



Downtown Magnets High School International Baccalaureate Diploma Program

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DMHS Website:

<https://www.downtownmagnets.org>

Other Links:

<https://www.ibo.org> (IB Organization)

<https://www.ibo.org/iba> (IB North America)

IB MISSION STATEMENT:

The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

What is the IB Diploma Program?

The IB Diploma Program is an internationally recognized preparatory curriculum, which prepares students to enter college with the skills they need to succeed in order to be life-long learners. It is a challenging two-year curriculum for students in 11th and 12th grade, which leads to a diploma that is recognized by the world's leading universities. Enrollment in the DMHS pre-IB program in 9th and 10th grades is essential for admission to and successful completion of the Diploma Program.

The IB Diploma:

The Diploma Program prepares students for the university level and life through encouraging them to:

- ask questions
- learn how to learn
- develop a strong sense of their own identity and culture
- develop the ability to communicate with and understand people from other countries and cultures

The IB Curriculum:

In order to be awarded the IB Diploma, students are required to successfully complete:

Six Core Academic Subjects:

- Language A (Language Arts)
- Language B (World Language)
- Individuals and Societies
- Experimental Sciences
- Mathematics
- Elective

Extended Essay (EE): a 4,000-word essay, supported by original research on a subject in the student's area of interest

Community-Action-Service (CAS): a central element which encourages students to be involved in artistic pursuits, sports and community service, thus fostering students' awareness and appreciation of life outside the academic arena

Theory of Knowledge (TOK): an interdisciplinary course designed to provide coherence by exploring the nature of knowledge across disciplines and encouraging an appreciation of other cultural perspectives



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FAQs:

How is IB different than AP? – Both IB and AP offer rigorous courses and are excellent preparation for college; however students learn differently within the courses. AP Courses focus on the student’s area of strength, while the IB full Diploma Program is a comprehensive curriculum that requires the student to take courses in all subjects and is centered around a global perspective. AP courses are taught individually, whereas IB is an interdisciplinary, international program of study focused on the student.

Who is an IB Student? – IB learners strive to be: inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective (the IB “Learner Profile”). IB programs promote the education of the whole person, emphasizing intellectual, a personal, emotional and social growth through all domains of knowledge. By focusing on the dynamic combination of knowledge, skills, independent critical and creative thought and international-mindedness, the IBO espouses the principle of educating the whole person for a life of active, responsible citizenship.

Do IB students have time to participate in extra-curricular activities? – IB students are able to participate in extracurricular activities including sports, clubs, church activities, scouts, city government and a variety of other activities. Effective time-management skills are key for successful IB students.

How are IB students assessed? – IB Students are assessed both internally and externally in ways that measure individual performance against stated objectives for each subject with externally marked examinations forming the greatest sharing of the assessment for each subject. The grading system is criterion based.

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Benefits of the full IB Diploma Program:

IB is an Education for Life – IB Students learn life skills—critical-thinking, time management, responsibility towards a global community, leadership skills, public speaking, and research, among others—that will be with them long after they leave high school.

Preparedness—An IB Diploma demonstrates that a student is serious about learning and is prepared to enter and complete college level work. Check out <https://www.ibo.org/globalassets/publications/ib-research/Research-IBA-en.pdf>

University Admissions & Scholarships—An IB diploma is widely recognized by US and International universities as a strong academic curriculum, giving students an “edge” in the admissions process. A number of universities offer scholarships for IB diploma holders. (A list of universities recognizing the IB Diploma can be found on the IBNA website).

College Credit – The University of California (UC) system now automatically accepts approved courses for UC honors credit, and students holding an IB Diploma of 30 points of above earn 30-quarter (20 semester) units toward the UC undergraduate degree. For details on other universities’ policies, refer to each college or university’s website.

Highly Trained Teaching Staff - IB teachers are highly qualified. They have had extensive training to prepare them to educate IB students.

International Community - DMHS has joined an international community of more than 2,000 schools worldwide committed to rigorous academics.