

Admission to Studies, International Baccalaureate, Recognition (*IB Information*)

The Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy, acting in its capacity as ENIC NARIC AUSTRIA, gives the following information on the International Baccalaureate, subsequently referred to as „IB“, for the purpose of admission to studies in Austria as follows:

1. Basic principle:

An „IB Diploma“, which has been acquired according to the regulations of the „International Baccalaureate Organization“ (www.ibo.org), shall, for the purpose of admission to studies at an Austrian public university, private university, university of applied sciences or university college of education be considered as a foreign secondary school leaving certificate. This applies also in case that the IB has been completed at a school which is located in Austria.

2. General university entrance qualification:

- a) The IB diploma is a certificate according to art. 64 para. 1 subpara. 3 of the Universities Act 2002 – UG, BGBl. I No. 120/2002, as amended. The equivalence with an Austrian secondary school leaving certificate shall not be examined. The IB is the main case of application of the Recommendation of the Committee of the Lisbon Recognition Convention on International Access Qualifications.
- b) There exist the following rules for the IB diploma:
 - o From the following six subject groups six (maximum seven) subjects must be chosen. The nomenclature of the subject groups refers to the Curriculum Model of the International Baccalaureate Organization, Route des Morillons 15, CH-1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva. Below all IB courses available are listed, it is the school’s choice to design an appropriate programme.

- Group 1: Studies in languages and literature
 - Literature A HL/SL
 - Language and literature A HL/SL
 - Literature and Performance SL (*can count as group 6 choice*)
- Group 2: Language acquisition
 - Language B HL/B SL/Ab Initio SL
 - Classical languages (Latin or Classical Greek) HL/SL
- Group 3: Individuals and Societies
 - Business management HL/SL
 - Economics HL/SL
 - Geography HL/SL
 - Global politics HL/SL
 - History HL/SL
 - Information technology in a global society (*last examination in November 2022*)
 - Digital society (*first examination in May 2023*)
 - Philosophy HL/SL
 - Psychology HL/SL
 - Social and cultural anthropology HL/SL
 - Environmental systems and societies SL (*can count as a group 4 choice*)
 - World religions SL
- Group 4: Sciences
 - Biology HL/SL
 - Chemistry HL/SL
 - Computer science HL/SL
 - Nature of science SL (*pilot*)
 - Physics HL/SL
 - Design technology HL/SL
 - Environmental systems and societies SL (*can count as a group 3 choice*)
 - Sports, exercise and health sciences SL/HL
- Group 5: Mathematics
 - Mathematics HL/SL (*last examination in November 2020*)
 - Mathematical studies SL (*last examination in November 2020*)
 - Further mathematics SL (*last examination in November 2020*)
 - Mathematics: Analysis and approaches HL/SL (*first examination in May 2021*)

- Mathematics: Applications and interpretation HL/SL (*first examination in May 2021*)
 - Group 6: The Arts
 - Music HL/SL
 - Dance HL/SL
 - Theatre HL/SL
 - Visual arts HL/SL
 - Film HL/SL
 - Literature and performance SL (*can count as a group 1 choice*)
 - A full IB Diploma is constituted as follows:
 - Two languages (either one language of group 1 and one of group 2 or both languages from group 1). One of the languages chosen can be German (either as language A or language B), but German is not compulsory. The IB offers curricula for more than 150 languages. A student who takes both languages from group 1 or whose A language is other than the language of instruction gains the Bilingual Diploma (however, this does not positively impact the overall score);
 - Completion of one subject from group 3, 4 and 5;
 - Completion of one subject either from group 6 or from groups 1 to 5;
 - Completion of the Extended essay (4000 words), the course in Theory of knowledge (TOK) and completion of CAS activities (Creativity, activity, service).
 - At least three (maximum four) of the six chosen subjects must be taken at Higher Level (HL) and three (minimum two in case there are 4 HL) at Standard Level (SL).
 - The grades (points) range from 1 to 7. Grade 7 is the best one. Grade 3 is a pass grade; under special circumstances, grade 2 in a SL subject is acceptable in case the other two SL subjects have 7 points. The three HL subjects must have 12 points and no grade must be below 3. For the Extended essay and TOK it is possible to gain up to 3 bonus points. If any of these requirements are not met the Diploma is not awarded.
 - The sum of the individual grades in the six subjects and of the bonus points in the IB Diploma must be at least 24 points. The maximum score is 45 (6 subjects with grade 7 plus 3 bonus points).
- c) In case that the requirements are not met and the Diploma was not awarded, the final document then is not an „IB Diploma“, but a document „course results“, on which the total number of points („Total XX“) is missing. This document is not to be considered a secondary school leaving certificate.

3. Special university entrance qualification:

As the territorial validity of the IB does not refer to a certain state, the criterion „issuing state“ does not apply to holders of an IB Diploma. Hence there should be no demand for further pieces of evidence on the special university entrance qualification according to art. 65 UG.

4. Knowledge of German Language

It is important to draw attention to the requirement of an adequate knowledge of the German language according to art. 63 para. 10 UG and, possibly, art. 4 para. 7 FHStG. If German is included in the IB Diploma (except German ab initio SL), adequate knowledge of the German language is evident. Otherwise the knowledge has to be made evident without doubt (e.g. German as mother tongue), or it has to be proved by other means.

5. Contact point:

For the purpose of admission to studies, it is recommended that all applicants get in contact with the university, the university college of education or the management of the university of applied sciences at which admission is sought, as soon as possible.