

How the IB is supporting recognition globally for May 2021



What have the universities been informed about the May 2021 session?

- The IB will award grades using a dual assessment model, ; an exam and a non-exam route, depending on local government regulations.
- The IB will ensure that results are a fair reflection of student ability and remain valid and comparable.
- Eligible students will be awarded a Diploma (DP and CP), or Certificates.
- Students will be given a grade for each subject (1-7score).
- DP students will be given a grade for the core (0-3score).
- DP students will be given a total score out of 45.
- Transcripts for the two routes will be identical and will be sent to universities in the normal way.

The IB works closely with universities and education ministries globally to maintain and encourage the recognition of IB qualifications. During the COVID-19 pandemic we have continued to engage in on-going conversations across the world and have provided universities and ministries with regular updates including global webinars.

We know how important it is for students to be able to complete this milestone in their learner journey and move onto the next step such as studying at university. If students encounter difficulty around IB recognition with their chosen university, they should contact their School who can engage with the university on their behalf. If the School cannot resolve the issue then they should contact the IB for support, however, the IB cannot engage with universities where students have missed conditional offers.

How have universities responded?

We have confidence that the May 2021 results will be respected by universities, which is evidenced by our experience of the November 2020 session, which was also a dual route and very few problems were encountered at all.

We have received messages of support from a wide range of universities across the world.

Cornell University looks forward to welcoming many more new IB students this year. We've followed IBO's careful, ongoing plans for student safety and progress during COVID disruptions. We remain confident about IB rigor and adapted assessments, and we will continue to accept IB scores as accurate indications of students' preparation.

– Cornell University, USA

McGill University's Enrolment Services (Undergraduate Admissions) will continue to accept final IB results for our admitted IB students, regardless of whether the results were achieved by examination or by the non-examination route. As always, we will use the official final results to grant the advanced standing credits and exemptions for which a student may be eligible.

– McGill, Canada

The University of Warwick is mindful of the disruption and anxiety that many students have experienced over the past year; we confirm that we will happily accept IB results awarded in 2021 in the same way that we would in any other year.

– University of Warwick, UK

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Our University will continue to recognize the IB results (via both exam and non-exam routes) for the May 2021 session.

– Education University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

IE University relies on and trusts the International Baccalaureate Organization 2021 grading procedures with the two routes assuring reliability and equity guided by IB assessment principles.

– IE University, Spain

ESCP Business School is pleased to welcome IB students to the school. IB students have a strong profile and have been working hard in order to achieve their diplomas despite the current circumstances.

– ESCP Business School, France

SUNY Korea, as the first and most successful transnational higher education systems in Songdo International City of Korea, undoubtedly supports International Baccalaureate Organization's bold decision for the assessments in May 2021. We sincerely hope this would help young talents in world, no matter where they are, keep exploring greater educational opportunities for their success.

– State University of New York, South Korea