



THE
I N T E R N A T I O N A L
SCHOOL OF TEXAS

IST Diploma Program & Graduation Guide

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www.istexas.org

WELCOME TO THE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME AT IST

A rigorous, supportive, globally minded final two years of high school.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL



Your child's final two years of high school should do more than finish requirements. They should spark curiosity, build strength of character, and prepare them to thrive in a complex world.

At IST, the Diploma Programme develops disciplined thinking, clear communication, intellectual honesty, independence, and depth across disciplines. Whether students pursue the full IB Diploma or complete IST's diploma pathway, the learning experience is challenging, meaningful, and future-facing.

This guide will help you understand how our programme works at IST and how it supports your child's growth and next steps.

Dr. David Watson, Head of School

High School Faculty Spotlight

Average of 18+ years of teaching experience. 100% hold bachelor's degrees; 72% hold graduate-level degrees; 18% hold PhDs.

Accreditations and Authorizations

IB: International Baccalaureate Organization

TAAPS: Texas Alliance of Accredited Private Schools



WHAT THIS GUIDE WILL HELP YOU SEE

- ✓ how the DP is structured at IST
- ✓ what students study and how assessment works
- ✓ how diploma pathways work at IST
- ✓ how college counseling and planning are supported
- ✓ what opportunities the DP can open after high school



WHY IST DP?

More than a diploma. A foundation for life.

The final two years of high school are the capstone of a fully aligned IB journey. DP at IST challenges students to think deeply, work independently, and communicate with purpose—habits that matter long after graduation.

DP learning develops the skills and mindsets students need for university success and for a lifetime of learning, leadership, and responsible action in a complex world.



THINK DEEPLY

Students learn to ask meaningful questions, analyze information, and make well-reasoned judgments.

- Build claims with evidence
- Consider multiple perspectives
- Apply knowledge in new contexts
- Reflect and refine thinking



WORK INDEPENDENTLY

Students take ownership of their learning, manage complex work, and persevere through challenge.

- Plan and manage long-term work
- Conduct in-depth research
- Seek and use feedback
- Persevere through challenge



COMMUNICATE WITH PURPOSE

Students express ideas with clarity, listen actively, and collaborate to solve problems and create impact.

- Write with structure and clarity
- Speak and present confidently
- Collaborate productively
- Communicate across cultures



A WORLD OF OPPORTUNITY

DP prepares students to thrive at university and beyond by building the knowledge, skills, and character to make a positive difference—locally and globally.

WHO THRIVES IN DP?

DP is not about being the smartest student in the room. It's about being the kind of learner who is:



CURIOUS

I ask questions and want to understand more.



COMFORTABLE WITH COMPLEXITY

I enjoy wrestling with challenging ideas and problems.



OPEN TO FEEDBACK

I listen, learn, and improve.



CONSISTENT

I show up, manage my time, and follow through.



REFLECTIVE

I think about my learning and adjust my approach.



PREPARED FOR WHAT'S NEXT

DP students graduate with more than subject knowledge. They leave IST with research skills, critical thinking, communication abilities, and resilience to thrive in university and beyond.



READY FOR UNIVERSITY

- ✓ Ready for university-level study
- ✓ Able to learn independently
- ✓ Prepared to lead with empathy and integrity
- ✓ Equipped to contribute in a global society



A TRANSFORMATIVE JOURNEY

DP at IST is more than a diploma. It's a transformative learning journey that develops capable, compassionate, and principled young people.

ONE DP EXPERIENCE. TWO DIPLOMA PATHWAYS.

At IST, all DP students learn in the same rigorous classes with the same high expectations.

The credential pathway you choose determines which final IB requirements and assessments you complete.



**SAME LEARNING.
SAME STANDARDS.**

Whether students pursue the full IB Diploma or the IST Diploma, they benefit from the full power of DP learning—deep inquiry, independent thinking, and global perspective.



IST DIPLOMA

Students complete all DP subjects and all DP Core elements while meeting IST graduation requirements. The IST Diploma is awarded by IST.

- ✓ Six DP subjects (3 HL + 3 SL)
- ✓ Theory of Knowledge (TOK)
- ✓ Extended Essay (EE) – modified workload
- ✓ Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)



A rigorous DP experience with full participation in all IB subjects and Core elements.



FULL IB DIPLOMA

Students complete all DP subjects and the DP Core elements in their full IB form, along with all required IB assessment components.

- ✓ Six DP subjects (3 HL + 3 SL)
- ✓ Theory of Knowledge (TOK)
- ✓ Extended Essay (EE) – full 4,000-word requirement
- ✓ Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)
- ✓ All required IB assessment components



A globally recognized credential that demonstrates academic breadth, depth, and integrity.



