



## GaDOE World Languages & Global Workforce Initiatives

*Committed to providing high quality instructional and program support in the area of world languages and global education for all of Georgia's districts and stakeholders.*

# 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal Graduates Honor Roll

“Georgia’s 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR students explain what the seal means to them and share their future dreams in their own words.”

In today’s global marketplace, it is important for students to acquire the interdisciplinary skills they need to be globally competent and competitive. The International Skills Diploma Seal is awarded to graduating high school students who complete an international education curriculum and engage in extracurricular activities and experiences that foster the achievement of global competencies. It is a signal to employers and higher education institutions that a student is prepared to participate in the global economy.



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Katherine  
School: Academy of Richmond County  
District: Richmond County Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: "Receiving the ISDS makes me feel very accomplished for the hard work I have done this year through the IB Diploma Program and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. The seal is a reflection of my pursuit of an international perspective of the world and encourages me to continue traveling the world."

Future Plans: "Beyond graduation I am looking to attend University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Vanderbilt or University of Georgia to study either Archeology or Orthodontics."



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Erin  
School: Alliance Academy for Innovation  
District: Forsyth County Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: "Completing the International Skills Diploma Seal demonstrates to future employers that the curriculum and extracurriculars I undertook in high school have prepared me for work in a global economy. The opportunity to showcase the internationally targeted skills I've garnered from my classroom and community through a capstone presentation was incredible. Special thanks to my amazing teachers Dra. Dunn and Dra. Gilmore for their dedication both inside and outside of school. I could not have succeeded in high school and the workforce without them."

Future Plans: "I will be attending the United States Air Force Academy in June of 2021 as a Physics Major. I plan to continue my studies of Spanish by validating my AP credit and pursuing a minor in the language; hopefully, I will be able to take advantage of USAFA's phenomenal semester abroad program as well." 🌱 🏃



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Megan  
School: Archer High School  
District: Gwinnett High School  
Languages studied: French



ISDS Quote: “Earning the International Skills Diploma Seal has been an amazing opportunity to show my knowledge, learn about other cultures and show what I have accomplished over my high school career. Being the first student at my school to achieve this award has also been a great chance to establish something new and leave my mark as I graduate.”

Future Plans: “Next year I will be attending Oglethorpe University and I plan to major in Film and minor with an IPM (Individually Planned Major/Minor) in either Linguistics or International Studies. During my time there I also hope to study abroad. Afterwards, I plan on working in the film industry in a way that ties into international cultures such as film linguistics, location scout, or cultural researcher.”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Christina  
School: Campbell High School  
District: Cobb County Schools  
Languages studied: French, Spanish



ISDS Quote: “To me, the ISDS is a symbol of my efforts to learn about and appreciate other cultures and my commitment to being a global citizen.”

Future Plans: “I plan to attend the University of Florida in the fall, where I plan on double majoring in theatre and English with a concentration in creative writing and minoring in Spanish. Additionally, I plan on earning a certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language. After college, I plan on pursuing a career in both the arts and in language education.”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Alejandra  
School: Cambridge High School  
District: Fulton County Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: “There is nothing more beautiful than someone who goes out of their way to make life beautiful for others”-Mandy Hale

Future Plans: “After high school I plan on pursuing my career in Business, possibly abroad, at the University of Georgia.”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Phebe  
School: Cass High School  
District: Bartow County Schools  
Languages studied:



ISDS Quote: “The ISDS has given me a connection with people I never had before.”

Future Plans: “My future plans are to attend Young Harris College in the fall (I have already been accepted and committed). I plan to major in environmental science and minor in sustainability. Once I earn my degree, I hope to join the Peace Corps not only to earn experience, but to help communities that need me. ”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Maya  
School: Centennial High School  
District: Fulton County Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: “Every day I work towards my goal of embodying the mindset of a global thinker and by earning the International diploma skills seal I am one step closer to my goal. ”

Future Plans: “I will be attending the Georgia Institute of Technology majoring in International Affairs with Modern Languages with a concentration in German. With a Pre-Law focus.”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Lexie-Anne  
School: Cherokee High School  
District: Cherokee County Schools  
Languages studied: Romanian, American Sign Language, and Spanish



ISDS Quote: “My International Skills are a symbol of my fascination and admiration of the different cultures and heritages. Not only has this seal developed my communication skills and cultural awareness, but it has placed me in a global mindset and provided me many opportunities to gain a new perspective.

