

"IB and College Admission: What you need to know and how best to prepare"

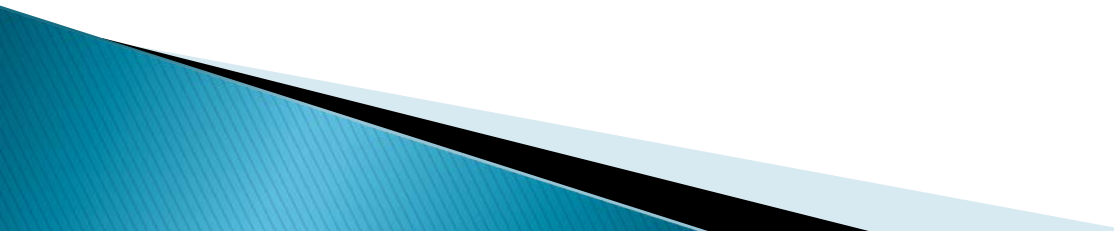
Alexis Park and Kim Morrow
LHS Counselors

Why IB?

What's your ultimate goal?

- ▶ Rigorous college prep curriculum?
 - Global perspective, critical thinking, strong study skills

 - ▶ College credit?

 - ▶ Both?
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IB and College Admission

Participating in the IB Program does not guarantee admission...however... it can help.

IB and College Admission

- ▶ Highest rated factors in the admission decision as stated in the 2015 State of Admission Report/NACAC:
 1. Grades in College Prep Courses /79%
 2. Grades in All Courses / 60.3%
 3. Strength of curriculum/60.2%
 4. Admission Test Scores (SAT, ACT) /55.7%

- ❖ In 10th place, out of 16 factors evaluated, was AP/IB test scores with a 7% rating.

IB and College Admission

When broken down to colleges who accept less than 50% of applicants, the percentages shift to:

1. Grades in college prep courses / 96%
2. Strength of curriculum / 94%

24% judged AP/IB test scores as considerably important.

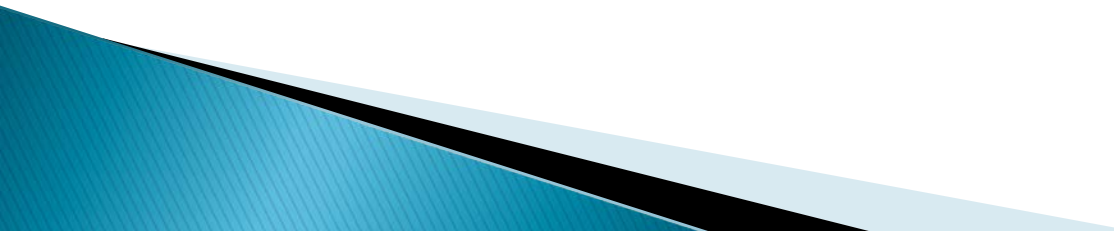


IB and College Admission

“Among highly competitive colleges, it is a universal practice to factor International Baccalaureate coursework in assessing the strength of curricula, but there are no absolutes when it comes to weighing the IB as a single factor in an admission decision.”

William T. Conley
VP for Enrollment Management
Bucknell University

What you need to know

- ▶ The average acceptance rate of IB students into university/college is 22 percentage points higher than the average acceptance rate of the total population.
 - ▶ The acceptance rate of IB Students into Ivy League institutions is between 3 and 13 percentage points higher compared to the total population acceptance rate.
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Entry requirements and application process

