



King's Fork High School

Brief History

The International Baccalaureate Organization's Diploma Programme (DP), created in 1968, is a demanding pre-university course of study that leads to examinations; it is designed for highly motivated secondary school students aged 16 to 19. The programme has earned a reputation for rigorous assessment, giving IB diploma holders access to the world's leading universities. The IBO has shown, over the course of 30 years, that students are well prepared for university work.

The Diploma Programme's grading system is criterion referenced: each student's performance is measured against well defined levels of achievement consistent from one examination session to the next. Grades reflect attainment of knowledge and skills relative to set standards that are applied equally to all schools. Top grades are not, for example, awarded to a certain percentage of students.

The programme is a comprehensive two-year international curriculum, available in English, French and Spanish, that generally allows students to fulfill the requirements of their national or state education systems. The Diploma Programme incorporates the best elements of national systems without being based on any one. Internationally mobile students are able to transfer from one IB school to another while students who remain closer to home benefit from a highly respected international curriculum.

The programme was born of efforts to establish a common curriculum and university entry credential for students moving from one country to another. International educators were motivated by practical considerations but also by an idealistic vision: students should share an academic experience that would emphasize critical thinking, intercultural understanding and exposure to a variety of points of view.

Today there are equal numbers of students from international schools and state or national systems. The idealism has remained unchanged, however. The IBO's goal is to provide students with the values and opportunities that will enable them to develop sound judgment, make wise choices, and respect others in the global community. The Diploma Programme equips students with the skills and attitudes necessary for success in higher education and employment.

The Application Process

Students who wish to be considered for participation in the IB Program, must make application during the 8th grade year with the intent to begin the preparatory program in grade 9. Applications can be completed and submitted online. Since motivation is a key factor for success in the program, it leads the criteria for acceptance. Information about the application process will be presented in a formal program at the beginning of December.

For grade 9, students making application who are college-bound with at least a 3.0 grade point average. Algebra I. and at least one year of a foreign language in grade 8 can be considered. All applications are considered by a selection committee which in addition to motivation also takes into consideration the writing skills, oral skills, teacher recommendations, standardized test assessments, academic status, and study skills. Candidates will be asked to interview. The committee informs the candidates of their recommendation in writing.



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The Mission of the International Baccalaureate Organization

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

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

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

Benefits of participation

- Challenging curriculum for English, history, math, science and foreign language
- Emphasis on global perspectives
- Interdisciplinary instruction
- Improved oral and written expression
- Excellent preparation for college!
- Advantage for college acceptance
- Advanced placement/credit in college



IB Course Offerings at King's Fork

English A1	History of the Americas	Biology
Environmental Systems	Math (2 levels)	French
Spanish	Psychology	Visual Arts
Chemistry	Music	Theory of Knowledge

The Preparatory Diploma Program (PreDip) (Grades 9 and 10)

Advanced Placement	International Baccalaureate Diploma Program	Governor's School
National standard of excellence	International standard of excellence emphasizing awareness of global perspectives	State program of excellence
College level courses Individual courses –Student choice	Comprehensive curriculum of college-level work-Preparation in all core subjects and a foreign language	College level of rigor for science and math only
Encourages academically talented students	Encourages academically talented and highly motivated students.	Encourages academically talented students
Students take AP exams in areas of strengths.	Six exams in six subject areas are required. Students are prepared for the IB and AP exams.	Does not lead to any national or international assessment
Students do not have to be enrolled in an authorized school.	Students must be enrolled in an authorized school.	Students attend their zoned school and must travel to the Governor's school for selected courses.
Exams are graded externally and marks are assigned.	Scores include teacher assessments as well as external assessments.	Teacher assessments only
Exams are multiple choice and essay based on specific course content.	Exams are in essay format with emphasis on understanding and manipulation of concepts and themes.	Teacher-prepared exams
Oral exam in foreign language	Oral assessments in English and foreign language	No oral exam
Policies are determined by national educators.	Policies are determined by international educators.	Policies are determined on the state level.