

International Baccalaureate at Skyline High School



IB Program: General Information



- Throughout the presentation, please jot down your questions. There is a very detailed FAQ page on the IB website that may have answers to some of your questions. If one of your questions isn't clarified in this presentation or when you check the website, please email me at phelans@issaquah.wednet.edu.
- IB website (please bookmark this and check for updates, regularly):
<https://skyline.isd411.org/academics/international-baccalaureate-ib-program>

What is International Baccalaureate?



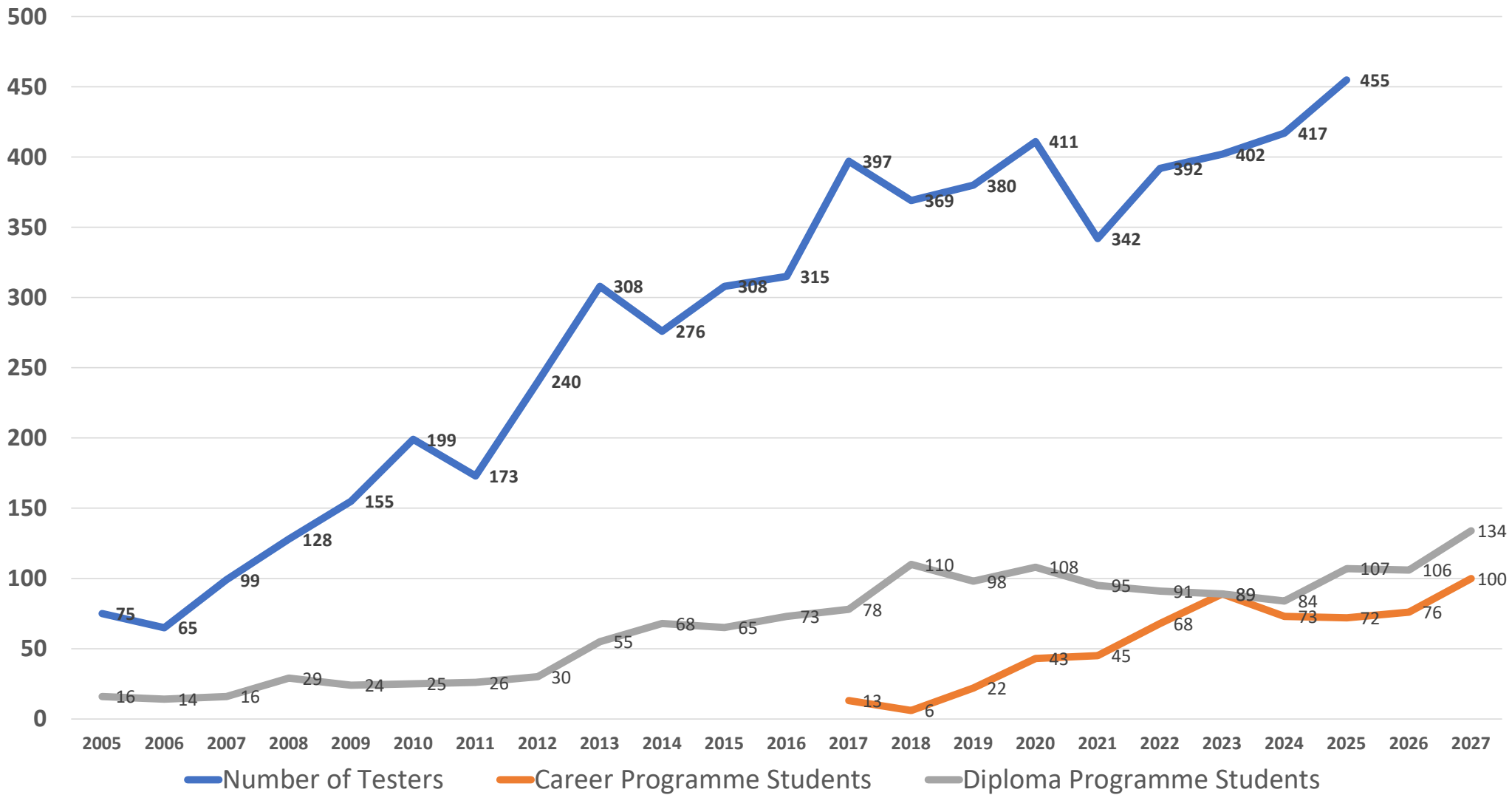
- A highly-respected, skill-based university preparatory education for students in grades 11 and 12.
- **A program of choice reflecting student interest and ability.**
- A program promoting international awareness and community involvement.
- **A program that provides high quality, internationally recognized education.**
- A program that encourages students to flourish emotionally, ethically, intellectually, and physically.
- **A program that encourages a positive attitude toward learning.**
- Possesses a hard-earned reputation for high standards of teaching, pedagogical leadership, and student achievement