FULL IB DIPLOMA AWARD CONDITIONS

To earn the IB Diploma, students must:

- ✓ Complete six DP subjects (3 HL + 3 SL)
- ✓ Earn at least 24 total points
- ✓ Earn a minimum of 12 points across HL subjects
- ✓ Satisfactorily complete TOK and EE
- ✓ Satisfactorily complete CAS
- ✓ Meet all subject and assessment requirements



Excellence across the program—academically, personally, and ethically.



THIS GUIDE SHOWS WHAT DP AT IST LOOKS LIKE.

You'll find the key requirements, how scores and grades work, important timelines, and how we support students every step of the way.



PLAN AHEAD

Understanding the DP now helps families make informed choices and protect the milestones that matter most.



SUPPORT EVERY STEP

From academic advising to university planning, IST is here to help students thrive in DP and beyond.



KEY TO KNOW

All students at IST take the same DP courses and Core elements. The path you choose determines how you complete the requirements to receive your final credential.



HOW DP WORKS AT IST THE COMPLETE PICTURE.

The Diploma Programme at IST is more than six subjects. It is a unified experience built on academic depth, intellectual challenge, and personal growth.

All DP students take the same subjects and complete the same Core elements. What makes DP distinctive is the way these pieces work together.

SIX DP SUBJECTS



- ✓ All students choose 3 HL and 3 SL subjects. HL subjects involve greater depth and extend learning at a more advanced level.

THE DP CORE



THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE (TOK)

Students explore how knowledge is constructed and used across disciplines and perspectives. TOK develops critical thinking, open-mindedness, and the ability to question with clarity.



EXTENDED ESSAY (EE)

An independent research project of up to 4,000 words where students investigate a topic of personal interest. The EE builds research skills, academic writing, and self-management.



CREATIVITY, ACTIVITY, SERVICE (CAS)

Students engage in meaningful experiences that inspire creativity, promote wellbeing, and develop a sense of responsibility in the local and global community.

HOW IT ALL WORKS TOGETHER



ALL PARTS MATTER.

- ✓ The strength of DP is in how these pieces work together—inside and outside the classroom, across two years of purposeful learning.



IST SUPPORTS THE JOURNEY

- ✓ Expert teachers who know DP inside and out
- ✓ Academic advising and goal setting from DP1 to DP2
- ✓ Dedicated time for Core work, feedback, and revision
- ✓ A culture of kindness, high standards, and global-mindedness
- ✓ Families as partners in the process



DP at IST is a two-year journey of challenge and growth—designed to shape confident thinkers, effective communicators, and responsible leaders ready for whatever comes next.

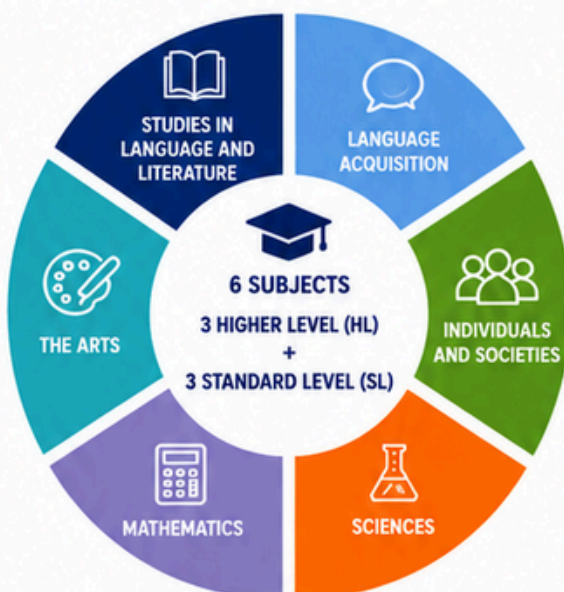
THE SIX DP SUBJECTS

A BALANCED AND INTENTIONAL CHOICE.

The IB Diploma Programme is built on academic breadth and depth. Students study six subjects chosen from six subject groups.

At IST, all students take three subjects at Higher Level (HL) and three subjects at Standard Level (SL). HL courses involve greater depth, extended learning, and additional assessment.

This combination ensures students graduate with both well-rounded understanding and the specialized expertise universities value most.



✓ All students choose 3 HL and 3 SL subjects across the six groups.

This structure prepares students for university success in any field.

