OF 2029
CHINESE PROGRAM

"The teachers don't pride themselves on being difficult. They genuinely want to help you learn."



– SAËL C.
CLASS OF 2029

BUILD THE FOUNDATION · GRADES 9–10

In Grades 9 and 10, students continue through the IB Middle Years Programme across eight subject areas:

- Language & Literature
- Language Acquisition
- Individuals & Societies
- Sciences
- Mathematics
- Arts
- Physical & Health Education
- Design

Students also complete interdisciplinary work, Service as Action, and the Grade 10 Personal Project.

The Personal Project

In Grade 10, students choose a question or challenge that matters to them, research it, build or test something, and reflect on the process. It puts the MYP's emphasis on independence and ownership into practice, and it builds the skills that carry into any graduation pathway: managing a long project, setting goals, solving problems, communicating, and using feedback.

BUILD YOUR PATH · GRADES 11–12

ISDenver is a candidate school for the IB Diploma Programme in Grades 11 and 12. Once authorized, students will pursue routes ranging from selected IB coursework through the full IB Diploma and Bilingual Diploma.

THE IB CORE · GRADES 11 AND 12

Beyond the six subject areas, the Diploma Programme adds three foundational requirements. Universities read the full IB Diploma as the most demanding college-preparatory credential available to a high school student, and they are right to.

Theory of Knowledge (TOK)
A course on how we know what we know, building the habit of questioning ideas thoughtfully.

Extended Essay (EE)
A question a student genuinely cares about, developed into a 4,000-word research paper.

Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)
A sustained commitment outside the classroom, with reflection on what it teaches.





OUR FACULTY

Our teachers bring the IB and five decades of international education to a High School they are building by hand. Many also teach across our established PK–8 program. They carry deep subject expertise, a real understanding of the IB, and years inside the ISDenver community. Like our students, they have a genuine voice in what the High School becomes, building courses, shaping traditions, and creating the school they want to teach in.

FOUR PATHWAYS

Every ISDenver High School student earns the ISDenver High School Diploma. IB credentials and other pathways layer on top. What differs is how you demonstrate mastery and what you build.

ISDenver HS Diploma

The foundation every student earns, flexible and IB-aligned. Complete our graduation requirements while taking IB courses and assessments matched to your interests, finished with a research or interdisciplinary capstone.

ISDenver Global Impact Diploma

A globally focused route built on community impact, innovation, and applied research. An Impact Fellowship Project anchors it, in one of four tracks: Justice and Equity, Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Design, and Sustainability.

IB Diploma

The full two-year Diploma Programme: six subjects with at least three at Higher Level, plus Theory of Knowledge, the Extended Essay, and Creativity, Activity, Service.

IB Bilingual Diploma

The highest IB distinction, the full Diploma earned across two languages.

Every pathway earns the ISDenver High School Diploma and meets Colorado graduation requirements. Students in any pathway can earn the Colorado Seal of Biliteracy.

PERSONALIZING YOUR DIPLOMA · SIX SUBJECT AREAS, COURSES CHOSEN BY YOU

For students on the IB Diploma pathway, the course menu gives a strong, well-rounded foundation, and within it, real choice. Students select subjects at Standard or Higher Level to go deeper where their strengths and interests lead.

1. **Studies in Language and Literature**
   English, or a second literature course toward the Bilingual Diploma.
2. **Language Acquisition**
   Spanish, French, or Chinese, matched to your proficiency.
3. **Individuals and Societies**
   History, economics, psychology, global politics.
4. **Sciences**
   Biology, chemistry, physics, environmental systems, computer science.
5. **Mathematics**
   Analysis and Approaches, or Applications and Interpretation.
6. **The Arts, or a second choice**
   Visual arts, theatre, music, or a second science, language, or social science.

ISDenver welcomes students of every language background, including those who have never studied a second language. Students are grouped by proficiency rather than grade, so you are always at the level that challenges you without leaving you behind. You do not need to arrive bilingual. You need to arrive curious.

Your language teachers are native or fluent speakers, and they teach in the target language. ISDenver is an official testing center for the DELE, DELF, and HSK exams.





