A Dynamic Presence: Growth and Location of IB World Schools

When were the first IB programmes authorized in Colorado, and at which schools?

- The first IB Diploma Programme (DP) was authorized in 1984 at George Washington High School, a public school in Denver.
- The first IB Middle Years Programmes (MYP) were authorized in 1998 at North Middle School and William Palmer High School, both public schools in Colorado Springs.
- The first IB Primary Years Programme (PYP) was authorized in 1999 at Academy International Elementary School, a public school in Colorado Springs.

How has the IB grown in the state?

- Over the past decade, the number of IB World Schools in Colorado has more than quadrupled.

How many IB World Schools are present in the state today, and which programmes do they implement?

- There are currently 65 IB World Schools in Colorado implementing 76 IB programmes (given that some schools implement several programmes at once).
- Discovery Canyon Campus, a public school in Colorado Springs, is the only IB World School in the state to implement the entire continuum of IB programmes.
- IB programmes in Colorado are very evenly distributed: the DP accounts for 34%; the MYP accounts for 33% and the PYP for 33%.
- In the US overall, there are 684 DP, accounting for 64% of all IB programmes; there are 323 MYP (30% of the total), and 194 PYP (18% of the total).
How many IB World Schools are public schools?
• 63 (97%) of all IB World Schools in Colorado are public.
• In the US overall, 91% of IB World Schools are public.

Where are IB World Schools located?
• The two cities with the largest number of IB World Schools are Colorado Springs (11) and Denver (10).
• Slightly more than half (55%) of all IB World Schools are located in Colorado Springs, Denver, Fort Collins, Aurora and Commerce City.
• The other half is spread across 20 other localities in the state. Littleton and Boulder have three IB World Schools each, and Breckenridge, Castle Rock, Lakewood, Longmont and Thornton have two each.

A Record of Success: Profile of Academic Performance

How many IB exams have been taken in Colorado, and how successful are students in passing these exams?
• The total number of IB exams taken in Colorado has increased by more than 1,000 over the past five years. In May 2009, there were 2,216 IB candidates, and 6,510 IB exams were taken.
• In May 2009, 83% of all IB exam takers in Colorado obtained grades of 4 or above; in the US overall, 75% did so.

How successful have Colorado IB students been in obtaining the IB Diploma?
• The total number of IB Diplomas awarded in Colorado has more than doubled over the past decade. In May 2009, 721 IB Diplomas were awarded.
• The proportion of all Diploma candidates in Colorado that have successfully obtained one has fluctuated over the past two decades, but has remained above 75% since 1995.
• In May 2009, the Diploma pass rate in Colorado was 77%, while the overall US pass rate was 69%, and the world one was 79%.
• In May 2009, Colorado students’ average score on the Diploma was 28.5 out of 45; the US average score was 27, and the world one was 29.5.
How successful are Colorado IB Diploma-holders in completing their higher education?

- According to 2000-2001 data from the National Student Clearinghouse (NSC), 71% of Colorado IB students who enrolled in a 4-year post secondary institution holding an IB Diploma graduated successfully and obtained a BA degree.
- Out of these IB Diploma holders who graduated with a BA degree, the majority (83%) were able to do so on time, within four years.