



# International Baccalaureate Program Deerfield Beach High School Frequently Asked Questions



## ***What is International Baccalaureate?***

International Baccalaureate (IB) is an international-recognized college preparatory diploma program for highly motivated and academically talented high school students. Students are enrolled in the IB Middle Years Program (MYP) as freshmen and sophomores and in the IB Diploma Program (DP) as juniors and seniors.

## ***What makes IB different from other high school programs?***

- IB is a broad-based accelerated and advanced academic program with the philosophy that *every* subject plays a key role in the development of the student.
- IB takes a holistic approach to education by requiring more than advanced classes. In addition, IB students must complete 50 service hours for MYP, participate in CAS (Creativity, Activity & Service), involving community service as well as physical and creative pursuits during the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grades, complete a personal project and research project in subjects of their choice, and enroll in Theory of Knowledge, a course unique to IB.
- Theory of Knowledge is an interdisciplinary course intended to stimulate critical reflection on knowledge and experience gained inside and outside the classroom. It promotes critical thinking, sound judgment, and an exploration of personal and cultural perspectives.
- The IB program is more selective than most other magnet programs, which means IB students are enrolled in classes with other academically talented and motivated students.
- IB is externally validated through its comprehensive IB examinations taken at the end of the junior and senior years and regular extensive program evaluations.
- IB is a truly international program with 3674 diploma programs and 1851 middle years programs in 160 countries worldwide.
- IB places a strong emphasis on international mindedness and responsible citizenship.
- Unlike many other magnet programs, IB prepares students for virtually *any* college major, as it provides foundational knowledge that can be used in all areas of study.

## ***Who is eligible for IB?***

Students with all the following qualifications are eligible for IB:

- A level 4 or 5 on the FAST in reading comprehension *and* EOC math (or a minimum score of 80% in reading comprehension and math on a comparable national standardized exam)
- A 3.0 grade point average in language arts, math, science, and social studies
- Motivation and the desire for a challenging academic program

## ***Why should I choose the IB program?***

- IB is recognized as a world class education by colleges and universities in the U.S.
- IB students develop invaluable skills in writing, speaking, critical thinking, managing time, and studying.
- IB students typically earn college credit and/or advanced standing for IB exams. The Florida state universities typically grant 30 hours of credit for IB exams, so many IB students enter college as sophomores.
- IB students have an advantage when applying to selective universities and for scholarships.
- Students who earn an IB diploma automatically earn the highest allotment of Florida's renewable Bright Futures scholarship, covering full tuition, a \$600 book stipend, and can be used for summer term, if they attend any state university in Florida.

### ***Why should I attend Deerfield Beach High School?***

- Students can take advantage of all that a comprehensive high school can offer, as well as benefit from a specialized program that offers more personalized attention and a family-like atmosphere among its students.
- Students who graduate from DBHS are eligible to apply for the Butler Scholarship, a unique scholarship exclusively offered to DBHS graduates.
- IB students receive personalized guidance and counseling from the IB coordinator and IB counselors.
- IB students enjoy special events held in their honor, such as the freshman picnic, sophomore personal project recognition night, junior induction ceremony, and senior banquet.

### ***What classes would I take as a freshman in the DBHS MYP/IB program?***

All DBHS IB freshmen take the following advanced MYP courses:

- English
- French or Spanish (I, II or III, depending on skill level)
- AP Human Geography
- Biology *or* Chemistry
- Algebra I, Geometry *or* Algebra II
- Visual art, theater arts, music, or debate
- Inquiry Skills (eighteen weeks)
- HOPE (PE) (eighteen weeks)

### ***If I am in IB, will I have “a life” beyond studying?***

IB students are among the most active students at our school. They are involved in a variety of sports, including baseball, basketball, soccer, football, tennis, swimming, water polo, cross country, golf, and softball. They also are active in a number of school organizations such as Key Club, National Honor Society, student government, and Mu Alpha Theta, as well as outside activities. In addition, IB students form lasting friendships and DO have time to socialize. *IB encourages students to be involved in more than academics through the CAS requirements. It is these well-rounded students that colleges and universities want to enroll.*

### ***Will transportation be provided to Deerfield Beach High School?***

Yes, any student who resides north of Commercial Boulevard and 2 miles or farther from the school will be assigned bus transportation. Depot stops within 1.5 miles of your home are used by all magnet students who are not DBHS boundary students. Also, activity buses leave the school at 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday, except for early release days and days before holidays. These buses allow out-of-boundary IB students to participate in after-school clubs and athletics.

### ***How do I know that I will like IB at Deerfield Beach High School?***

We encourage any student who is undecided about IB to shadow one of our IB freshmen for the day. The student would follow our freshman’s schedule in order to discover what IB classes, students, teachers, and Deerfield Beach High School are like. Arrange to shadow by calling the IB Office at **754-322-0703**.

### ***How do I apply for the IB program?***

Students may apply online at [browardschools.com/schoolchoice](http://browardschools.com/schoolchoice) and click on “Explore your options”. Applications must include a copy of the student’s most recent report card and FAST/EOC scores. If the student currently attends a Broward County public school, the parent does not need to include these documents. The application window opens on December 1, 2023.

**NOTE: If Deerfield Beach High School is your assigned high school, please do not apply online. Please contact our office at 754-322-0703 to notify us of your intent to enroll in the IB program.**