FOUNDING GENERATION INCENTIVE

Build it with us. We will help make it possible.

Students who join ISDenver High School in its founding years help shape everything that comes next. To recognize them, students who enroll in Grades 9 to 12 by the 2029–30 school year are eligible for a tuition incentive for up to four years.

Ask our Admissions Team about current options.

NO TWO DIPLOMAS LOOK THE SAME

One Diploma. Four directions.



The Scientist

Sciences and mathematics at the highest levels.

1. Chemistry HL
2. Physics HL
3. Mathematics Analysis & Approaches HL
4. Spanish Language & Literature SL
5. English Literature SL
6. Global Politics SL

EE

Snowpack chemistry in the Front Range and what it predicts about spring runoff.

CAS

Varsity cross country

Robotics club founder

Weekend tutoring in Middle School math



The Diplomat

History, economics, language, and a Bilingual Diploma pathway.

1. History HL
2. Economics HL
3. Chinese Language & Literature HL
4. English Literature SL
5. Biology SL
6. Mathematics Applications & Interpretation SL

EE (written in Chinese)

How remittance flows reshaped a single county in Fujian.

CAS

Model UN

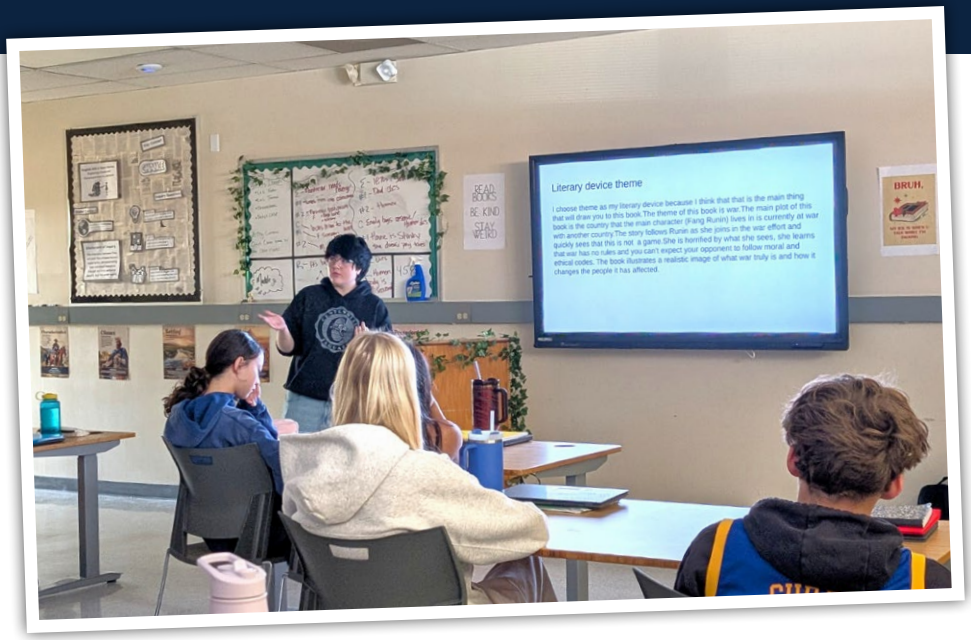
Varsity soccer

Interpreting at a community legal clinic

What they share

The same rigorous foundation. Independent research. A meaningful commitment beyond the classroom. And a program built with guidance around your strengths, interests, language goals, and plans for what comes next.

Advisors and college counselors help you make those choices thoughtfully and revisit them as goals evolve.





The Artist

Studio practice with a social science spine.

1. Visual Arts HL
2. Psychology HL
3. French Language & Literature HL
4. English Literature SL
5. Environmental Systems & Societies SL
6. Mathematics Applications & Interpretation SL

EE

How Denver's mural commissions changed after 2018, and who decides what a neighborhood looks like.

CAS

Set design for spring play

Nordic skiing

Teaching printmaking at a public library



The Entrepreneur

Business, innovation, and problem-solving with a global perspective.

1. Business Management HL
2. Economics HL
3. Mathematics Applications & Interpretation HL
4. English Literature SL
5. Spanish Language & Literature SL
6. Environmental Systems & Societies SL

EE

How do small businesses use social media to build loyal customers and grow?