THE SIX SUBJECT GROUPS

 STUDIES IN LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE Develop advanced reading, analysis, interpretation, and critical writing skills through close study of texts from a variety of contexts and genres. EXAMPLES: English A: Literature	 LANGUAGE ACQUISITION Build proficiency in an additional language through communication, culture, and connections that support global understanding. EXAMPLES: Spanish B, Spanish ab initio	 INDIVIDUALS AND SOCIETIES Investigate human behavior, history, economics, politics, and the forces that shape individuals, communities, and nations. EXAMPLES: History, Psychology	 SCIENCES Explore the natural world through inquiry, research, and scientific thinking in laboratory and real-world contexts. EXAMPLES: Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Systems and Societies	 MATHEMATICS Develop logical thinking, problem-solving, and quantitative reasoning for a wide range of academic and career pathways. EXAMPLES: Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches	 THE ARTS Engage in creative processes that build technique, expression, and critical analysis through artistic practice and exploration. EXAMPLES: Visual Arts
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LEVELS OF STUDY: HL AND SL



HIGHER LEVEL (HL)

More in-depth study with greater content, complexity, and additional assessment. Students take 3 HL subjects.



STANDARD LEVEL (SL)

Broad, balanced study of essential concepts and skills. Students take 3 SL subjects.



CHOOSING YOUR SIX

- ✓ Choose subjects you enjoy and are motivated to study.
- ✓ Consider your strengths and areas for growth.
- ✓ Think about future interests, not just current ones.
- ✓ Seek guidance from teachers, academic advisors, and college counselors.
- ✓ Stay open—interests can evolve, and so can your plan.



A thoughtful combination of subjects helps students make connections, build expertise, and keep doors open for university admission and future opportunities.

TWO YEARS. PURPOSEFULLY BUILT.

A CLEAR JOURNEY THROUGH THE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

The DP is a two-year course of study that prepares students for university and beyond. Each stage builds on the last, developing knowledge, skills, and confidence every step of the way.

DP1: BUILD



BUILD STRONG FOUNDATIONS

Students establish routines, develop disciplinary understanding, and strengthen the skills needed for success in DP2 and university.



SUBJECT FOUNDATIONS

Develop core knowledge and approaches to learning across all DP subjects.



SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

Build academic writing, research, time management, and analytical thinking.



CORE COMPONENTS BEGIN

Engage in TOK discussions, begin CAS experiences, and start the EE research process.



DEPTH AND CHALLENGE

Take on Higher Level courses, learn new concepts, and develop independence.



ASSESSMENT FAMILIARITY

Understand internal assessments, rubrics, and feedback to improve and grow.

SUMMER: SUSTAIN



KEEP LEARNING MOVING FORWARD

Summer is an opportunity to make steady progress, stay curious, and prepare for a strong start to DP2.



EE PROGRESS

Advance the Extended Essay with reading, research, and early writing.



READ AND EXPLORE

Engage in assigned reading, independent research, and subject exploration.



CAS CONTINUITY

Continue meaningful CAS experiences and personal growth.



PREPARE FOR DP2

Reflect, plan, and set goals for a successful and confident second year.

DP2: DEMONSTRATE



DEMONSTRATE LEARNING AND IMPACT

Students apply their learning, complete major assessments, and demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and character of IB Diploma graduates.



INTERNAL ASSESSMENTS

Complete IAs in all relevant subjects, applying skills and subject expertise.



EXTENDED ESSAY COMPLETION

Finalize the EE, a significant independent research project of up to 4,000 words.



TOK & CAS IN ACTION

Synthesize learning in TOK and show sustained, meaningful CAS engagement.



LANGUAGE ORALS

Demonstrate communication skills through required language assessments.



PREPARE AND APPLY

Take mock exams, prepare university applications, and request recommendations.



FINAL IB EXAMS

Complete final IB examinations and earn the IB Diploma.



TWO YEARS. ONE PURPOSE.

DP1 builds the foundation. The summer sustains momentum. DP2 demonstrates growth and achievement.

Together, these stages prepare students for university, careers, and a lifetime of impact.

TWO SYSTEMS. TWO PURPOSES.

UNDERSTANDING IST GRADES AND IB RESULTS

IST uses two different systems to describe student achievement.

They serve different purposes, but both are important.

IST COURSE GRADES

These communicate ongoing school achievement during the course.

USED FOR



Progress Reports



Report Cards



IST Transcript



Monitoring Growth

BUILT FROM WORK THROUGHOUT THE YEAR



Essays



Tests



Labs & Investigations



Studio Work



Projects



Presentations



Problem Solving



Classwork



Semester Assessments

Teachers assess learning throughout the course using IB-aligned expectations and provide feedback to support ongoing improvement.