Future Plans: “I will be an Honors Program student at The University of Georgia in the fall. I intend to double major in Management Information Systems and Marketing with a minor in International Affairs. I plan to earn a certificate in Non-Profit Management and Leadership. My goal is to use the skills from the International Skills Diploma Seal and my education to share computer information networks of American based non-profit organizations with organizations around the world.”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Sammi  
School: Douglas County High School  
District: Douglas County Schools  
Languages studied: French & Spanish



ISDS Quote: "As someone who came to the US at 4 years old not speaking any English, working on my Capstone presentation has allowed me to reflect and realize how much I've grown and how I came to find my own identity through my international courses and experiences."

Future Plans: "I've always aspired to work in the international work field, so for me, earning the International Skills Diploma Seal means that I am one step closer to my dream. In the future, I will attend Harvard University and I plan to continue learning French and Spanish there so that I can continue to embrace the global-minded spirit that I have."



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Anoushka  
School: Denmark High School  
District: Forsyth County  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: ". It has been a great honor and I am very grateful to have earned an ISDS Diploma Seal. This opportunity has allowed me to reflect on my cultural experiences and awareness as a student and I will now be able to apply these skills to my future education and careers!"

Future Plans: "I hope to pursue an education in Business and the University of Georgia and will definitely put my global awareness to use in terms of aspects such as international business, communications, and public speaking. I hope to travel to different countries and make more memories and experiences that will further aid me as I progress through my life."



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Ruhi  
School: Dutchtown High School  
District: Henry County Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: “The requirements for ISDS prepared me to thrive in the future global economy and global workforce and taught me personal lessons about cultural awareness which will forever be beneficial.”

Future Plans: “I will be attending Georgia Tech studying Pre-Medicine with a possible minor in Spanish, in hopes to go to medical school to become a Physician. ”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Sydney  
School: Charles R. Drew Charter School  
District: Atlanta Public Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: “Earning the ISDS was a great accomplishment because it symbolizes my journey of studies in the Spanish cultures and language. It has inspired me to further pursue and explore the fascinating and unique cultures around the world.”

Future Plans: “I will be attending The College of Wooster this fall and plan to major in Archaeology to ultimately work for a museum or an organization whose mission incorporates exploration and education to learn from and protect the wonders of our world.”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Caroline  
School: East Coweta High School  
District: Coweta County Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: "To me, earning the ISDS means recognizing and celebrating all the work I've put into learning about diverse cultures and languages and how that has shaped me into a global citizen over these past 4 years. Throughout my journey learning Spanish, I have made unbreakable connections with people from all different walks of life and opened doors for so many opportunities to come. I never thought that as an eighth-grader walking into my first Spanish class knowing only how to say "Hola" and "Adiós" that something that was meant to be merely an interest for me would quickly and so deeply become a passion. As I graduate this year looking back on and reminiscing about all the fond memories and experiences that I have had learning Spanish, I only strive to know much, much more."

Future Plans: "I plan to major in Chemistry and minor in Spanish at Emory University this fall. I plan to also study abroad in Spain in hopes of going beyond a purely academic experience, finding new interests and making lifelong connections that I will carry with me for the rest of my life."



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Iman  
School: Eagle's Landing High School  
District: Henry County  
Languages studied: French, Arabic



ISDS Quote: "For me, earning the ISDS is a confirmation of the work that I've done to immerse myself into different cultures and languages. "

Future Plans: "I plan on going to UGA and majoring in Ecology while minoring in Fine Arts. "





## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Nicole  
School: Etowah High School  
District: Cherokee County Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: “When I started studying Spanish, my imagination exploded with all the opportunities I would unlock by learning the language. This award represents all of the support of teachers, friends, family, and God who helped me become fluent. This award will open up even more opportunities for me.”

