

Order of August 6 , 2021 relating to international sections of Seconde classes and classes leading to the French International Baccalaureate (BFI)

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Initial version

The Minister of National Education, Youth and Sports and the Minister for Overseas Territories , In view of the Education Code;

In view of the decree of July 16 , 2018 as amended relating to the general baccalaureate exams starting from the 2021 session;

In view of the decree of July 16 , 2018 as amended relating to the organizational methods of continuous monitoring for evaluating instruction given in classes leading to the general baccalaureate and the technological baccalaureate;

In view of the decree of July 16 , 2018 relating to the organization and hourly class amounts of Seconde class in lycées, of general and technological instruction and of lycées offering general instruction and agricultural technology;

In view of the decree of July 16 , 2018 as amended relating to the organization and hourly class amounts in the Terminale year of lycée, as sanctioned by the general baccalaureate;

In view of the decree of December 20 , 2018 relating to the diploma models of the general and technology baccalaureates;

In view of the edict of the Superior Council of Education dated July 8, 2021,

Hereby decree:

Article 1

Admission of students to an international section of the Seconde class is issued by the inspector of academy , academic director of educational services acting by delegation of the rector of the academy , as proposed by the head of the establishment, on the basis of a candidacy file and the results of an examination.

The file mentioned in the first paragraph should include the following documents that justify the conditions of admission:

- for students educated in France, to have come from an international section of a *collège*, or have completed all or part of their education in a country where the language of the section is spoken, or attest to a sufficient level of competence in the language of the section;
- for students who have studied in French educational institutions abroad, attest to sufficient knowledge of the language of the section and of French.

For students educated in France, the aptitude examination to be administered following instruction given in the foreign language of the international section of Seconde will consist of a written and an oral test. For students who have studied at French educational institutions abroad, the examination used to evaluate knowledge of French will consist of a written and an oral test.

The head of the establishment shall appoint examiners for the various tests.

In view of the dossier and examination results, the head of the establishment shall establish the list of students for whom he proposes admission in the international section of Seconde for the academic director of national educational services acting on delegation by the rector of the academy .

Article 2

The specific instruction given in international sections in Seconde consists of a complementary instruction in foreign language and one or two nonlinguistic disciplines.

Within international sections of Seconde, program offerings in one or two nonlinguistic disciplines may be taken from among the following: history-geography, mathematics, physics-chemistry, or life and earth sciences.

These offerings are established after consultation with the country or body interested in the functioning of the section, and are specified by order of the minister in charge of education, in a manner that takes into account at one and the same time the needs of the French program in place in the corresponding classes and those programs given in the same classes of the foreign country/countries concerned.

When the nonlinguistic subject being studied is history-geography, the total duration of instruction is four hours per week in Seconde, half of which is taught in French and half in a foreign language.

When the non-linguistic subject being accommodated is mathematics, additional mathematics instruction is added to the common mathematics instruction in Seconde. This supplementary teaching shall be for an average of one and a half hours per week. It is taught in the language of the section.

When the non-linguistic subject being studied is physics-chemistry or life and earth sciences, a complementary scientific course is added to the common course in Seconde. This complementary teaching lasts an average of one and a half hours per week. It is taught in the language of the section.

Article 3

Admission of students to a Première or Terminale class leading to the French International Baccalaureate (BFI) is decided by the Inspector of the Academy, Academic Director of National Education Services, acting on behalf of the Rector of the Academy, on the recommendation of the head of the school, based on an application file and the results of an examination, except for students in an international section in Seconde, for whom admission is based on the opinion of the class council in the final quarter of Seconde.

The application file mentioned in the first paragraph shall include the following documents justifying the conditions of admission:

- for students attending school in France, completion of all or part of their schooling in a country where the language chosen as modern language A is spoken in Première or Terminale leading to the French International Baccalaureate (BFI), or attestation of a sufficient level of proficiency in this language;
- for students enrolled in French educational institutions abroad, attest to a sufficient knowledge of French and of the language chosen as living language A in Première or Terminale leading to the French International Baccalaureate (BFI).

For the affected students enrolled in French schools, the aptitude examination to follow instruction given in a foreign language in the class leading to the French International Baccalaureate (BFI) shall consist of a written test and an oral test. For affected students enrolled in French educational institutions abroad, the examination assessing knowledge of French shall consist of a written test and an oral test.

The head of the host establishment shall appoint the examiners for the various tests.

In view of the opinion of the class council from the home school of the student coming from an international section of Second, or of the dossier and the examination results, for other candidates, the head of the host lycée shall draw up the list of students whose admission to classes leading to the French International Baccalaureate (BFI) he or she proposes to the academic director of national education services acting upon delegation by the rector of the academy.

Article 4

The specific instruction provided in Première and Terminale classes leading to the French International Baccalaureate (BFI) consists of complementary foreign-language and culture courses entitled "Connaissance du Monde" and "Approfondissement culturel et linguistique ", a compulsory non-linguistic subject and an optional non-linguistic subject.

The course entitled "Connaissance du Monde", which comprises two hours per week in Première and Terminale, is taught in modern language A.