OFFICIAL IB SUBJECT SCORES

These are the student's official IB results at the end of the course.

1–7

7 = Highest

CALCULATED FROM REQUIRED IB COMPONENTS



INTERNAL ASSESSMENTS

Major assessed coursework completed during the course.

Teacher assessed using IB requirements and externally moderated by the IB where applicable.



EXTERNAL ASSESSMENTS

IB examinations and/or externally assessed components.

Marked externally by IB examiners.

These components together produce the official IB subject score that is reported by the IB.

AN IST COURSE GRADE AND AN IB SUBJECT SCORE ARE NOT THE SAME NUMBER.



Both matter. They simply serve different purposes.

One communicates ongoing school achievement.

The other becomes the official IB result.



ACADEMIC INTEGRITY MATTERS

Official IB work must be authentic.

IST explicitly teaches:

- appropriate collaboration
- source use and citation
- acceptable teacher support
- authenticity of submitted work
- proper acknowledgment
- academic honesty

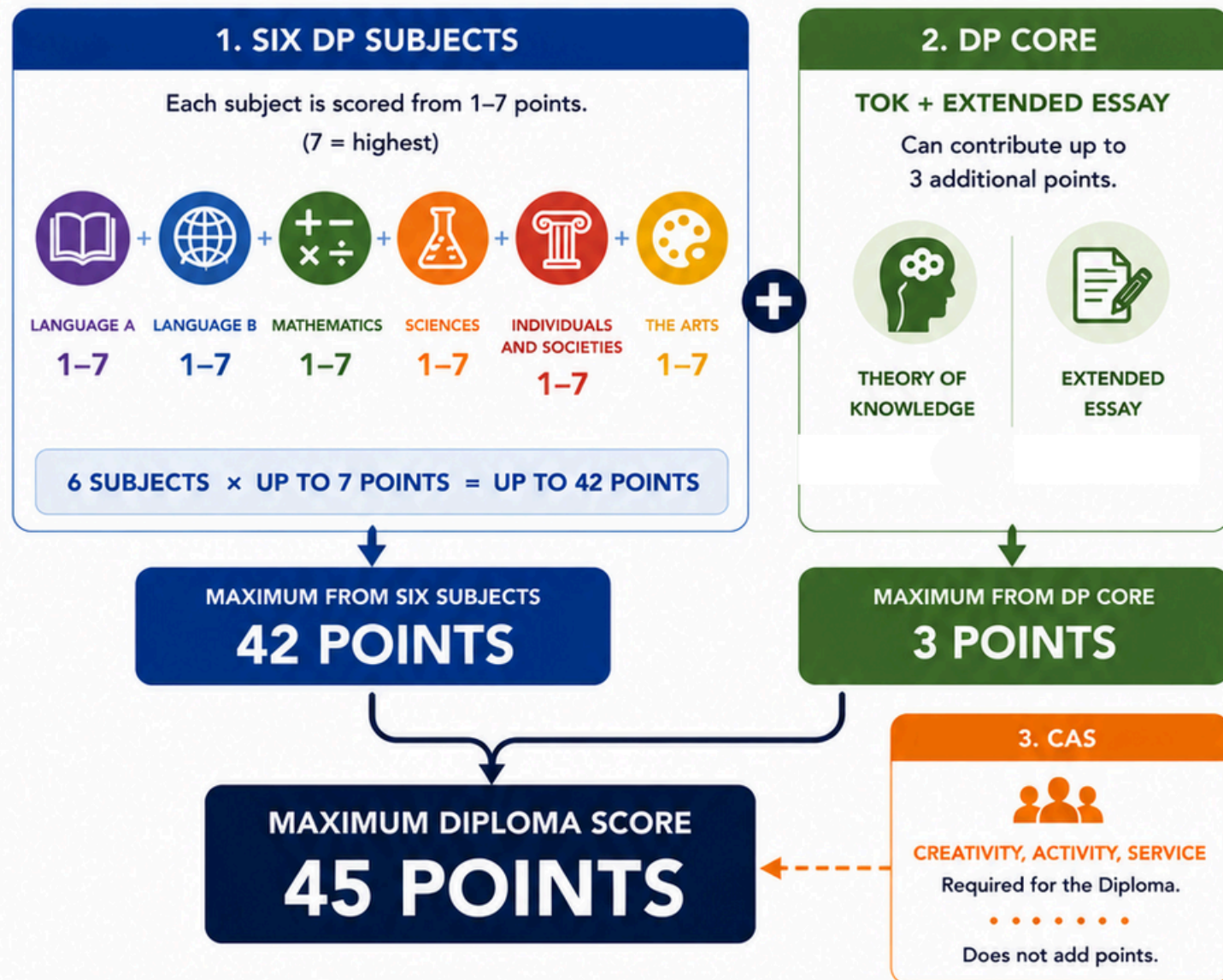


Serious academic misconduct can affect official IB results and may impact Diploma eligibility.