CAS

Launching a business

Managing a school pop-up market

Coaching younger students in entrepreneurship

SL = Standard Level; HL = Higher Level.

The students above are composites, created to show how differently the same rigorous IB structure could be used once the Diploma Programme is authorized. The subject combinations are illustrative rather than promises of a specific future schedule.

A DIPLOMA UNIVERSITIES KNOW AND VALUE

The IB Diploma Programme is recognized and respected by leading universities worldwide for its rigor and its preparation for university-level study. The credential matters, and so does the preparation behind it: sustained writing, independent research, advanced coursework, time management, and the ability to defend an idea with evidence. Exams and projects are moderated by the IB, so there is no grade inflation, and because the programme is standardized worldwide, your diploma carries the same weight whether it comes from a school that opened last year or a century ago. An ISDenver IB Diploma stands shoulder to shoulder with every other IB Diploma in the world.

03 · THE PROOF

Rigor should be visible.

ISDenver students outperform the national norm in every grade and every subject tested. The sharper test is how they compare with other private schools.



100%

of grades tested where our students outperform both public and private school norms in Math

99TH PERCENTILE

Where Grade 9's Math average ranks among schools nationally

98TH PERCENTILE

Where Grade 9's Reading average ranks among schools nationally





Katie Williams, High School Division Head, with students.

Source: NWEA MAP Growth, Spring 2026; NWEA National Trends, Private Schools, Spring 2025. Private-school comparison: Grades 2–8.

04 · KNOWN FOR WHO YOU ARE. SHAPE WHAT'S NEXT.

Don't just find your place. Build it.

ISDenver High School offers something rare: the chance to be known, to lead, and to have real influence on the community around you. With close relationships between students, teachers, advisors, and school leaders, your ideas do not get lost in a crowd. You can start something new, lead before senior year, and work alongside adults to turn a good idea into a real experience.

You have a genuine voice in the traditions, clubs, spaces, and culture that define this school. You are not stepping into something someone else finished. You are helping build it.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO WAIT

Because you are known here, teachers see your strengths, push you, and notice when you need support. And because this school is still taking shape, there is room to step forward, take initiative, and make an impact. You do not have to be a senior to lead or to play. You do not have to wait for permission to imagine something better.

She built the club she wanted

In her first weeks of high school, Avery noticed the clubs on offer were not the ones she was looking for. So she made her own. She helped launch Dragon Ventures, the school's entrepreneurship club, worked with the High School team to run concessions for Athletics, and set a bigger goal: a student-run coffee shop for the ISDenver community.

"There were preset clubs like Photography and Mock Trial," she said, "but when they gave us the chance to create something new, I didn't hesitate."

"It feels like they believe in us. And that makes you believe in yourself."

– AVERY S.
CLASS OF 2030
FRENCH PROGRAM

Purposeful innovation

New ideas earn their place here when they deepen learning, strengthen belonging, and give students real voice. The goal is a better High School experience.



05 · A DAY AT ISDENVER

What does High School here actually feel like?

MEET ISAAC T., FOUNDING CLASS OF 2029

Novice Spanish. Runs his own business.

ISDenver runs an 8-day rotating schedule with five periods a day. Every course rotates through each time slot, so no subject is permanently stuck in the afternoon.

8:00 AM · ARRIVAL

Isaac gets to school early and heads to the library to hang out with friends before the day starts. A calm, social way in.

SPANISH, AT HIS LEVEL

His first time studying a language since elementary school. He learns beside exchange students from Spain, including one living with his family.

BREAK · HOOPS

He and his buddies head to the gym to shoot around. A quick reset before the next block.

ADVISORY

Twenty minutes with his advisory group of eight. Right now he is building his Personal Project: a budgeting and investing website, organized by age and life stage, inspired by running his own company.

PE · WEIGHT ROOM

Strength training this cycle.

LUNCH · SAGE DINING, THEN VOLLEYBALL

Isaac eats inside, since it has been hot, then joins the daily lunch game.

INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES

The class is working through Supreme Court cases. Isaac wants to be a lawyer, so this one lands.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

A natural fit for a student who has run Untouchable Lawn Services since he was twelve. Mock Trial is next on his list.

SCIENCE · CHEMISTRY

Starting with the periodic table. His mom studied chemistry in college, so they talk shop at home.

3:00 PM · AFTER SCHOOL

Drum Line on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Basketball starts next month.



"I wanted small classes and real opportunities. ISDenver gives me both."





This is the part no viewbook can really show you. Come shadow a student and spend an ordinary day with us.

06 · BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Rooted in Colorado. Connected to the world.

Some of the best learning happens after the regular school day ends. ISDenver students take what they study into the mountains, the city, and the wider world through Colorado Lifestyles, Week Without Walls, service, travel, athletics, and the arts.

Colorado lifestyles

A program built around where we live. Students connect to Colorado's culture, geography, outdoor leadership, and sustainability, and learn the state by being in it.





Jola O. has paddleboarded, skied, hiked, and rock climbed through the program. For a student who has grown up here, it is Colorado as the classroom, and it has built her friendships and her confidence as much as her sense of adventure.

Week without walls

One week each year, the classroom moves. Students travel with purpose, extending their learning through language, culture, science, and service, built around what they are already studying. It is the same work, somewhere new.

Recent options have included robotics in Japan, conservation in Belize, and language immersion in Singapore, alongside local service closer to home.

Connected to the world

Global learning does not stop at the school day. Students pursue opportunities that take them well beyond campus, sometimes across the world.

"I spent a month in Sydney on an entrepreneurship scholarship this summer. I learned that everyone sees things differently, and that it is worth staying optimistic no matter what."

– ISAAC T.
FOUNDING CLASS OF 2029

07 · MORE THAN YOUR TRANSCRIPT

How you lead, collaborate, and contribute.

High School should build more than a transcript.

It should show you how you lead, collaborate, recover from setbacks, care for other people, and contribute to a community. Some of what you remember most will happen after the bell, on a stage, on a team, in a club, on a trip, or while turning an idea into something real. Here, participation is not something you wait for. There is room to join, lead, start, and shape.

PLAY

Compete across Denver.

Athletics is part of the education. ISDenver fields its own teams and partners with schools across Denver, so every athlete competes at the level that fits. You get the coaching attention of a close program and the competition and social life of the whole city.

Fall. Cross Country (co-ed), Boys Golf, Girls Volleyball

Winter. Boys Basketball, Girls Basketball

Spring. Track and Field, Tennis (co-ed), Girls Golf

Built on a strong Middle School program, and adding sports each year as we can field them. ISDenver joins CHSAA competition in Fall 2028.

"Every season is designed to teach lessons that carry into the classroom and beyond. Success is measured not by comparison to others, but by personal growth from the start of the season to the end."

– NICK McFARLANE
DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

CREATE

Make work, and put it in front of people.

Theatre · Visual Arts (club and elective) · Music (elective).

Make it, revise it, perform it, exhibit it.

LEAD

Student-led, from the start.

Dragon Ventures entrepreneurship, Model UN, Mock Trial, Speech and Debate, Science Bowl, Student Ambassadors, Mentorship, Mandarin Current Events, Cooper Care, and clubs that exist because a student wanted them to. If the club you want does not exist yet, that may be your opening.

SERVE

Show up, and keep showing up.

Service is written into the IB, and into us. Instead of counting hours over a single weekend, ISDenver builds a community-embedded model: a sustained commitment to one project or partner, a reflective portfolio, and depth over breadth. Something in your community is different because you kept coming back.

08 · WHERE THIS CAN TAKE YOU

Start here. Go anywhere.

Preparing for university does not begin halfway through senior year. In Grades 9 and 10, students build an academic profile and begin meeting with the college counseling team. In Grade 11, that work sharpens through university research, testing strategy, visits, and the start of applications. By Grade 12, students receive individual support through applications, essays, interviews, financial aid, and final decisions.

