



IB Diploma Programme Most Asked Questions

What is the IB Diploma Programme?

The IB Diploma Programme is a rigorous academic programme with a 3-fold focus:

- Increased breadth and depth of academic knowledge
- Development of academic skills
- Development of personal skills

The IB programme is designed to develop the whole person, through the integration of both the:

- **IB Approaches to Learning skills:**
Thinking, communication, research, self-management, and social skills
- **IB Learner Profile:**
Balanced, caring, principled, inquirers, risk-takers, reflective, communicators, open-minded, thinkers, knowledgeable

How do I become an IB Diploma Programme candidate?

All grade 10 students will take grade 10 IB-MYP (pre-IB) courses which introduces them to IB academic and personal skills.

If students complete their grade 10 courses with $\geq 80\%$ plus a teacher's recommendation (found as a comment next to their final grade in PowerSchool), they may choose to enroll in the IB Diploma Programme.

Students may choose to only take some of their courses as IB DP courses (an IB course candidate), or they may choose to become a full IB Diploma Candidate.

What are the benefits of becoming an IB Diploma Programme Candidate?

As mentioned above, students will graduate with enhanced academic knowledge, academic skills and personal skills to improve their capacity to succeed at the post-secondary level.

In addition to valuable skills and knowledge there are university admissions advantages, course transfer credit opportunities, IB specific scholarships, increased opportunity for internships and research positions, alongside international recognition of the IB transcript.

Will my mark go down if I take an IB course?

We have carried out statistical analysis to compare our non-IB and IB course averages. We have found that our IB course averages are approximately 5-10% higher than the non-IB course averages.

We attribute this to the fact that our IB candidates enhance the depth and breadth of their learning of the curriculum which enables them to handle the common assessments (same assessments are given in IB and non-IB classes), with greater ease.

What courses do I need to take in grade 10 to be a full IB candidate?

Pre- IB courses & additional courses needed for graduation will need to be part of the grade 10 schedule planning a full IB Diploma route.

A grade 10 pre-IB schedule will need to include:

- English 10 IB-MYP
- French 10 IB-MYP or Spanish 10 IB-MYP
- Social Studies 10 IB-MYP
- Science 10 IB-MYP
- Math 10 IB-MYP
- If a student plans on enrolling in an Arts IB course then they will need to complete the pre-requisite:
Art 10 IB-MYP, Drama 10 IB-MYP or Music 10 IB-MYP

Additional Requirements

- Religion 15
- Physical Education / Wellness

More details on scheduling for IB can be found on the IB Information Document linked on this IB virtual open house site.

Can a student fast-track a course in their grade 10 year?

Yes, it is possible for grade 10 students who have completed Science 10, Math 10 or French 10 in their first semester proceed to Chemistry 20IB, Math 20IB or French 20IB in their second semester.

Can a student who is an IB course candidate take one of the IB core courses.

Our IB Core courses are TOK (Theory of Knowledge), EE (Extended Essay) and CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service).

These courses are required for full IB candidates but are not required for IB course candidates.

If an IB course candidate wishes to take one of the IB core courses they may take the course as an option if there is room remaining in the class.

Are there IB fees?

Yes, each student who enters the IB Diploma Programme will need to pay a year 1 and year 2 fee.

The fee for each year is \$150 for a total of \$300.

All students pay the same fee regardless of if a student takes 1 or more IB courses.

If a student starts a year 1 course in their grade 10 year, they will pay \$150 in grade 10 and \$150 in grade 11 but will not need to pay any more IB fees for additional IB courses that will be completed in their grade 12 year.

Where can I find more information about the IB Programme?

I encourage you to watch the IB presentation, video links and scheduling document on this MAC Open House website. All of these will provide you with more details regarding the IB Diploma Programme.

The school website also has an IB section that will provide you with details on what the IB Diploma Programme is.

The International Baccalaureate Programme website link is:

<https://www.ibo.org/>

Feel free to contact me if you have further questions.

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