FROM SIX SUBJECTS TO 45 POINTS

HOW THE IB DIPLOMA SCORE IS BUILT

The IB Diploma score is the total of your six subject scores plus the contribution from TOK and the Extended Essay.



IMPORTANT TO REMEMBER

24 points is the general minimum total score threshold. Reaching 24 does not automatically guarantee the IB Diploma. All Diploma award conditions must also be met.

- ✓ Minimum total score of 24 points
- ✓ Minimum subject score requirements
- ✓ TOK and Extended Essay requirements
- ✓ CAS requirements
- ✓ No more than the allowed number of low scores



THE DIPLOMA IS MORE THAN A SCORE.

It represents a balanced education, academic challenge, independent thinking, and a commitment to learning that prepares you for university and life beyond.



HOW IST REPORTS DP ACHIEVEMENT

UNDERSTANDING OUR TRANSCRIPT SCALE

IST reports DP achievement using the IB 1–7 scale and provides approximate U.S. letter-grade and GPA equivalents for transcript readability.



IMPORTANT: THESE ARE IST TRANSCRIPT APPROXIMATIONS.

They are not IB grade boundaries and should not be interpreted as the way the IB assigns official 1–7 subject scores.

IB GRADE	DESCRIPTOR	APPROX. %	LETTER	APPROX. GPA
7	Excellent	96–100%	A+	4.0
6	Very Good	90–95%	A– / A	3.7
5	Good	83–89%	B / B+	3.3
4	Satisfactory	76–82%	C / C+ / B–	2.7
3	Mediocre	70–75%	D	2.0
2	Poor	60–69%	F	1.0
1	Very Poor	<59%	F	0.0



IST REPORTING

The scale helps make DP achievement understandable on IST report cards and transcripts.



IB GRADE BOUNDARIES

Official IB grade boundaries vary by subject and by examination session. They are not fixed percentages.



UNIVERSITY INTERPRETATION

Universities apply their own admission, credit, and placement policies when interpreting official IB results.



KEEP THE TWO SYSTEMS SEPARATE

IST course grades communicate ongoing school achievement. Official IB subject scores are produced separately from the required IB assessment components and reported on the IB 1–7 scale.



The approximate percentage, letter-grade, and GPA ranges above exist only to make IST transcript reporting readable within a U.S. context.

DP EXAMS & RESULTS TIMELINE

KNOW THE KEY DATES. PLAN AHEAD.

The Diploma Programme has a clear cycle. Students prepare throughout the year, complete assessments and exams in May of their final year, and receive results in July.

IB EXAMINATION WINDOW — APRIL 25–MAY 19, 2028 (ESTIMATED DATE RANGE)

APRIL

25
TUE

26
WED

27
THU

28
FRI

29
SAT

30
SUN

1
MON

2
TUE

...

18
THU

19
FRI

MAY



BEFORE EXAMS

Internal assessments (IAs), mock exams, and course work must be completed by IB deadlines. These components cannot be made up if missed.



EXAMINATIONS

Written exams are scheduled across this window, by subject and level. Students are expected to be present and prepared for every exam.



LAST EXAM DAY

May 19, 2028
(Friday)

Mathematics AI HL
Paper 3 is scheduled
on this day.



The exam schedule is set by the IB and cannot be changed for individual students. Attendance at all exams and required assessments is mandatory.

RESULTS TIMELINE



JUNE 2028

IB marks written exams. Schools verify internal assessments and submit final grades.



EARLY JULY 2028

IB results are finalized.



JULY 6, 2028 (EXPECTED)

Results are released to students. You will receive your scores.



MOCK EXAMS

Mock exams take place in the spring before final exams. They simulate real conditions and help you build confidence and exam skills.



INTERNAL ASSESSMENTS (IAs)

IAs are completed during the course under IB deadlines. They are a required part of your final subject score and cannot be made up.



WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Plan ahead and stay organized.
- Keep track of all deadlines.
- Attend mock exams seriously.
- Use IST supports early and often.
- Ask for help when you need it.



WELL-BEING MATTERS

Balance, rest, and routines help your best thinking show up when it counts most. Take care of yourself and reach out when you need support.



