



Albert Einstein High School International Baccalaureate Diploma Program

What is International Baccalaureate?

College-level rigor with High School level supports

The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program provides motivated students an opportunity to pursue college-level courses based on a global perspective. Through comprehensive curricula coupled with challenging, authentic assessments, the IB Program is committed to ensure that all students master the skills and knowledge that empower them to become critical and compassionate thinkers, lifelong learners and informed citizens. Albert Einstein's IB Program is an open-access IB program- there is no entrance exam. We offer both the IB Diploma Program, as well as the IB Academy.

IB Academy: An AEHS, school-based program recognizing a student's successful completion of three IB courses & exams.

IB Diploma Program (DP): A comprehensive, internationally-recognized program of study for 11th & 12th grade students. Students choose 1 course from each of the 6 disciplines, as well as completing the DP "core", comprised of creativity, activity, service experiences (CAS), the extended essay (EE), and theory of knowledge course (TOK). The IB Diploma is seen by colleges as the "gold standard" due to its rigorous and diverse coursework, as well as its focus on creating well-rounded students through the DP core.



Group 1: Language & Literature

- ◆ IB English HL

Group 2: Language Acquisition

- ◆ IB French ab initio, SL & HL
- ◆ IB Japanese ab initio
- ◆ IB Spanish ab initio, SL & HL

Group 3: Individuals & Societies

- ◆ IB History HL
- ◆ IB Global Politics SL

Group 4: Science

- ◆ IB Biology SL & HL
- ◆ IB Chemistry SL
- ◆ IB Environmental Systems & Societies SL
- ◆ IB Physics SL & HL
- ◆ IB Sports Exercise & Health Science SL

Group 5: Mathematics

- ◆ IB Math Studies SL
- ◆ IB Mathematics SL & HL

Group 6: Arts

- ◆ IB Theatre SL & HL
- ◆ IB Visual Arts SL & HL

IB Diploma Program Requirements:

- ✓ Course work and passing grades on examinations from six subject groups
- ✓ Completion of 150 hours of CAS (Creativity, Action and Service) experiences
- ✓ Completion of Extended Essay course (one semester), resulting in 4,000 word essay
- ✓ Completion of "Theory of Knowledge" (TOK) which consists of two semester courses-TOK I & TOK II



Differences between the IB Diploma Program & AP courses:

International Baccalaureate Program	Advance Placement Courses
Framework:	
Comprehensive program of study with the ability to choose individual courses within the 6 groups and Creativity, Action and Service, Extended Essay and TOK requirements	Individual coursework "a-la-carte"; no unifying core requirements
Courses are 1-year (Standard-level courses) or 2-year (Higher-level) starting in 11 th grade	Only 1-year courses that can be taken 9 th through 12 th grade
Assessments:	
IB scores (1-7) are a result of both internally-graded assessments (oral exams, laboratories, essays...) completed throughout the school year and externally-graded exams in May	AP scores (1-5) are a result of only externally –graded exams in May
External exams are primarily "authentic" and require critical thinking through short-response, case studies...	Exams are a mixture of multiple choice and short answer
Externally- graded exams occur over multiple days lasting between 45m– 2h15m	Externally- graded exams occur on a single day lasting between 2h-3h15m



Albert Einstein High School International Baccalaureate Diploma Program



Benefits of the IB Diploma Program:

IB students are more **engaged** in high school

A 2009 study compared the academic, emotional and social engagement of IB students against non-IB students in eight IB high schools, as well as non-IB students in a national sample. *“Across each of the domains of student engagement, IB students **rated their levels of engagement more highly than non-IB students.** This held true for both the targeted sample of eight schools, as well as the national sample.”*
On all measures IB students were more engaged in school than non-IB students.

A 2012 study of Chicago public schools interviewed Diploma Program (DP) alumni and found that **students reported they felt prepared** by the Diploma Program to succeed in college.
Students reported that they felt:

- ✓ **prepared** to succeed and excel in their coursework
- ✓ learned **academic behaviors** like work ethic, motivation, time management and help seeking that were sources of strength in the transition to college-level work
- ✓ had **strong academic skills**, especially related to **analytical writing**
- ✓ identified preparation in the IB program as **the source of their success** as college students.

IB students are **better prepared** for college

A 2009 study looked at the standards for seven Diploma Program courses and compared them to a set of standards for college-readiness. **Researchers found:**

- ✓ a **high degree of alignment** with college readiness standards in all subject areas
- ✓ many individual IB standards were **more advanced** than those required for success in entry-level college courses
- ✓ IB standards **address key cognitive strategies** (critical thinking, intellectual inquisitiveness and interpretation skills) that have been identified by college instructors as necessary for college success.

IB students are **more likely to be accepted** into universities or colleges

In a 2012 study of diverse alumni from IB programs in Chicago public schools, researchers from the University of Chicago found that, compared to a matched sample, DP students are more likely to enroll in college, attend a more selective college and stay enrolled in college. **This study suggests that students are not only going to better colleges in greater numbers, but are performing better once there.**

A 2011 study of almost 25,000 IB Diploma and certificate students found that IB students were more likely than the national average to **attend college full-time, with nearly 70% attending selective or more selective colleges.**

The average acceptance rate of IB students into university/college is **22% higher** than the average acceptance rate of the total population. The acceptance rate of IB students into Ivy League institutions (Princeton, Yale, Brown, Harvard, Columbia, Cornell, Dartmouth, University of Pennsylvania) is **between 3% and 13% higher** compared to the total population acceptance rate.

A 2010 study that looked at performance on IB exams and college GPA of over 1,500 IB students enrolled in the University of California system found that **IB students earned higher GPAs and graduated at higher rates** than a matched comparison group. This held across **all family income levels**. Performance in the Diploma Program was the **strongest predictor of college GPA**.

The 2011 study of IB students' experiences after high school found that IB students graduated from college at **higher rates**, with **81% of IB students graduating** within 6 years of enrolling full-time at a 4-year institution, compared to the national average of 57%.

IB students are **more likely to succeed and graduate** from universities or colleges

In 2011, a study of IB students in Florida who attended the University of Florida, looked at student performance in first college classes in seven subjects. The study found: **The higher the students' scores on IB subject exams, the better the grade earned in the first college course in that subject.**

Source: IBDP Graduate Destinations Survey 2011/12 conducted by i-graduate International Insight

Please contact Kim Becraft, AEHS IB & AP Coordinator, at Kimberly_M_Becraft@mcpsmd.org for more information.