Why Do IB?



- Work hard now – it opens doors for you later
- Figure out more about who you really are
- College benefits: admissions*, performance, advanced standing

Who Does IB At Skyline?





Course Details – HL and SL

SL = Standard Level

- 1-2 years of study per subject
- Students explore a smaller number of topics and texts in depth than an HL course
- Assessments ask students to demonstrate knowledge and understanding in a shorter amount of time, and in a narrower manner than in an HL course
- Exams may be taken in grade 11 or in grade 12 (except Language B ab initio SL which is 12th grade only)
- Diploma Students: only 2 exams may be taken in the Grade 11 year



Course Details – HL and SL

HL = Higher Level

- 2 years of study per subject.
- Asks students to go into greater depth and to study a wider variety of topics and texts in a subject than an SL class.
- Assessments are longer and more in depth than SL assessments (longer exams, more required of Internal Assessment projects).
- HL Exams are ONLY taken at the end of Grade 12.



Assessments

Internal Assessments (IAs)

- every subject; completed during the school year inside of class
- counts as a substantial portion of the IB and the SHS course grade
- teacher graded and IB moderated
- the assignment is specific to the subject
 - English – oral presentation
 - History – research paper
 - Math – math related project
 - Science – lab work & G4 interdisciplinary project

Exams

- 4 weeks in May
- all subjects except Film, Theatre and Visual Art (portfolio substitutes)
- comprehensive – requires knowledge and creativity
- scored by IB



IB Program: Planning Options



IB Options at Skyline HS

- 1) An individual Course student takes a class, completes the syllabus work, takes an exam and earns an IB Certificate.
- 2) A Career student takes a 2-year sequence of career-related classes, 2+ IB classes, and completes additional requirements to earn the IB Career-Related Certificate.
- 3) A Diploma student takes classes in the five core areas as well as one IB elective and completes additional requirements to earn the IB Diploma.



Option 1: IB Course Student

Enrolling students should be in grade 11 or 12 and express a desire to fully challenge themselves in the IB subjects selected

Eligible students may enroll in as many or as few IB courses in any combination.

- **Group 1** – English A: Language and Literature HL/SL
- **Group 2** – French SL/HL, Japanese SL/HL, Mandarin SL/HL, Spanish SL/HL
- **Group 3** – Business Management SL/HL, Economics SL, Environmental Systems and Societies SL/HL, History of the Americas HL/SL, Psychology SL, World Religions SL
- **Group 4** – Biology HL, Chemistry SL/HL, Environmental Systems and Society SL, Physics HL, Sports and Exercise Science SL, Computer Science SL/HL
- **Group 5** – Math SL/HL
- **Group 6** – Film SL, Music SL, Theater SL/HL, Visual Arts SL/HL



Option 2: IB Career Student

The IBCP is designed to support and complement career-focused students in the last two years of secondary education.

Students should show a dedicated interest in a specific career field and be ready to undertake a challenging pre-college academic load.

It helps students to create a **Language Portfolio**, a **Service-Learning Project**, and a **Reflective Project** that highlights their career studies and explores ethical issues within their chosen field.