Acceptance rates for the 20 most popular institutions among survey respondents

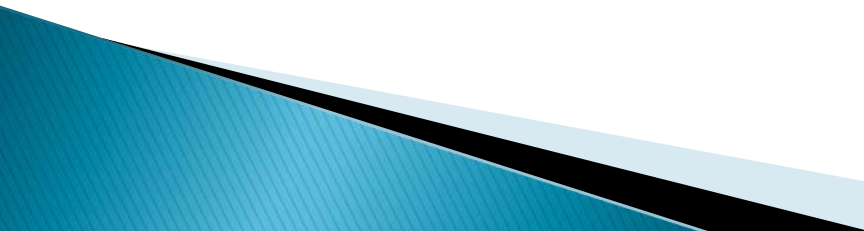
www.i-graduate.org

University or college	IB candidates acceptance rate	Total population acceptance rate	IB candidates versus total population
University of Florida	82%	42%	+40%
Florida State University	92%	60%	+32%
Brown University	18%	9%	+9%
Stanford University	15%	7%	+8%
Columbia University	13%	9%	+4%
University of California - Berkeley	58%	26%	+32%
Harvard University	10%	7%	+3%
New York University	57%	30%	+27%
University of Michigan - Ann Arbor	71%	51%	+20%
University of Miami	72%	30%	+42%
Cornell University	31%	18%	+13%
Duke University	28%	16%	+12%
University of Pennsylvania	24%	14%	+10%
Yale University	18%	7%	+11%
University of Central Florida	90%	47%	+43%
Boston University	70%	58%	+12%
University of California - Los Angeles	48%	23%	+25%
University of Virginia	64%	32%	+32%
UNC Chapel Hill	63%	32%	+31%
Princeton University	16%	8%	+8%

Let's talk about those Ivies...

- ▶ As shown on the previous slide, competition is fierce
 - the lowest acceptance rates for IB and total population
- ▶ Many factors contributing to low rates
 - Increasing number of applications for the same number of spots (more U.S. students; more international apps; ease of online application)
- ▶ Don't succumb to Ivy fever—your student doesn't have to go to an Ivy to be successful
- ▶ Books that might broaden your perspective:
 - *Where You Go Is Not Who You'll Be* (Frank Bruni)
 - *Looking Beyond the Ivy League* (Loren Pope)
 - *Colleges That Change Lives* (Loren Pope)

If you still see Ivy in your student's future...

- ▶ Maintain the most rigorous IB course selections (HL in core classes)
 - ▶ Earn exceptional grades
 - ▶ Strong test scores
 - ▶ Strong extracurricular activities
 - Sincere interest
 - Leadership role
 - Depth not breadth
 - How are you using your skill?
 - ▶ Diverse college list: Realistic *and* Reach
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How Universities View the IB Diploma Program

“A transcript that reveals a student’s enrollment in International Baccalaureate courses serves notice to the admissions officer that the applicant is someone who accepts rather than avoids educational challenges. Further, a successful IB student will enroll at Michigan with some advantages over students who have taken less intensive programs...Unquestionably, a school that graduates each year a number of students with IB diplomas has demonstrated its commitment to high educational standards and that commitment will serve to influence admissions decisions at the University of Michigan.”

University of Michigan

Cliff Sjogren

former Director of Admissions

How Universities View the IB Diploma Program

"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."

Duke University
Christoph Guttentag
Director of Undergrad
Admissions

How Universities View the IB Diploma Program

“Send us prepared students a la IB. . . It is the ‘best’ high school prep curriculum an American school can offer.”

MIT

Marilee Jones

Former Director of

Undergrad Admission

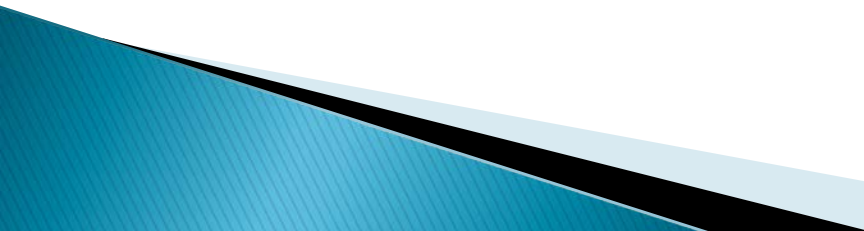
How Universities View the IB Diploma Program

“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.” GPA is not nearly as important a factor in university admission as the IB Diploma. If a student has to choose, choose the Diploma over protecting the GPA.”