A counseling team built for this

ISDenver has brought on a dedicated college counseling team, including a former Columbia University admissions leader and a university counselor with thirty-seven years of experience across international schools and IB programs. The focus is fit: helping each student understand their own university targets rather than chasing a single competitive number.

For students pursuing the IB Diploma, college preparation is built into the coursework itself, through sustained writing, independent research, advanced work, and learning to defend an idea with evidence.

COLLEGE COUNSELING

GRADES 9–10

Advisory · Course planning · Academic profile

GRADE 11

University research · Testing strategy · Visits · Essay preparation

GRADE 12

Applications · Essays · Interviews · Financial aid · Decisions



Ginevra S. (Class of 2021) and Saverio S. (Class of 2024), ISDenver alumni. Ginevra leads the Denver chapter of the Back to Bach Project, a youth-run arts nonprofit. She and her brother came back to perform for our youngest students.

A FOUNDATION THAT TRAVELS

Before ISDenver opened its own High School, our Grade 8 graduates continued their multilingual, international education across Denver and beyond. ISDenver alumni have gone on to universities across the United States and around the world, including Brown, Duke, MIT, McGill, NYU Shanghai, USC, Washington University in St. Louis, and Yale. With the full IB Diploma, ISDenver High School students are prepared to go even further.

Alumni listed attended ISDenver before the High School opened.

MAKING ISDENVER POSSIBLE

FOUNDING GENERATION INCENTIVE

Students who enroll in Grades 9 to 12 by the 2029–30 school year are eligible for a tuition incentive for up to four years at ISDenver High School. Incentive amounts are set each year. Contact our Admissions Team for current details.

SCHOLARSHIPS + FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Talented students may be eligible for full or partial merit scholarships, and need-based financial assistance is available to qualifying families. Ask Admissions about current opportunities, eligibility, and deadlines.

QUESTIONS WE GET ASKED



Do I need to already speak another language?

Not at all. Students can enter High School as beginners in Spanish, French, or Chinese. Placement is based on proficiency, so you begin at the right level and build from there. Beginners are expected here.

Why a Baccalaureate diploma at all?

Because it is the most complete college-preparatory program available, and because it changes how you work, not only what you know. More than a million students worldwide are in IB programmes. ISDenver has taught the IB framework since becoming an authorized World School, and our High School extends it through Grade 12 as we pursue Diploma Programme authorization.

Does every student have to pursue the full IB Diploma?

No. Students share a rigorous IB foundation, but there is more than one pathway through Grades 11 and 12. Students work with their advisor and college counselor to build a program aligned with their strengths and goals.

Is tuition support available?

Yes. The Founding Generation Incentive, merit scholarships, and need-based financial aid are all available.

How are learning differences supported?

As part of teaching every student well. Through the Shari K. Most Institute for Student Success, our learning support and counseling teams work with students and teachers on executive functioning, evidence-based literacy instruction, and support for advanced learners, including accommodations on standardized and IB examinations. We do not dilute the work. We support it seriously.

I am coming from outside ISDenver. Will I know anyone?

Yes. High School brings together students continuing from ISDenver and students arriving from other schools. Shadow a current student to see the classes, meet potential classmates, and get a feel for the day before you decide. *"Because the community is so willing to accept new people, they accepted us instantly."* – Saël C., joined in Grade 10



09 · COME SPEND A DAY WITH US

A tour shows you the campus.
A shadow day shows you the High School.

The best way to know whether this is your school is to spend an ordinary day here. Sit in a class, eat lunch with students your age, meet the teachers who might teach you, and ask other kids what they love, what is hard, and what they would change.

Joining in the founding years? Ask about the Founding Generation Incentive.

SHADOW A STUDENT
ATTEND AN OPEN HOUSE
SCHEDULE A VISIT

isdenver.org/highschool

highschool@isdenver.org · 303-340-3647



Think globally.
Learn deeply.
Build your future.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF DENVER
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ISDenver is authorized to offer the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (age three to Grade 5) and Middle Years Programme (Grades 6 to 10), and is a candidate school for the Diploma Programme for Grades 11 and 12. Only schools authorized by the IB Organization can offer any of its academic programmes. Candidate status gives no guarantee that authorization will be granted.