Planning for Option 2: Career Pathways



1. Criminal Justice
2. Marketing and Business and Management
3. Marketing and Student Store
4. Business and Management
5. Business and Management and Economics
6. Computer Science and Web Design
7. Computer Science
8. Engineering
9. Teaching
10. Sports Medicine
11. Television Production
12. Fashion Design & Merchandising

***Note: if you know you will follow one of these Career Pathways, please DON'T start the classes before 11th grade – they won't count!**



Option 3: IB Diploma student

The IBDP is designed to support and challenge college-bound students in the last two years of secondary education. Students should show a dedicated interest and ability to excel in a variety of academic subjects and be ready to undertake a very challenging pre-college academic load.



IBDP Requirements:

- IB tests in six Diploma Program courses: 3HL+3SL or 4HL+2SL. Students must have one course per IB Subject Group*
- 2 years of ToK (Theory of Knowledge)
- 18 months of Creativity, Activity, and Service beginning the first day of 11th grade.
- A 4000-word "Extended Essay" research paper in a subject of choice

Why IB?



“A student who goes for the IB diploma, which requires the equivalent of six two-year courses, must also write a 4,000-word extended essay, often a research paper on some topic. Most of the former IB students I know say the extended essay was the most satisfying and challenging thing they did in high school and prepared them well for college research. Let me put this next sentence also in all capitals: IN THE UNITED STATES, ONLY THE IB PROGRAM AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS CONSISTENTLY REQUIRE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT TO WRITE MAJOR RESEARCH PAPERS. The failure to emphasize writing in that way is a scandal. But it is true.”

Jay Matthews, education columnist for the Washington Post and creator of the Challenge Index; excerpt from Davidson Institute for Talent Development
“Tips for Parents: AP vs IB – Which is best for my kid?”



Benefits of IB Classes

- Skills and content
- Study habits and time management skills
- Challenging, stimulating, and motivating curriculum
- Internationally recognized
- College entrance, college performance, and enhanced scholarship opportunities



Challenges of IB Classes

- Students need to be prepared for the rigor of IB
- Student and teacher vs. IB not student vs. teacher
- Time management
- Maintaining a balanced life



Making the Best Choice

- No one option is inherently better than any other. The 'best' option is the one that allows for the greatest positive personal growth of each student
- The best selection approach for students and parents is collaborative rather than directive. Students who are personally invested are more likely to succeed.
- Choices should also factor in time for extra-curricular activities, family responsibilities, and any employment demands on the student.
- Appropriate challenge is as considerate of the student's social-emotional well-being as it is of the student's capabilities. Healthy stress is motivational; excessive stress can be traumatic.



Navigating the IB Successfully



Student Motivation

- IB is more like a marathon than a sprint. Students should be focused on longer term end goals than a grade on a particular assignment or in a specific class.
- Most graduates admit that they did not realize the full benefits of their involvement in IB until they were a term or two into college.
- Curiosity is one trait that will carry you far in life. Try and develop yours.
- Be mindful that things we 'choose to do' are generally far more fulfilling than things we are 'compelled to do.'



Student Preparation

- Take the most appropriately challenging classes you can prior to your time in IB. Think about it in terms of climbing a staircase. The more stairs you do on a regular basis the easier each future flight of stairs becomes. If you skip stairs or try end-arounds on the training, you are more likely to 'stumble' or 'fall.'
- Read as much as you can from a wide a variety of sources.
- We learn way more from failure than success. Accustom yourself to setbacks – those will happen. Learn from them rather than beat yourself up with negativity.
- Develop strong, positive habits: eat well, get enough sleep, exercise regularly, and practice sharing your thoughts and feelings with others, so the process of reflection becomes comfortable.
- Indulge in a variety of activities to better learn your own preferences, prejudices, strengths, and weaknesses. This kind of self-awareness will assist you in making wiser choices throughout life.



Student Success

- Be sure to form relationships with your peers so you can work collaboratively to meet the challenges before you.
- Be sure to be communicative with your parents, your teachers, and your other support networks. It is important that your parents and teachers understand how you are doing so they can best support you, and it is important you are comfortable talking through potential rough spots with your support network.
- Create a good study plan for yourself. Nothing beats a consistent daily approach. Procrastination is natural and will happen, but if it is left unchecked, it can overwhelm even the most capable student.
- Make time for rewards!