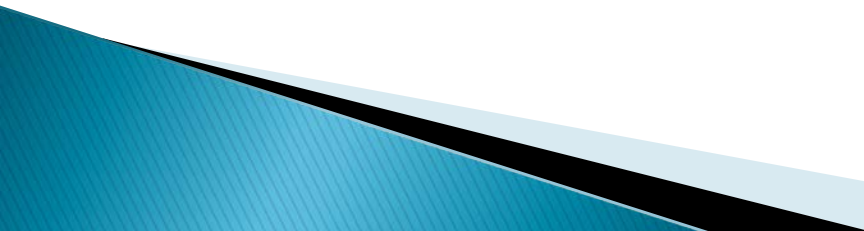
Harvard University
Marilyn McGrath Lewis
Asst. Dean of Admissions

IB and College Admission

Comparative Rigor

- ▶ Johns Hopkins and Bucknell both view IB and AP as equally deserving in the assignment of academic rigor.
 - ▶ Two highly competitive colleges, one on the West Coast and one in the Midwest, judge IB coursework to be more rigorous than AP.
 - ▶ Several admissions deans took the middle ground, contending the IB diploma candidate was granted greater rigor but the “a la carte” IB applicant was on the same footing as an AP candidate.
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IB and College Admission

- ▶ Because applicants to the most selective institutions often have similarly high grades and test scores, these colleges need more information with which to evaluate each applicant...and their admission process is more “holistic”.
 - ▶ The IB Program does seem to cultivate more of the broad-minded, intellectually curious approach that many in education like to see in students.
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Things to consider about credits...

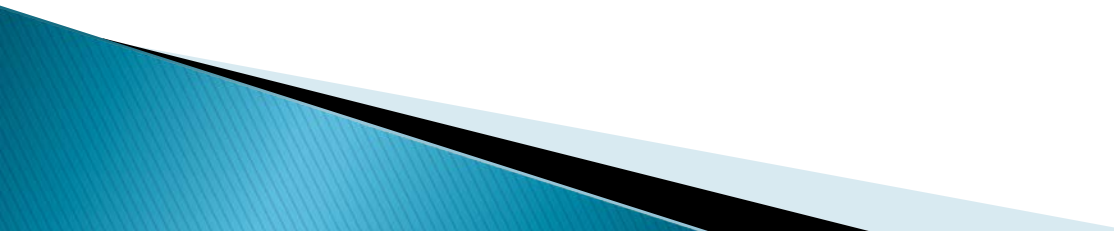
- ▶ What credits colleges/universities accept varies widely across institutions:
 - Many colleges do not recognize IB SL test scores for credit
 - They may not accept IB credits to fulfill core requirements
 - Some institutions may accept IB credits as elective credit only leaving less freedom to explore
 - Study abroad opportunities may be difficult if a student is completing mainly major courses
 - Colorado public colleges guarantee 24 credits for the IB Diploma; however, how they award/distribute those credits varies by institution.
- ▶ International Universities require additional research concerning entrance requirements and what exams/scores they will accept

So, if it's credits you're looking for....

- ▶ IBO University Policy Index:
 - Captures the recognition policies reported to the IB by universities around the world—including those in the United States
 - <http://www.ibo.org/university-admission/recognition-of-the-ib-diploma-by-countries-and-universities/>
- ▶ IB Friendly Institutions


What To Do When

9th Grade

- ▶ Read as much as possible. Studies show reading is one of the best ways to improve College Entrance Test Scores and help students be more successful in their classes.
 - ▶ Take academic studies seriously from day one of ninth grade.
 - ▶ Prepare for the spring PSAT 9
 - ▶ Look for opportunities to get involved in school and community activities.
 - ▶ Take time to evaluate career interest areas.
 - ▶ Develop a four year academic plan.
 - ▶ Start a high school resume.
 - ▶ Find productive summer activities.
 - ▶ Remember– What is gained from high school will be directly proportionate to what is given to it.
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What To Do When

