

Developing an IB recognition statement for your institution and prospective students in Australia



International Baccalaureate®
Baccalauréat International
Bachillerato Internacional

For over 40 years the International Baccalaureate (IB) has built a reputation for high-quality, challenging programmes of education that develop internationally minded young people who are well prepared for the challenges of life in the 21st century and able to contribute to creating a better, more peaceful world.

The IB Diploma Programme, for students aged 16 to 19, is an academically challenging and balanced programme of education that prepares students for success at university and life beyond. Students take courses in six different subject groups, maintaining both breadth and depth of study. In addition, three core elements—the extended essay, theory of knowledge and creativity, action, service—are compulsory and central to the philosophy of the programme.

As tertiary institutions in Australasia continue to respond to the growth of the IB, it has helped greatly to have a summary on the IB website of each tertiary institution's approach regarding the recognition of IB students' Diploma Programme qualifications. The process of developing the format for your IB recognition varies by institution, and the IB is eager to support you in establishing an appropriate statement that will attract IB Diploma Programme students interested in attending your institution.

We have prepared this simple guide to help you summarize or improve IB policies at your institution.

IB recognition statements have several components:

- an admissions statement that encourages IB students to apply
- details on the admissions requirements regarding subject prerequisites, minimum scores for entry to various courses and language proficiency
- special considerations for IB students, including scholarships or other opportunities
- other information relevant to the student's application for admission for both domestic and international students.

The information in the following table provides examples drawn from existing policies at other institutions and could be considered for use in the development of your own policy statement. These policies can be viewed by students and schools worldwide on our website, www.ibo.org/recognition.

Policy components

Suggested wording

I. Admissions statement

IB students need to know that your institution and its faculty understand what the IB diploma qualification is and that you seek and value what these students can bring to your campus. A statement on your admissions website and the IB website is a good place to start.

[University] extends a warm welcome to all International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme students and encourages you to submit your applications to begin your journey to become part of our student body of outstanding school captains, sportsmen and sportswomen, leaders in cultural and spiritual activities and more.

II. Admissions requirements

Determining the entry requirements for your university

Tertiary institutions have found that the IB Diploma Programme score is a reliable predictor of tertiary success.

Providing clear and up-to-date information on the entry requirements for your institution on your website will help IB students determine whether they should apply.

Admission to most university courses is based on general academic achievement determined from formal educational attainment or from an assessment of experience, achievements and non-formal study. Our course entry requirements vary and we publish our minimum entry requirement only, which is completion of the IB Diploma Programme with a minimum score of 24 points. Details of minimum scores, prerequisites, recommended and assumed knowledge applicable for each course can be found within the entries in the course catalogue at [website link or url].

III. English proficiency

Many tertiary institutions understand that most IB Diploma Programme students have completed their two years of studies using English as the language of instruction and assessment. Most IB Diploma Programme students have also undertaken an English literature-based course.

The requirement for these Diploma Programme students to complete an IELTS test to prove English proficiency is often waived regardless of the country where the Diploma Programme was completed.

Proof of English language proficiency must be demonstrated if the medium of instruction was not English OR completion of either English A1 or A2 at HL or SL was not undertaken as part of the Diploma Programme.

There is no need for students who have taken these Diploma Programme English courses to take other qualifications such as IELTS or TOEFL. Please go to [website url] for the full language policy.

IV. Special considerations

Scholarships

Tertiary institutions in Australasia and around the world award scholarships to outstanding students who show achievement in a variety of ways. An institution that provides access to scholarships to IB students has added a powerful incentive to attract and recruit high-calibre students who are ready for the challenges of the coursework and the transition to campus life.

[University] has one of the most generous academic scholarship programmes of any Australian university. In 2010, we will award up to 400 scholarships to high-achieving school leavers. Gap-year students can also apply for one of these prestigious scholarships, which range in value from AUD \$6,000 for the first year of study to AUD \$12,000 a year for up to five years.

Please visit the university website, [website url], for more information.

V. Credit, advanced placement and bonus schemes

Universities often offer incentives to students who have achieved a high level of success in rigorous, related senior secondary study in subjects directly related to the course being undertaken by the student.

Sometimes this is in the form of bonus points being added to the student's percentile rank or entry to second-year courses or honours courses.

[University] offers a mathematics/language other than English (LOTE) bonus points scheme, which is open to Diploma Programme students who meet the following requirements.

- *To be eligible for the mathematics bonus points, a Diploma Programme student must complete mathematics HL and achieve a minimum grade of 3.*
- *To be eligible for the LOTE bonus points, a Diploma Programme student must complete a group 2 second language course and achieve a minimum grade of 3 for a higher level (HL) subject or a minimum grade of 4 for a standard level (SL) subject.*

For more information please visit [website url].

VI. Other information

Domestic and international student admissions

The IB Diploma Programme is offered in 138 countries to over 115,000 students. These students have numerous choices globally for tertiary entry. Students complete their examinations in May or November so tertiary institutions can attract enrollments by offering multiple entry points for prospective international students.

Australian students apply for undergraduate courses through the Tertiary Admissions Centre or online via [website url]. More information on applying to our university is available at [website url].

If you are a non-Australian or New Zealand citizen studying the IB Diploma Programme overseas, you can apply directly to the university online or by a postal application. More information is available at [website url].

Please ensure that you arrange for your results transcript to be sent to the correct place. Domestic applicants should apply directly to the Tertiary Admissions Centre, and international applicants should apply to the university. The IB Diploma Programme coordinator in your school can process the transcript request via the request for results service.

Mid-year entry/multiple intakes

To allow IB Diploma Programme students to meet the deadlines for mid-year or tri-semester entry, universities may have to establish a process for accepting predicted IB grades.

Clear statements on the application process for both domestic and international students, with specific reference on the university website to IB Diploma Programme students, facilitate this process.

Students may commence study in either February (main intake) or July. Not all courses are available at all campuses or in all modes. Please refer to the student handbook at [website url] for course availability.

VI. Other information (continued)

Alignment of practice and philosophy

IB Diploma Programme students have engaged in a curriculum that emphasizes both breadth and depth, with engagement across all key learning areas. They have also completed a theory of knowledge course, a 4,000-word extended essay and at least 150 hours of creativity, action, service.

IB World Schools create a culture of intercultural understanding and international-mindedness and a learning environment that fosters the attributes of the IB learner profile.

Tertiary institutions that also value these characteristics and have programmes that celebrate diversity, include community service and volunteerism as part of their academic programmes and have interdisciplinary requirements are very popular with the IB diploma graduates who have been prepared for success in this environment.

University] has three programmes which may appeal to IB Diploma Programme graduates.

[Programme 1] is an award given when you graduate, recognizing your significant extra-curricular contribution to volunteering and student support work within the university and wider community. This three-part programme helps develop leadership, social responsibility and employability skills. More information is available at [website url].

[Programme 2] is an academically oriented, extra-curricular programme, structured around the themes of global leadership, cross-cultural communication and global connectedness. Over the course of your degree(s) it will enhance your leadership skills, international knowledge and intercultural awareness. More information is available at [website url].

[Programme 3] allows you, as a student (domestic or international), to broaden your horizons and realize your potential by travelling overseas to complete a trimester or year of your university degree at one of our partner institutions, which offer some of the highest quality educational opportunities worldwide. Employers value qualities such as communication, innovation and leadership gained through the exchange experience. More information is available at [website url].

www.ibo.org

View your current IB recognition statement and the statements of other tertiary institutions at www.ibo.org/recognition or email us at recognition@ibo.org.