



Frequently Asked Questions

What is the IB (International Baccalaureate) program?

The International Baccalaureate (IB) program is an internationally recognized educational framework that offers a rigorous and holistic approach to education for students at Aspen between the ages of 16-19. It aims to develop knowledgeable, inquiring, and caring young individuals who are prepared to contribute to a better and more peaceful world.

How long does the IB program last?

The IB program typically lasts for two years. It is commonly offered in the final two years of secondary education (grades 11 and 12), although some schools may offer the IB program starting from grade 6 or 7 as part of the Middle Years Programme (MYP).

What are the subjects offered in the IB program?

The IB program offers a wide range of subjects, including language and literature, language acquisition, individuals and societies (social sciences), sciences, mathematics, arts, and elective courses. Students typically choose six subjects, with three studied at a higher level (HL) and three at a standard level (SL).

What is the difference between the IB Diploma and IB Certificate?

The IB Diploma is awarded to students who successfully complete the requirements of the full IB Diploma Program, including the completion of six subjects, the Extended Essay, Theory of Knowledge (TOK) course, and participation in Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) activities. On the other hand, the IB Certificate is awarded to students who complete individual IB courses without pursuing the full Diploma.

How is the IB program assessed?

Assessment in the IB program involves a combination of internal and external assessments. Internal assessments are conducted by teachers and include coursework, projects, and oral presentations. External assessments include exams administered worldwide and are marked by external IB examiners. The final grades are determined based on both internal and external assessments.

What is the Extended Essay in the IB program?

The Extended Essay is a 4,000-word independent research essay that is a requirement for the IB Diploma. It allows students to explore a topic of their interest in depth and develop research and academic writing skills. The Extended Essay is supervised by a teacher and is externally assessed by IB examiners.

Are there any specific requirements to get the IB Diploma?

To obtain the IB Diploma, students need to fulfill several requirements, including completing six subjects, three at HL and three at SL, meeting the requirements of the Theory of Knowledge (TOK) course, completing the Extended Essay, and participating in Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS) activities.

How many points do you need to pass the IB Diploma?

The maximum total score in the IB Diploma program is 45 points. While there is no specific passing score, universities and colleges generally require a minimum score of 24 to 30 points for admission.

How does the IB grading scale work?

The IB grading scale ranges from 1 to 7, with 7 being the highest score. The final grade for each subject is determined based on various assessments, and the scores from all subjects are combined to calculate the final diploma score.

How do universities view the IB program?

Universities around the world generally value the IB program due to its rigorous and comprehensive nature. IB students often receive recognition for their academic preparedness and critical thinking skills. Many universities have specific admissions policies and may offer credit or advanced standing to students who have completed the IB Diploma or individual IB courses. However, admission requirements and recognition vary between institutions.