Future Plans: “Next year, I will be attending Grand Canyon University, and I am going to double major in Spanish and Communications. I hope to study abroad again in college and one day find a career where I can use my passion of writing and language learning to help others around the world. ”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Analise  
School: Etowah High School  
District: Cherokee County Schools  
Languages studied: French



ISDS Quote: “Earning the ISDS further developed my interest in countries and cultures that are unique to my own. Due to my English background, I have always been interested in other countries, and working on this seal has enabled me to act upon this intrinsic interest and gain valuable global experiences.”

Future Plans: “I plan to attend either Washington University in St. Louis or the University of Georgia and major in cultural anthropology on a pre-veterinarian track. I also plan to minor, or double major, in a language and international affairs. I plan to continue my international experiences gained through the ISDS seal and hopefully travel the world.”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Maya  
School: Furlow Charter School  
District: Independent Charter School  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: “The International Skills Diploma Seal shows others that I will be able to successfully work with people from different backgrounds. I will be prepared for a future as a global citizen and ambassador of the world. “

Future Plans: “I am enrolled in the University of Georgia Honors program for fall 2021. I plan to study art and psychology to later obtain a Master’s degree in Art Therapy.”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Anastacio  
School: Hampton High School  
District: Henry County Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: “For me, this additional skill, this language that I learned and came to love, will help me to speak with my family and understand them much better. . I think that learning a second language is very important not only for your career but also for life in general. You don't know who you are going to see today tomorrow, who is going to need your help or support in any situation.”

Future Plans: “I would like to pursue a nursing degree and simply know that I will be able to help those who don't know English. I will be able to help them and save some lives or just make it easy to be there to help them get the best treatment.”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Mehul  
School: Johns Creek High School  
District: Fulton County Schools  
Languages studied: French



ISDS Quote: "The study of French and world languages has been an integral part of my high school career, from discussing French culture in class to having the chance to apply my knowledge on a trip to Paris. As a result, I am very proud to be receiving the International Skills Diploma Seal, because it represents the culmination of my hard work with world languages. I look to use this seal as a sort of badge of certification to encourage myself to continue to be a global citizen after high school."

Future Plans: "After graduation, I will attend college to study Chemical Engineering, most likely with a French minor. I have not yet decided which university I will attend but look forward to the next four years regardless and I know that world languages will figure to be a big part in my future career."



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Margot  
School: Lambert High School  
District: Forsyth County Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: "Earning the ISDS has taught me the importance of acceptance and growth in many aspects of life. This program has inspired me to continue serving others and to always keep an open mind"

Future Plans: "I am attending the University of Georgia in the fall with hopes to become a lawyer. Not only will I continue to learn Spanish, but also strengthen my cultural understanding and global perspective. GO DAWGS!"



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Diana  
School: Locust Grove High School  
District: Henry County Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: “ The ISDS is an achievement I hold with high regard. Earning this seal was a sign of my hard work, commitment and understanding the importance of international studies.”

Future Plans: “I plan to attend a university where I will graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Criminal Justice/Criminology.”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Traci  
School: Martha Ellen Stilwell School of the Arts  
District: Clayton County Public Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: “Earning my International Skills Diploma Seal means that I am able to keep up with this ever-changing nation. Spanish is the second most common language in the United States, and studying the language extensively allows me to better communicate with people while in the workplace and in my daily life. This is especially useful as I plan to work in healthcare.”

Future Plans: “After graduation, I plan on attending the University of Pennsylvania as a nursing major and global health minor. I will continue to study Spanish and take courses that focus on Spanish in medicine. As a global health minor, I will take electives that will explore nursing in different countries. In the future, I wish to take these skills and become a certified nurse-midwife.”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Aaliyah  
School: Maynard Jackson High School  
District: Atlanta Public Schools  
Languages studied: French



ISDS Quote: "Earning the International Skills Diploma is extremely empowering. It shows that I have the skills and the grit to take on my future with the gained knowledge and courage needed to succeed. It does not just show the world I have what it takes, but it shows me that despite my early doubts I have really overcome a mountain of worry and expectations, and whatever the world throws at me next I will be able to take it and throw it back ten-fold."

