



International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Central Academy

Attributes of a successful IB Diploma Programme candidate:

- **Self-motivated** and driven by a desire to succeed
- Enjoys intellectual and academic **challenge**
- **Reads** at or above his/her grade level
- Speaks/writes **English** clearly/effectively
- Eager to develop **analytic/critical** thinking skills
- Possesses good **time/stress management** skills
- Interested in **international** perspectives
- **Open** to new ideas and tolerant of different beliefs
- Willing to **stretch** outside his/her comfort zone
- **Participates** in school and community activities
- Has completed **rigorous preparatory coursework**

Coursework ideally completed by the end of sophomore year:

- US government
(Iowa graduation requirement)
- Economics
(DMPS graduation requirement)
- Algebra II

IB Diploma Programme Curriculum

The IB Diploma Programme curriculum consists of six academic areas (subject groups) surrounding three core requirements. Over the course of the two-year program, students:

- study one subject from each of five groups (1 to 5) and a sixth subject from group 6 or an additional subject from groups 1 to 5
- follow a theory of knowledge course (TOK)
- complete an extended essay (4,000 word maximum)
- participate in creativity, action, service (CAS) approximately 3 hours per week

At least three and not more than four of the six subjects are taken at higher level (HL) while the other subjects are taken at standard level (SL).

Central Academy currently offers the following subjects in the six groups (*depending on enrollment):

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| • Group 1: Studies in lang and lit | English HL |
| • Group 2: Language acquisition | Spanish B SL
Spanish <i>ab initio</i> SL
French B SL*
Mandarin <i>ab initio</i> SL* |
| • Group 3: Individuals & societies | History SL
History HL |
| • Group 4: Sciences | Biology SL and HL
Chemistry SL and HL
Physics SL and HL |
| • Groups 3 & 4: Interdisciplinary | Environmental Systems
and Societies SL |
| • Group 5: Mathematics** | Mathematical Studies SL
Mathematics SL |
| **Placement exam in April | |
| • Group 6: The arts | Visual Arts SL and HL |



For more information, contact Tamara Pfantz, IB Diploma Programme Coordinator, Central Academy
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Access the IB Diploma Programme application at ca.dmschools.org

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

Quotes from College and University Admissions Directors

- "Send us prepared students á la IB ... it is the *best* high school prep curriculum an American school can offer."
Marilee Jones, Dean of Admissions, M.I.T.
- "One of the advantages of an IB curriculum is its structure and quality. It is a coordinated program, well established, well known, and well respected. We know the quality of IB courses, and we think the IB curriculum is terrific."
Christoph Guttentag, Dean of Admissions, Duke University
- "The IB is a first-rate program, one we are familiar with, and it prepares students well for a university like ours."
Fred Hargadon, former Dean of Admissions, Princeton University
- "IB is well known to us for excellent preparations. Success in an IB program correlates well with success at Harvard. We are always pleased to see the credentials of the IB Diploma Program on the transcript."
Marilyn McGrath Lewis, Director of Admissions, Harvard University
- "The rigor of IB Diploma requirements meets our recommendation for the strongest high school preparation possible. The Extended Essay echoes William & Mary's belief in the value of original research as well as the College's emphasis on strong writing skills, and the Theory of Knowledge course fosters active and critical learning and is philosophically akin to the goals of our freshman seminar program. The CAS component answers our call for students who have been exposed to community service and creative endeavors and who understand the importance of developing the whole person. In sum, the IB diploma candidate who has met the challenge successfully receives strong consideration from the William & Mary admission committee."
Allison Jesse, former Associate Director of Undergraduate Admissions, College of William and Mary
- "Students seeking the finest [high school] preparation available for an American college should consider the International Baccalaureate. The IB offers an integrated curriculum that provides students with the skill needed to be world-class scholars and an educational philosophy that prepares them to be first-class citizens. I do not know of a more comprehensive and appropriate learning model."
Jimm Crowder, Director of International Admissions, Macalester College
- "I have always been a supporter of the International Baccalaureate. It is a thoughtful and genuinely intellectual curriculum with an unusually high degree of integrity and connectedness. There is no other curriculum anywhere that does a superior job of both educating students and inspiring a true and broad-based love of learning."
William Shain, former Dean of Undergraduate Admissions, Vanderbilt University
- "McGill has enthusiastically recruited IB students for over two decades. Even today, when reviewing an application from an IB diploma candidate, whether from the local CEGEP (collège d'enseignement général et professionnel) or the other side of the globe, our admissions officers can be assured of the candidate's strong and broad-based academic preparation. We have seen that IB students embrace the rigorous academic challenges of university life and perform well in their McGill programmes. As a member of the College and University Recognition Taskforce, I can attest to the respected position of the IB diploma at prestigious universities throughout North America."
Kim Bartlett, Director of Admissions, McGill University, Canada