

Bishop Seabury Academy

Independent Explorations Program (IExP) Plan Guidelines

1. Students in 9th-11th grade who wish to pursue an IExP plan will begin by contacting the College Counselor/IExP Program Director to discuss their interests.
2. The student will then generate an IExP proposal to be submitted to school administrators for approval. The proposal should include the following:
 - student name
 - date of submission
 - a 150-word minimum statement of interest explaining why the student wishes to pursue an IExP plan
 - a brief overview of potential milestone projects the student might complete
3. Once the proposal has been approved, the student will work with the program director and other school officials to secure a mentor.
4. The student will then, with the assistance of the program director, complete three or more milestone projects. These projects must gain the approval of the program director and the student's mentor, and they must be completed before the second semester of the student's senior year. Examples of milestone projects include:
 - elective coursework completed outside of the school curriculum
 - an independent study plan (ISP) completed at Bishop Seabury
 - Internships
 - community service (20 or more hours related to the student's IExP subject area)
 - research projects

Students who have completed at least two milestone projects before applying to college will receive a designation on their official transcript. After they complete the capstone, they receive a semester of high school credit at the honors level.

5. The IExP plan will culminate in a capstone project, which must be completed before graduation. The capstone project must gain the approval of the program director, the student's mentor, and the department chairperson or other relevant faculty from the appropriate academic department. Capstone projects might include a substantial research paper or other body of written work, a presentation or exhibit, a performance, or another project that demonstrates the student's ability to synthesize what he or she has learned by participating in the Independent Explorations Program. Reflective writing will also be required. The completion of the IExP plan will be designated on the student's official transcript.