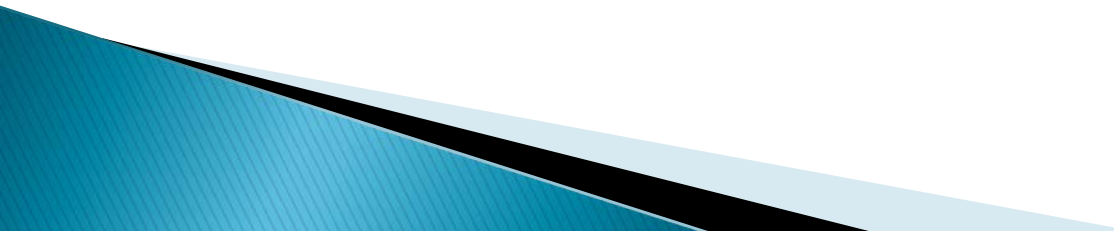
10th Grade

- ▶ Maintain academic progress; as things get more difficult, increase your effort.
 - ▶ Evaluate your strengths and weaknesses.
 - ▶ Examine your interests and aptitude.
 - ▶ Explore career opportunities in more depth through classes and/or independent research.
 - ▶ Consider taking the PSAT in the fall (practice for the practice PSAT).
 - ▶ Prep for the state required spring PSAT and do your best!
 - ▶ Start to explore postgraduate options by attending college fairs, college presentations, and through informal visits to campus.
 - ▶ Review and update your academic plan and high school portfolio.
 - ▶ Take advantage of leadership opportunities whenever possible.
 - ▶ Explore meaningful summer activities.
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What To Do When

11th Grade

FALL:

- ▶ In order to prepare for admission to college, take the most demanding academic schedule you can handle successfully.
 - ▶ Continue to be involved in worthwhile school/community activities and leadership programs.
 - ▶ Start to sort through and narrow college options using Naviance (College Search), the Internet, and college guide books.
 - ▶ Attend College Fairs and College Nights, get on mailing lists, and visit with College Representatives.
 - ▶ Take the PSAT. This is strongly encouraged for all college-bound juniors and necessary for anyone wishing National Merit recognition.
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What To Do When

11th Grade

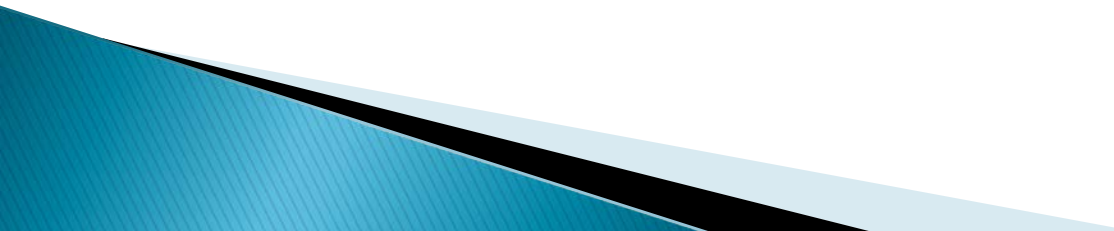
SPRING:

- ▶ Attend College Planning Night for Juniors
- ▶ Schedule an individual conference with your counselor to:
 - Discuss post-graduation plans and begin the formal college planning process.
 - Review your strengths. Be sure to include grades, activities, test information, etc.
- ▶ Start developing a list of colleges that appeal to you.
- ▶ Prepare for and do your best on the state required SAT in April
- ▶ Review application deadlines and procedures.
- ▶ Select appropriate classes for the senior year keeping in mind goals you have set. Continue to challenge yourself as much as possible.
- ▶ Plan visits to college campuses over Spring Break.
- ▶ Take IB and AP exams if enrolled in IB/AP classes.
- ▶ Complete and return the NCAA Clearinghouse form if you plan to participate in a Division I or II sport in college.
- ▶ Consider summer activities and how they relate to current interests; academic summer programs may prove valuable.

What To Do When

11th Grade

SUMMER:

- ▶ Attend college summer academic programs, if interested.
 - ▶ Visit college campuses.
 - ▶ Narrow your college list to 3 to 10 colleges that meet your criteria and peak your interest.
 - ▶ Contact all of these schools, obtain admission and financial aid information and access applications.
 - ▶ Check on Academy and ROTC deadlines, if appropriate
 - ▶ Spend time working on colleges essay and resume drafts.
 - ▶ Work, travel, volunteer, or participate in other educational experiences.
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What To Do When

12th Grade

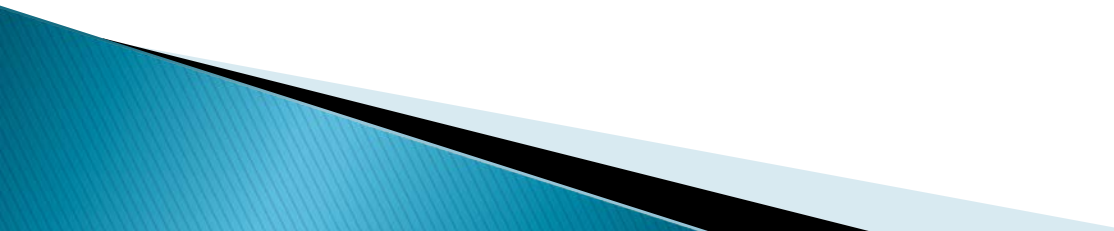
FALL:

- ▶ Continue solid academic courses and performance.
- ▶ Meet with your counselor to:
 - Verify graduation credits and college entrance requirements.
 - Review college choices and the application process.
- ▶ Finalize teacher and counselor recommendations.
- ▶ Review scholarship and financial aid information.
- ▶ Consider re-testing (SAT, ACT, SAT II).
- ▶ Meet with college representatives who visit your high school.
- ▶ Attend College Fairs and College Nights.
- ▶ Check admission applications and deadlines for the colleges you have chosen to apply to. Complete those with a November, December, or January deadline.
- ▶ Attend a Financial Aid Workshop including one at Lakewood High School.
- ▶ Complete the FAFSA (available October 1st) and any additional institutional financial aid forms required and explore other financial aid opportunities further.
- ▶ Complete and return the CSS Profile Form if your college choices require it.

What To Do When

12th Grade

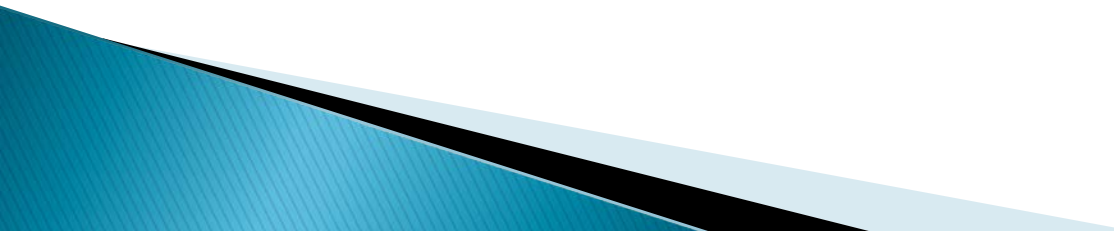
WINTER:

- ▶ Complete college applications with February or Rolling Admission deadlines
 - ▶ Submit additional credentials (new test scores, first semester grades, etc.) to colleges if requested.
 - ▶ Research and apply for scholarships through various resources including the college itself, Naviance, Focus on your Future newsletter, fastweb.com, etc.
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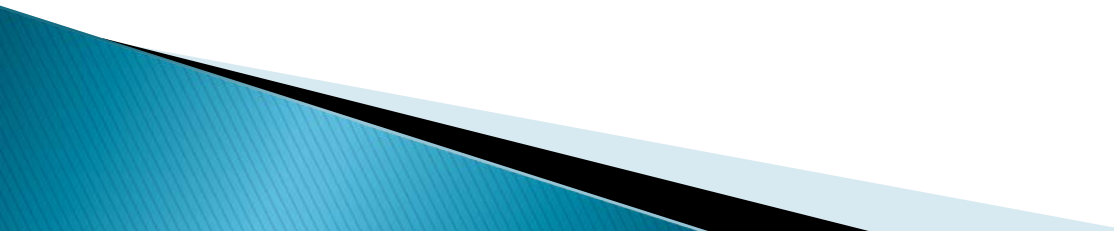
What To Do When

12th Grade

SPRING:

- ▶ Make final campus visits if needed.
 - ▶ Notify colleges of your decision to attend or not to attend.
 - ▶ Send confirmation and housing deposits.
 - ▶ Request that your final transcript and verification of graduation be sent to the college you plan to attend.
 - ▶ Take IB and AP exams if enrolled in IB/AP classes.
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Resources

- ▶ College Planning Night for Juniors– February 21st, 2018
 - ▶ College Application Process Night– August 2018
 - ▶ Out of State College Fair @ LHS 9/18
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Resources

- ▶ Lakewood High School Website; Click on the Counseling Tab; then click on College and Resources Tabs
- ▶ www.ibo.org/
- ▶ www.nacacnet.org; *Click on Student and Parent Resources*
- ▶ *Naviance*
- ▶ *Facebook: lakewoodhighschooltigers-counseling; like us to get updates from the Counseling Office*