The complementary course in *Approfondissement culturel et linguistique* in a foreign language, lasting two hours per week in Première and Terminale, is given in modern language A or B, depending on the student's curriculum.

The compulsory non-linguistic subject is taught in modern language A. This compulsory instruction may concern history-geography or science. For these disciplines, program adjustments are determined after consultation with the country or organization involved in conducting classes leading to the French International Baccalaureate and as specified by order of the Minister of Education, so as to take into account both the requirements of the French program in effect in the corresponding classes and those of the programs taught in the same classes in the foreign country or countries concerned.

When the compulsory non-linguistic subject to be adapted is history-geography, the total duration of the teaching is four hours per week in Première and Terminale, half of which is taught in French and half in modern language A, or all of it in modern language A in Première when the agreement with the partner country so stipulates. When the compulsory non-linguistic subject is a scientific subject, the total duration of the course is three and a half hours per week in Première and Terminale, of which one and a half hours is taught in Modern Language A.

Students may choose an optional non-linguistic subject in Première and Terminale. This optional course may concern one of the specialty courses set out in the appendix to the decree of July 16, 2018 on the organization and timetable of the Terminale cycle of lycées as mentioned above, leading to the general baccalaureate, with the exception of the specialty subject "Foreign and Regional Languages, Literatures and Cultures". The weekly schedule for this optional course is set at two hours, in Première and Terminale, taken from the schedule for the specialty course concerned. It may be taught in foreign language A, B or C, depending on the student's curriculum.

Article 5

Students who have taken classes leading to the French International Baccalaureate during the two years of the Terminale cycle may take the international option of the general baccalaureate, entitled French International Baccalaureate.

Candidates for the French International Baccalaureate take the Terminale examinations and make use of their annual quantitative assessments over the Terminale cycle under the conditions set out in the aforementioned Order of 16 July 2018 relating to examinations for the General Baccalaureate as of the 2021 session, subject to the following adjustments:

- 1 Candidates for the French International Baccalaureate take a specific oral test in modern language A in the course entitled "Connaissance du Monde" during the Terminale year. This test has a coefficient of 20;
- 2 If the candidate for the French International Baccalaureate chooses to have the *Approfondissement culturel et linguistique* in modern language A, the continuous-assessment grades for modern language A for the Terminale cycle are replaced by a specific assessment relating to the language and culture of the country or countries where this modern foreign language is spoken, and comprise a written composition in modern language A having a coefficient of 10, and an oral examination in modern language A having a coefficient of 10;
- 3 If the candidate for the French International Baccalaureate chooses to have the *Approfondissement culturel et linguistique* in modern language B, the continuous assessment grades for modern language B are replaced by a specific assessment relating to the language and culture of the country or countries where this modern foreign language is spoken, and comprise a written composition in modern language B with a coefficient of 10, and an oral examination in modern language B with a coefficient of 10;
- 4 For the compulsory non-linguistic subject in the class leading to the French International Baccalaureate, the continuous assessment grades for history-geography or science instruction in Première and Terminale are replaced by a specific continuous assessment covering the adapted history-geography program or the adapted science education program, respectively. This specific assessment includes a written test, written at the candidate's choice in French or modern language A, with a coefficient of 10, and an oral test in modern language A, with a coefficient of 10;
- 5 Candidates for the French International Baccalaureate who have chosen an optional non-linguistic subject course in modern language A, modern language B or modern language C, backed up by one of their Terminale specialty courses, shall take during the Terminale year a specific oral test in the language chosen for the instruction. This test has a coefficient of 20.

Article 6

In classes leading to the French International Baccalaureate, where the agreement with the partner country so provides, the optional non-linguistic subject mentioned in the last paragraph of Article 4 may be combined with the optional "expert mathematics" or "complementary mathematics" in the Terminale year, and give rise to a specific oral test under the conditions set out in Article 5, paragraph 5.

In classes leading to the French International Baccalaureate, where the agreement so provides, the nature of the course *Approfondissement culturel et linguistique* or the optional non-linguistic subject and the methods of evaluation of these courses are specified in the text of the agreement with the partner country.

Article 7

A school certificate attesting to the particular courses taken is issued to students who request it if they leave the lycée before obtaining the baccalaureate or if they do not take the French International Baccalaureate.

Article 8

In Article 3 and in the Appendix of the aforementioned Order of December 20, 2018, after the words: "international option" are inserted the words:

“entitled ‘French International Baccalaureate’” after the words "international option".

Article 9

The provisions of this decree are applicable in Wallis and Futuna, New Caledonia, and French Polynesia.

Article 10

The provisions of this decree come into force in Seconde as of the beginning of the 2021 school year, in Première as of the beginning of the 2022 school year and in Terminale as of the beginning of the 2023 school year. They apply to the general baccalaureate as of the 2024 session. They repeal, as of their entry into force, the decree of December 20, 2018 concerning international sections of lycée.

Article 11

The present decree will be published in the Official Journal of the French Republic .

Done on August 6 , 2021.

The Minister of National Education, Youth and Sports, Jean-Michel Blanquer

Overseas Minister Sébastien Lecornu