

An exceptional, portable education— the perfect match for young athletes on the go

Competitive young athletes, no matter what their sport, benefit from the balanced, completely portable education K¹² offers.



If you ask 17-year-old Nick Bailey what he likes best about his life as a competitive skier, predictably, you'll hear: **"I love being outside. I could be outside seven days a week."** Unpredictably, you'll also hear: "I love to crochet ski beanies for my friends."

When it's racing season, Nick spends a lot of time on the road and so has a lot of time on his hands. But there are only so many ski beanies a person can make, even for a friend as dedicated as Nick, especially when there's that other little thing he has to fit into his already busy life—high school.

Enter the Idaho Virtual Academy, which uses the award-winning K¹² curriculum and online learning system.

K¹² is the country's leading provider of online curriculum for grades K through 12, and offers a tuition-free, public school option in Nick's home state of Idaho. K¹²'s tuition-free virtual academies can be found in many states, including other big ski-country states like Oregon, Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming. A private school option, the K¹² International Academy, is available worldwide.

After moving with his family from Boise to the mountain town of McCall to pursue his love of skiing, Nick tried a traditional brick-and-mortar public school, but it was clear early on that things weren't going to work out. **"I spent my first semester in eighth grade in the Boise Public School District,"** says Nick, **"but the flexibility required for my schedule just wasn't there. The second semester, I joined the Idaho Virtual Academy and never looked back."** With a laptop and wireless Internet access card, Nick can do his school work traveling in the car, in hotel rooms, or even in the ski lodge.

With the current upheaval in the world economy, Nick's favorite subject is economics. He also loves his government class. **"With the recent elections it's a great, fascinating time to be studying politics."**

Even when he's not traveling, Nick's schedule is grueling and requires an unusual degree of flexibility. Tuesdays through Sundays, he trains from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Then, from 1 to 5, it's time for school. He works out from 5:30 to 7, and then it's dinner and waxing his skis for the next day's training. Monday is the team's only day off.

With the Idaho Virtual Academy and the K¹² curriculum, Nick has the flexibility he needs to push himself and excel, in the classroom and on the slopes.

And excel he does. Nick began racing with the McCall Ski Racing Team at the age of five. He now skis in the USSA and recently won the slalom in an FIS event—a race that was open to skiers his age from around the world. But right now, Nick's most excited about where he'll be going to college, and who he'll be racing for, come fall—Middlebury College in Vermont.

"It's a very competitive school to have gotten into, in terms of both skiing and academics," says Nick. **"It's Division One. I had thought about the Olympics, but I didn't want to skip college for it. So I decided to focus on skiing for a very good college team, and I couldn't be happier!"**

Whether they're on the slopes or crocheting ski beanies, K¹² gets kids into learning so learning gets into them. Learn more at K12.com/snow4. Or, call 866.968.7512 for more information.



Nick Bailey