

# International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

Overview

# Students Discussing the IB Program

★ [Click here to watch the video](#)

# International Baccalaureate

## *A Brief History*

- ✦ The International Baccalaureate program began in 1968 as a non-profit education foundation.
- ✦ The program was designed to provide a consistent education for internationally mobile students preparing for university enrollment.
- ✦ Providing common curriculum with common assessments, the program allowed for a true international education.
- ✦ Encouraging international mindedness in students and staff, the IB Programmes supports the IB learner profile with a set of values that represent the mission and principles.

# IB Mission Statement

*High quality international education for a better world*

- ✦ The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through **intercultural understanding** and **respect**.
- ✦ To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop **challenging programs** of international education and **rigorous assessment**.
- ✦ These programs encourage students across the world to become **active**, **compassionate** and **lifelong learners** who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.



## Diploma Program (DP)

Ages 16-19 · two year program



## Middle Years Program (MYP)

Ages 11-16 · five year program



## Primary Years Program (PYP)

Ages 3-11 · inquiry based

# THE THREE IB PROGRAMS

# What is the Diploma Programme curriculum?

*The curriculum contains six subject groups and a core of three parts.*



Students study concurrently:

- ✦ three subjects at higher level (240 hours each).
- ✦ three subjects at standard level (150 hours each).
- ✦ all three parts of the core (which includes TOK, EE and CAS)

The IB Learner Profile and the core are central to the philosophy of the Diploma Programme.

# What is the learner profile?

*It's the IBO mission statement translated into a set of learning outcomes for the 21st century.*

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world.

IB programmes promote the education of the whole person, emphasizing intellectual, personal, emotional and social growth through all domains of knowledge.

IB Learners Strive to be:

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open-minded
- Caring
- Risk-takers
- Balanced
- Reflective

# Learner Profiles

## FPS Learner Profile

- ✦ Collaborative Team Members
- ✦ Effective Communicators
- ✦ Healthy Individuals
- ✦ Knowledgeable Thinkers
- ✦ Lifelong Learners
- ✦ Quality Producers
- ✦ Responsible Citizens
- ✦ Thoughtful Problem Solvers

## IB Learner Profile

- ✦ Inquirers
- ✦ Knowledgeable
- ✦ Thinkers
- ✦ Communicators
- ✦ Principled
- ✦ Open-minded
- ✦ Caring
- ✦ Risk Takers
- ✦ Balanced
- ✦ Reflective



# What is the educational benefit of IB?

Although singular courses comprise the bulk of the student's program, the IB approach is interdisciplinary in nature and requires students to apply learning in one course to learning in another. In essence, it furthers a student's capability to transfer critical & conceptual thinking from one situation to the next. Additionally, the curriculum encourages the study of international perspectives so that students are prepared to effectively navigate the increasingly global marketplace.

# The “Core” Elements

## Creativity, Action & Service (CAS)

- ✦ Encourages students to be involved in artistic pursuits, sports and community service
- ✦ Education outside the classroom
- ✦ Development of the learner profile

# The “Core” Elements

## Extended Essay (EE)

- ✦ 4,000 words
- ✦ Offers the opportunity to investigate a research question of individual interest
- ✦ Familiarizes students with the independent research and writing skills expected at university

# The “Core” Elements

## Theory of Knowledge (TOK)

- ✦ Interdisciplinary
- ✦ Explores the nature of knowledge across disciplines
- ✦ Encouraging an appreciation of other cultural perspectives

# To Earn the IB DP Diploma

To earn the Diploma a candidate must:

- ✦ Successfully complete the extended essay, TOK, and CAS requirements
- ✦ Successfully complete the internal and external requirements of 3 HL courses and 3 SL courses
- ✦ Earn a minimum of 24 points (each subject is graded on a 1-7 scale and a maximum of 3 points for the core elements of the programme)

# AP vs. IB: A Quick Comparison

- ✦ Single courses, independent of one another
- ✦ Assessment = ONE test
- ✦ Any school can offer AP courses

- ✦ All curriculum connected (2 yrs); students learn how to learn
- ✦ Assessment = varied formats, multiple occasions
- ✦ Research skills; project-based
- ✦ Community action components
- ✦ Only high-quality, approved schools can offer IB courses
- ✦ International learning

# What do Universities think?

- ✦ IB Diploma graduates are highly sought-after here and abroad because of well-rounded, global perspectives and rigorous academic records.
- ✦ Some universities – grant credit hours towards the first year, which could translate into receiving up to 16 college credit hours before entering college to IB Diploma grads
- ✦ IB Diploma Programme differentiates students in college applications process because of the character traits cultivated

# How well is the diploma recognized by universities?

*The IB diploma is widely recognized by the world's leading universities.*

IB works closely with universities in all regions of the world to gain recognition for the IB diploma:

- ✦ Direct online access for university admissions officers and government officials to syllabuses and recent examination papers
- ✦ A database of university admission policies on [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)
- ✦ Recognition in over 100 countries
- ✦ Recognition by over 2,000 universities
- ✦ Some universities offer scholarships and advanced placement for IB students

Students applying to a particular university can access their grades directly from the IB's secure web site.

# Research on the Impact of IB Programmes

Various studies have been conducted on the performance of IB students, the standards of the IB program, the effect of the implementation of the program on a school. Results show that:

- ✦ IB has a positive impact on the culture of a school.
- ✦ IB standards are aligned with best practice in education and support effective teaching practices.
- ✦ IB Diploma students perform better in post-secondary education than their peers.
- ✦ IB Diploma students have higher acceptance rates to colleges.
- ✦ IB students outperform their peers on state assessments.

# Review: benefits of being in IB

- ✦ **Concept and skills-based studies, instead of information-based – “big picture” thinking**
- ✦ **Interdisciplinary classes – making connections to what you are learning in other classes**
- ✦ **International perspectives – learning about the world**
- ✦ **Increased awareness – considering several view points to understand and interact with people better**
- ✦ **Character-building – becoming an active member of your school community**