ASSESSMENTS MATTER

IAs, mock exams, and final exams all contribute to your achievement. Missing required components and impact your final scores.

REMEMBER:

- ✓ All assessments have deadlines.
- ✓ Exams cannot be rescheduled.
- ✓ Be present, prepared, and on time.
- ✓ Do your best—every step counts.



STAY ENGAGED. FINISH STRONG.

Success in the DP is built over time. Your consistent effort throughout the two years prepares you for exam success—and for what comes next.

You've got this.
We're here to
support you.



COLLEGE COUNSELING: YOUR FOUR-YEAR JOURNEY

SUPPORT, GUIDANCE, AND OPPORTUNITY AT EVERY STEP

College counseling at IST is a partnership. We walk alongside students and families for four years, helping students discover possibilities, make informed choices, and present their best selves to the world.

OUR PHILOSOPHY



We believe every student has a unique path. Our role is to help students understand their strengths, explore their options, and pursue a future that fits who they are and who they want to become.

OUR APPROACH

- ✓ Student-centered
- ✓ Individualized and flexible
- ✓ Values-driven
- ✓ Research-informed
- ✓ Collaborative

A FOUR-YEAR OVERVIEW

9 EXPLORE



- Understand graduation requirements, GPA, and transcripts
- Begin exploring interests, strengths, values, and possible areas of study
- Learn how course selection can affect future college options
- Explore extracurricular opportunities and meaningful involvement
- Develop organization, responsibility, and self-advocacy

10 PLAN



- Deepen academic and extracurricular commitments
- Explore careers, majors, colleges, and programs
- Take the PSAT in October and use results to shape a testing plan
- Learn admission factors and what makes an application compelling
- Develop a purposeful summer plan

11 PREPARE



- Connect interests, IB experiences, majors, and possible careers
- Research colleges and identify likely, target, and reach schools
- Take the PSAT in October and the SAT and/or ACT as needed
- Develop a résumé and begin essays and application planning
- Meet with family and counselor to discuss goals, priorities, and affordability

12 APPLY & DECIDE



- Finalize the college list and individualized application timeline
- Complete applications, supplements, and required academic records
- Counselor coordinates transcripts, school forms, recommendations, and required materials
- Evaluate admission and financial-aid offers
- Prepare for the transition to college



FAMILIES ARE PARTNERS

We keep families informed and involved every step of the way. Clear communication, timely information, and open conversations help students thrive.

TESTING: A STRATEGIC PLAN

9TH GRADE

Unofficial Practice PSAT

Familiarity and baseline

10TH GRADE

PSAT in October

Feedback and testing plan

11TH GRADE

PSAT in October + SAT and/or ACT

College readiness and planning

12TH GRADE

SAT and/or ACT if still needed

As appropriate for student goals and college policies



Students should take the SAT and/or ACT on a weekend testing date that best fits their individual testing plan and family calendar. College counseling helps students determine an appropriate timeline based on goals, college list, and testing policies.



RESOURCES & OPPORTUNITIES

- ✓ Summer programs and enrichment opportunities
- ✓ Extracurricular, leadership, service, and employment opportunities
- ✓ College and university representatives visiting campus
- ✓ College fairs and information sessions
- ✓ Local and national scholarship opportunities
- ✓ Parent education workshops
- ✓ Standardized test-preparation resources
- ✓ College research and planning tools
- ✓ Financial-aid and affordability resources



APPLICATION SUPPORT

- ✓ Essay brainstorming and review
- ✓ Résumé development
- ✓ Teacher recommendation guidance
- ✓ Interview preparation
- ✓ Application strategy and timeline support
- ✓ Help with school forms, transcripts, and required materials



OUR GOAL

Our goal is not simply to help students get into college. It is to help students know themselves, understand their options, advocate for themselves, and make thoughtful decisions about their future. By graduation, students should be able to articulate who they are, what they value, what they hope to pursue, and why the path they have chosen is a good fit for them.

Reflective, curious, open-minded, and principled students take ownership of their future.



ADMISSIONS ADVANTAGE & COLLEGE SUCCESS



How the IB Diploma strengthens opportunities after high school

Universities often value the IB Diploma not only for credit or placement, but also for the habits of mind it develops. Strong IB students are often recognized for readiness, resilience, and academic independence.



Families should always verify current admissions, scholarship, credit, and placement policies with each target university and intended major.



1 UNIVERSITIES THAT ACTIVELY FAVOR DP GRADUATES

At many universities, the Diploma can strengthen admission chances and open scholarship opportunities.