Future Plans: "My future plans beyond graduation include being able to work on a big project under Pixar or Blizzard. I want to be able to create games and characters that people grow to love and possibly be attached to much like the characters I grew up with as a kid. Outside of my art career, I hope to find some way to help combat homelessness in Atlanta."



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Amanda  
School: McEachern High School  
District: Cobb County Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: ""The International Skills Diploma Seal is the embodiment of the phenomenal instruction I had the honor of receiving along my years. It also proves that I am one step in the right direction of pursuing my dreams. Obtaining this seal was a monumental privilege and I am excited to continue working toward being of service to my community."

Future Plans: " "I plan on attending Chattahoochee Technical College for an Associate's degree in Radiography and after, proceeding to Emory University to receive my Bachelors in Radiology. After schooling, I would love to serve in a Latin American country and do volunteer work."



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Maya  
School: Fulton County Schools  
District: Milton High School  
Languages studied:



ISDS Quote: "I am incredibly grateful to earn the International Student Diploma Seal. After living internationally for years and only moving to the US for my senior year, I am beyond proud that my diploma will now pay homage to those amazing years. "

Future Plans: "I will be attending university and studying Environmental Engineering. I wish to use my degree to encourage sustainability across the globe. I wish to live internationally again and explore more cultures I have yet to experience."



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Simon  
School: Morgan County High School  
District: Morgan County  
Languages studied: Latin



ISDS Quote: "With the whole ISDS process, I've been able to experience differing cultures that have both helped me with my studies in Latin and, most importantly, allowed me the ability to see topics in unique ways that diverge from my own life. This is something that I appreciate dearly."

Future Plans: "I am going to Georgia Tech to major in Chemical Engineering and possibly do something with philosophy. Excited to be a Yellow Jacket!"



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Hassan  
School: North Atlanta High School  
District: Atlanta Public Schools  
Languages studied: Arabic and French



ISDS Quote: “Earning the International Skills Diploma Seal will be the impetus for me to continue to study foreign languages and world cultures. I believe that globalization can be a boon for the US economy if we harness our diversity to provide multicultural goods and services to other countries. The communication skills and languages that I attained in high school will allow me to play a constructive role in the betterment of the lives of people everywhere.”

Future Plans: “I intend to pursue a major in International Business in college in order to utilize my foreign language skills and further develop my communication and entrepreneurship skills. My goal is to become a skilled and educated global citizen who will serve his local community and promote freedom, prosperity, and equality around the world.”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Noemi  
School: North Clayton High School  
District: Clayton County Schools  
Languages studied: French



ISDS Quote: “The journey of a thousand miles begins with one step.” Lao Tzu

Future Plans: “I plan on using my French language skills to travel abroad and learn about different French speaking countries and their art. I want to better my own skills while also building my knowledge.



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Sydney  
School: North Cobb High School  
District: Cobb County Schools  
Languages studied: French & Chinese



ISDS Quote: "Earning the ISDS award is a great honor, and I am very grateful to be able to communicate with others regarding my wonderful experience with foreign language and studying abroad."

Future Plans: "Once the brink of COVID-19 has ended, I would like to go back to France and continue my journey to fluency during the summer when I am at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida, studying biology on a pre-medicine track."



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Emily  
School: North Forsyth High School  
District: Forsyth County Schools  
Languages studied: French & Russian



ISDS Quote: "Learning a foreign language has had so many benefits for me, and I love that I had a chance to explain how much being in Mrs. Surin's class has impacted me. Earning the ISDS is just another example of my determination to learn, and it has only encouraged me to further my knowledge of foreign languages by continuing to take classes in college."

Future Plans: "I am planning on attending the University of North Georgia for at least the first two years where I am going to major in creative writing with the hopes of becoming a screenwriter. I wish to use the knowledge I have gained in my French and Russian classes to push me ahead of others in my pursuit of becoming a writer."





## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Rukhshona  
School: North Springs High School  
District: Fulton County Schools  
Languages studied: English, Spanish, Russian, Tajik



ISDS Quote: "I'm very grateful for this eye-opening experience, which not only helped me learn new languages, but also introduced me to many different cultures."

Future Plans: "After graduation, I plan on going to the University of London and majoring in computer science"



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Riley  
School: Ola High School  
District: Henry County Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: "It is such a great honor to receive the ISDS. I've been working toward this goal for my entire life, and I am excited to see my hard work pay off. Though my journey has had its challenges, I am grateful for my years of learning a new language."

Future Plans: "After graduation, I plan to attend Wellesley College in Massachusetts with a double major in International Relations and Spanish. I hope to learn about the world through travel, gaining firsthand experiences of life in Hispanic countries, and working my way to reaching a bilingual status."



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Armoni  
School: Sol C. Johnson HS  
District: Savannah Chatham County School System  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: "Honestly, completing the IB program means that I can do anything I put my mind to. This is a great accomplishment for me because I was able to keep a promise to myself that I was going to finish this program. Even though the courses within this program were very tough to complete, I continued to push myself to stay consistent because the work was not going to stop. Whether it got done or not was entirely up to the decisions I made with myself. I'm beyond proud to say that I completed this program."

Future Plans: "I plan to either attend Georgia Southern (Savannah Campus) or the University of Georgia and major in Exercise Science."



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Erin  
School: South Forsyth High School  
District: Forsyth County Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: "Earning the International Skills Diploma Seal is important to me because as the world grows more connected, it is essential that students have the tool to not only survive in an international environment but to thrive."

Future Plans: "I plan on majoring in Public Policy so that I can eventually follow a career in civil service. I hope to continue my international education by minoring in Spanish and taking classes that expand my understanding of the world as in order to serve all people it is important that I understand a multitude of perspectives."



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Riley  
School: Sprayberry High School  
District: Cobb County  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: "Earning this seal proves that my commitment and dedication to Spanish has been successful".

Future Plans: "I am undecided about which college to attend but I want to major in pre-Med".



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Mary  
School: Villa Rica High School  
District: Carroll County Schools  
Languages studied: French



ISDS Quote: "Earning the ISDS is very important to me. I joined the club in an effort to expand upon my education regarding the entire globe. Therefore, earning this seal represents a new array of knowledge within my life that I will utilize in every way I can."

Future Plans: "Beyond graduation, I plan to attend college as a dance major (and possibly another major). I am excited to incorporate what I've learned from ISDS into my routine, whatever it may evolve into!"



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Katelynn  
School: Woodland High School  
District: Henry County Schools  
Languages studied: French



ISDS Quote: “The International Skills Diploma Seal represents my work to reach beyond culture and language barriers. This achievement, and the experiences encapsulated by it, will help me uphold my role as an active global citizen and make a positive impact wherever I go. I am extremely thankful for the support of my teacher, Madame Gammage; her dedication is why I have the life-long confidence to continue to pursue international connections and knowledge.”

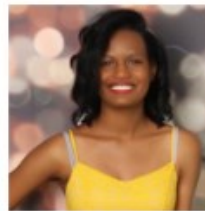
Future Plans: “I intend to study Computer Science at Georgia Tech! I plan to continue my foreign language studies too, and I’m especially eager to study abroad. The cultural open-mindedness and skills I have learned in high school will be the foundation and motivation for my future international endeavors. Ultimately, I want to create and engineer accessible software. Technology and language are the best mediums for me to learn from, work alongside, and connect with people everywhere, not just within the borders I know.”



## Honoring our 2021 International Skills Diploma Seal STAR Student Graduates!



First Name: Marla  
School: Woodville Tompkins  
District: Chatham County Schools  
Languages studied: Spanish



ISDS Quote: “It feels good to be recognized for doing well in something that I’m so passionate about. It’s motivation to keep learning and keep growing in my quest for knowledge in the language and the culture.”

Future Plans: “I plan on going into Navy Reserves as a linguist and going to college at Hampton University. I plan on majoring in psychology and minoring in forensic science, in hopes of becoming a federal agent.”