

Access and Admission to RPS Secondary IB Programmes

Lucille M. Brown Middle School and Thomas Jefferson High School

June 2024

Lucille M. Brown Middle School and Thomas Jefferson High School are comprehensive public schools that serve students who live in specific zones of Richmond defined by the School Board of Richmond Public Schools. We have designed our access and admission practices to promote equity of access to IB Programmes for all students who we serve.

Lucille M. Brown Middle School serves students in grades 6-8 in a whole-school Middle Years Programme.

Thomas Jefferson High School serves students in grades 9-10 in a whole-school Middle Years Programme. In grades 11 and 12, a student may choose the opportunity to participate in the Diploma Programme as a full IB Diploma candidate or by taking DP courses. To select DP subject courses, a student must complete prerequisite coursework as specified in the RPS Program of Studies.

Students who live in the city of Richmond but outside of each school's zone may apply to transfer to LMB or TJHS using application methods established by RPS. Specific information about school applications each year is available on the RPS website.

For the Middle Years Programme (grades 6-10), a student may enter the open enrollment lottery for the desired school. This lottery takes place the year prior to entry (i.e. a fifth grade student who lives outside the LMB zone may enter the lottery for a chance to attend LMB starting in sixth grade). Families should note that students who attend LMB must enter the lottery in their 8th grade year to transfer to TJHS in ninth grade unless they live in the TJHS zone.

For the Diploma Programme (grades 11-12), a tenth-grade student who lives outside the TJHS zone may apply to transfer to TJHS to enter the DP in 11th grade through the RPS

Specialty Schools application process. Because the Diploma Programme is taught over two years, there is not an application process to enter the school in the 12th grade.

IB Principals and Coordinators should review this document each year to ensure that it continues to meet directives from RPS and IB requirements.