Admissions advantage

Admission rates for IB Diploma students at Ivy League schools can be as much as **18% higher** compared with the general applicant pool. The effect can be even stronger—around **22% higher**—for other top-tier universities outside the Ivy League.



Scholarship examples

Examples of universities with scholarships specifically designated for IB DP graduates include Southern Methodist University (SMU), Florida State University (FSU), University of Oregon (UO), Oregon State University (OSU), College of Idaho, University of Arizona (UA), University of Rochester, Illinois State University, Mississippi State University, Drury University, University of Calgary, and University of Alberta.

These examples show universities that actively recruit and recognize IB students beyond credit alone.



2 COLLEGE SUCCESS OUTCOMES

IB DP graduates often persist and succeed in college at stronger rates than national averages.

Outcome Metric	IB DP Graduates	National Average
Immediate College Enrollment	82%	66%
Persistence into Year 2	88%	80%
4-Year Graduation Rate	62% (DP programme participants) / 74% (DP diploma recipients)	41%

- IB DP graduates enroll and persist in college at stronger rates than the national average.
- They are more likely to graduate within four years—especially students who complete the full diploma.
- Nearly half attend highly selective colleges.



3 ACADEMIC PREPAREDNESS



Research findings

A University of California study found IB students earned higher college GPAs and graduated at higher rates than peers.



What universities notice

Data from the University of Oregon Honors shows IB students strongly outperform in persistence and adaptation—especially in time management, workload resilience, and taking ownership of learning.



4 WHY THE DIPLOMA STANDS OUT



deep content mastery



strong academic writing



high-level problem solving



research competence



the ability to manage sustained deadlines

Even when credit policies differ, the IB Diploma consistently signals readiness for demanding academic environments.



HOW IST COLLEGE COUNSELING HELPS

- research university recognition policies
- align DP choices to postsecondary goals
- build balanced college lists
- support thoughtful planning and decision-making



UNIVERSITY RECOGNITION, CREDIT & PLACEMENT

How the IB Diploma can open doors after high school

Universities recognize the strength of the IB Diploma in different ways. Some offer generous course credit, some emphasize advanced placement, and some value the Diploma most strongly in admissions.



Families should always verify current credit, placement, scholarship, and admissions policies with each target university and intended major.



Save time and money.

1 UNIVERSITIES WITH GENEROUS CREDIT

The IB Diploma can mean time and tuition savings.

- **UT Austin, Texas A&M, University of Houston** — Texas state law allows up to 24 credits.
- **UCLA and other UC schools** — HL scores of 5–7 may earn up to 30 credits.
- **University of Michigan, University of Virginia** — HL scores may earn 24–28 credits.
- **University of Colorado Boulder and Colorado State** — Full IB Diploma may earn 24 credits.
- **Iowa State, BYU, BYU–Hawaii, Utah Valley University** — generous credit for HL scores of 5–7.
- **Western Oregon University** — an IB Diploma score of 30+ may grant guaranteed admission, sophomore standing, honors program entry, priority housing, and study abroad opportunities.
- **College of Idaho** — an IB Diploma score of 28+ may earn preferred admission, 30 credits, and merit scholarships up to \$11,000 per year.



2 UNIVERSITIES WITH STRONG RECOGNITION

Many universities grant meaningful credit, often about a semester, though sometimes with subject caps.

- **USC** — up to 20 credits for a strong Diploma.
- **Boston University and NYU** — up to 32 credits for strong HL scores.
- **Pepperdine, University of San Diego, University of Illinois, and University of Houston** — HL scores of 5–7 may count toward major or minor requirements.

IB Diploma students can often shorten their degree path while also strengthening their admissions profile.



Strong for admissions. Placement is possible.

3 UNIVERSITIES WITH PLACEMENT EMPHASIS

At highly selective universities, IB often carries strong admissions value even when formal credit is limited.

- **Brown University** — HL scores may allow placement; credit is rare.
- **University of Chicago** — very limited credit, but the IB Diploma strengthens the admissions profile.
- **Duke University** — some HL 6–7 scores may be recognized for international placement credit.
- **Stanford University** — limited credit; HL 7s may allow placement into advanced courses.
- **Princeton University** — no degree credit; departmental placement may be possible.
- **MIT** — HL 7s in Math or Physics may allow advanced placement, but not formal credit.
- **Harvard University** — no credit, but strong IB performance may allow placement out of some introductory courses.
- **Columbia University** — no official credit, but the IB Diploma is regarded as one of the strongest academic programs for admissions.
- **Johns Hopkins University** — limited IB credit, but IB is widely used for placement into advanced courses.
- **Auburn University** — HL 5–7 may earn some course credit; policy varies by department.

