



South Brunswick High School Pathways to Graduation

INDEPENDENT STUDY: AT-A-GLANCE

PROCESS: Students register for their courses traditionally following the SBHS process and timeline. A student interested in Independent Study then applies for this using the online application and following the Independent Study due dates. If approved for Independent Study, a student's schedule of courses is adjusted upon course completion and awarding of credit.

SBHS SUMMER INSTITUTE: Students registering for advancement courses are automatically eligible for Independent Study.

Independent Study Opportunities (an alphabetical listing)	Grade Levels	Grading Policy	Applicable Fees	Assessment and Proof
<p>Advancing a Course Level in an Accredited School or Institute (NOT online)</p> <p>Students may advance a course level in a given sequence of courses, such as mathematics, by taking courses outside SBHS (e.g., Learning Center) or during the SBHS Summer Institute. Course content must equate to that of the high school course that is being bypassed.</p> <p>Note: Algebra I may NOT be bypassed.</p>	9, 10, 11	<p>Grade/course recorded on the transcript</p> <p>Not included in GPA</p>	Fees and transport are a family responsibility	<p>Achieve an 85% or better as a final grade</p> <p>Achieve a mastery score on SBHS final exam or assessment.</p>
<p>College Course Work for H.S. Credit</p> <p>High school students may choose to enroll in college-level work at an accredited college or university for both college and high school credit (called dual credit). This option includes dual credit courses offered during the SBHS Summer Institute.</p>	11, 12	<p>Grade/course recorded on the transcript</p> <p>Not included in GPA</p>	Fees and transport are a family responsibility	End-of-Course Assessment as required by the college/university.
<p>HS Course Work Taken Outside SBHS for Credit (NOT online)</p> <p>Students may complete high school coursework in an academic setting other than SBHS or during the SBHS Summer Institute. The provider of this off-site coursework must be accredited. This enables students to take courses that are not currently offered at SBHS. Students may also recover credits.</p>	10, 11, 12	<p>Grade/course recorded on the transcript</p> <p>Not included in GPA</p>	Fees and transport are a family responsibility	End-of-Course Assessment as required by accredited provider/school.
<p>Self-Directed Study at SBHS</p> <p>The Self-Directed Study Program is available for students looking to do in-depth study beyond the SBHS course offerings or desire to fulfill a course need that is not available in the current SBHS curriculum. A Self-Directed Study may be content- or theme-based.</p>	11, 12	<p>Not weighted</p> <p>Grade/course recorded on the transcript</p> <p>Included in GPA.</p>	N/A	As outlined in the Independent Study application.
<p>Online or Distance Learning</p> <p>Online courses must be taken from an accredited institution. Online courses enable students to take courses not currently offered at the high school, recover credits, or advance a course level.</p>	10, 11, 12	<p>Grade/course recorded on transcript</p> <p>Not included in GPA</p>	Course fees and proctor fees are a family responsibility	<p>End-of-Course Assessment as required by accredited provider/school.</p> <p>If for advancement: Achieve an 85% or better as a final grade</p> <p>Achieve a mastery score on SBHS final exam or assessment.</p>

Independent Study Opportunities (an alphabetical listing)	Grade Levels	Grading Policy	Applicable Fees	Assessment and Proof
<p>Physical Education Athletic Participation</p> <p>Student-athletes may earn marking period credits toward their PE requirement by participating in South Brunswick varsity athletic programs as recognized by the NJSIAA and the Competitive Cheerleading Team, Dance Team, Winter Guard, and Marching Band. This is a “directed study” as student-athletes participate in athletics at the advanced level (learning, practicing, preparing, and competing) under the direction of their coaches. Students may earn 1.25 credits per athletic program and can earn up to a total of 3.75 credits per year.</p>	<p>11, 12</p> <p>Health may not be bypassed</p>	<p>Pass/Fail</p> <p>Course on transcript</p> <p>Not included in GPA</p>	<p>Participation fees are a family responsibility</p>	<p>Verification of season completion by the head coach or advisor.</p>
<p>Private Music Study in Instruments NOT Offered in SBHS (at an accredited institution only)</p> <p>Students who are engaged in advanced private music study in an instrument not currently offered at the high school may apply for course credit on a semester (2.5 credit) or full year (5 credit) basis. This option may replace elective or fine arts credits.</p>	<p>10, 11, 12</p>	<p>Pass/Fail</p> <p>Listed on the transcript</p> <p>Not included in GPA.</p>	<p>Instrument, lesson and supply fees as applicable</p>	<p>Transcript, Activity/Time Log, Post-jury Assessment with the Music Supervisor and written reflections (pre/post).</p>
<p>Study Abroad</p> <p>Students may study abroad and earn credits by participating in an approved and accredited exchange program of study. The counselor and supervisor/chairperson determine the total number of credits that may be earned. This determination will be based on course correlation with the SBHS Program of Studies.</p>	<p>11, 12</p>	<p>Counselor determination based on Middle States accreditation.</p>	<p>Fees and transport are a family responsibility</p>	<p>Achieve the course mastery scores as established by the school in which the student has “exchanged” courses.</p>
<p>World Language Demonstration of Proficiency for Heritage Speakers</p> <p>A student who is a native or heritage speaker of a language can meet the one-year State requirement for world language through “demonstration of proficiency.” The supervisor determines proficiency through testing, interviews, and/or other assessments.</p>	<p>9, 10, 11, 12</p> <p>Students must take 2nd year of the same language on-site.</p>	<p>Pass/Fail</p> <p>Course on transcript</p> <p>Not included in GPA</p>	<p>Proficiency assessment fees are a family responsibility</p>	<p>Pass a written and oral, state-approved proficiency assessment administered by a state assessor.</p>
<p>World Language Program NOT Taught in SBHS</p> <p>Students may receive instruction in, and graduation credit for, a world language not taught in the high school. The languages currently being taught in SBHS are French, Spanish, and Latin. Learning another language allows one to experience the heritage and context of another culture from within.</p>	<p>9, 10, 11, 12</p> <p>Students must take two years of the same language.</p>	<p>Pass/Fail</p> <p>Course on transcript</p> <p>Not included in GPA</p>	<p>All fees associated with the course and the proficiency assessment are family responsibility</p>	<p>Pass a written and oral, state-approved proficiency assessment.</p>

Eligibility (with NO exceptions)

Independent Study opportunities only apply to the specified grade levels.

Independent Study only occurs after 8th grade. Summer experiences following the completion of 8th grade qualify.

Independent Study applicants must meet all published dates and deadlines.

Independent Study opportunities must be pre-approved.

See the Independent Study Guidebook for more details and further information.