Even when extra credits are limited, the Diploma signals readiness for rigorous academic environments.



WHAT UNIVERSITIES SEE IN IB STUDENTS



deep content mastery



strong academic writing



high-level problem solving



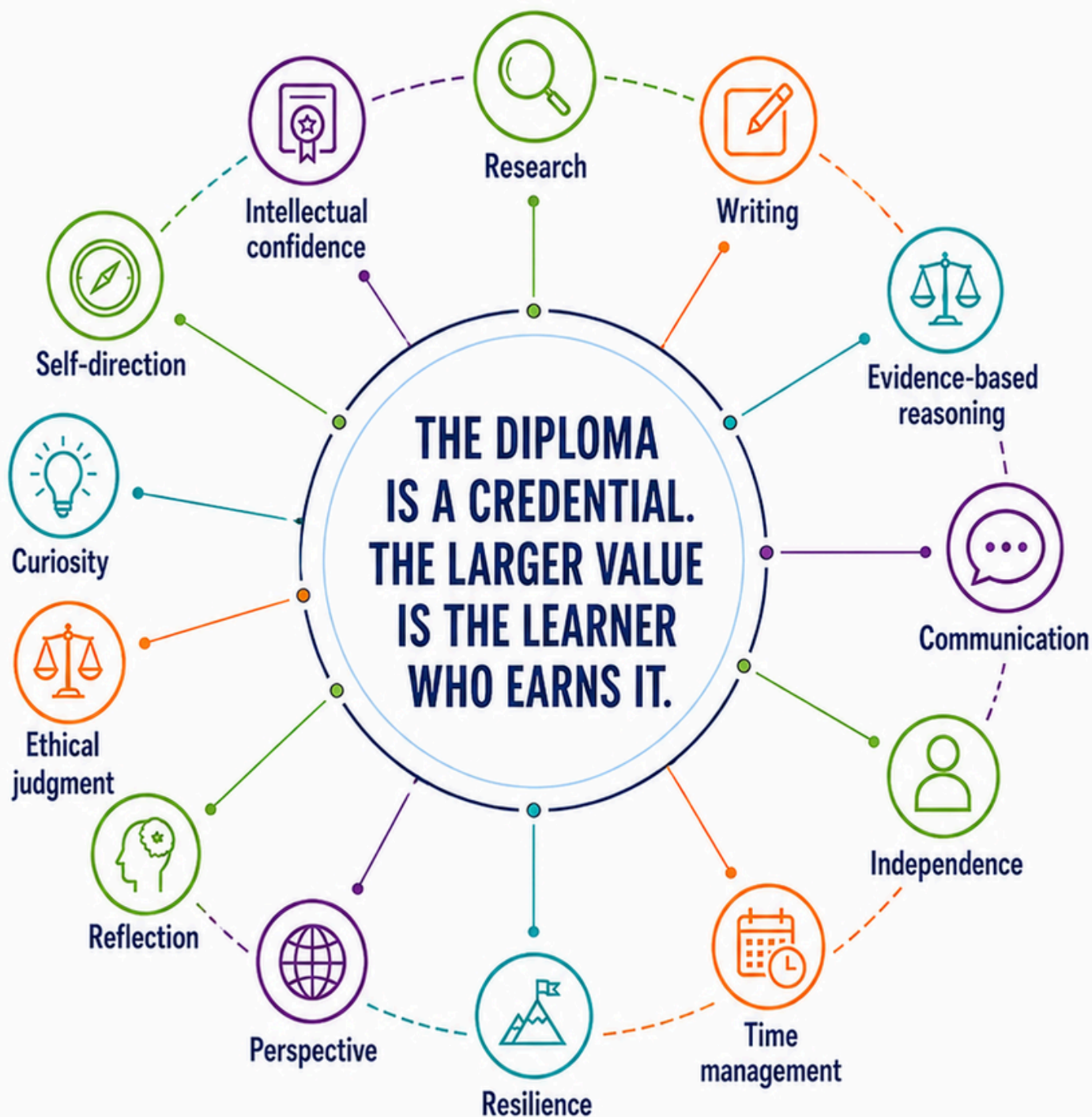
research competence



the ability to perform under sustained deadlines

WHAT STUDENTS CARRY WITH THEM

Beyond the diploma, a lasting way of learning and being.



These are the habits of mind and character students build through the Diploma Programme—qualities that continue long after the programme itself is complete.

Ready for university. | Ready to keep learning. | Ready for a complex world.