Mythbusting!

One of the biggest concerns from students and families that doesn't align with what college admissions reps tell our College and Career Center is the idea that students need IB and/or AP exam scores to share with colleges when they are applying.

In reality...Colleges are all aware that IB courses are only offered in 11th and 12th grade, so they do not expect to see IB courses in 9th and 10th grade, because they know it is not allowed.

IB and AP exam scores are not included on student transcripts and are not required for applying to college. Students optionally report their IB exams scores (and AP scores) at the end of high school. Colleges use these exam scores to grant potential college course credit — they are not used for admissions.



Who Can “do the IB”?

- The International Baccalaureate Program is open to all grade 11-12 students at Skyline.
- Out-of-Skyline-boundary students and out-of-district students can apply for a waiver through the district’s intra- and inter-district waiver process, explained on the Issaquah School District’s website.
- Transfers granted on a space available basis.
- Transfer process opens February 1 each year.
- <https://www.isd411.org/enrollment>

IB LEARNER PROFILE

The aim of all IB programmes is to develop internationally-minded people who, recognising their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world. IB learners strive to be:

Reflective

Give thoughtful consideration to your own learning and experience. You are able to assess and understand your strengths and limitations in order to support your learning and personal development.

Open-minded

Understand and appreciate your own culture and personal histories, and are open to the perspectives, values and traditions of other individuals and communities.

You seek and evaluate a range of points of view, and you are willing to grow from the experience.

Risk-takers

Approach unfamiliar situations and uncertainty with courage and forethought, and have the independence of spirit to explore new roles, ideas and strategies.

You are brave and articulate in defending your beliefs.

Caring

Show empathy, compassion and respect towards the needs and feelings of others.

You have a personal commitment to service, and act to make a positive difference to the lives of others and to the environment.

Balanced

Understand the importance of intellectual, physical and emotional balance to achieve personal well-being for yourself and others.



Principled

Act with integrity and honesty, with a strong sense of fairness, justice and respect for the dignity of the individual, groups and communities.

You take responsibility for your own actions and the consequences that accompany them.

Knowledgeable

Explore concepts, ideas and issues that have local and global significance. In so doing, you acquire in-depth knowledge and develop understanding across a broad and balanced range of disciplines.

Inquirers

Have a natural curiosity and learn to acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research and show independence in learning. You actively enjoy learning and this love of learning will be sustained throughout their lives.

Communicators

Understand and express ideas and information confidently and creatively in more than one language and in a variety of modes of communication.

You are willing to work in collaboration with others.

Thinkers

Exercise initiative in applying thinking skills critically and creatively to recognise and approach complex problems, and make reasoned, ethical decisions.



How is the IB Learner Profile expressed?

- International nature of the IB
- Course Curriculum and Content
- Requirements in Course Assessments

The IB Learner Profile is intended to be used by students as a resource for self-reflective growth in a broad array of skill clusters.



IB Language and Literature SL

- Our 11th grade on-level English/Language Arts class now includes the opportunity to earn college credit
- Similar content to what 11th on-level English was in the past, but with the option to complete IB assessments and earn the college credit for the course
- This is a one-year long IB English class
- Along with this, students can now choose to take “blocked” or “un-blocked” versions of their ELA/SS classes in 11th grade (just like we offer in 9th and 10th).

Why IB?



“Curriculum-based achievement tests are the fairest and most effective assessments for college admissions and have important incentive or signaling effects for our K–12 schools as well: They help reinforce a rigorous academic curriculum and create better alignment of teaching, learning and assessment all along the pathway from high school to college.”

Richard C. Atkinson, president emeritus, University of California, and Saul Geiser, University of California, Berkeley, Center for Studies in Higher Education, Reflections on a Century of College Admissions Tests, April 2009



Planning for IB Courses

- Use planning resources available under the Counseling section of the SHS website:

<https://skyline.isd411.org/student-life/counseling>

- Take challenging lower-level courses to better prepare for the rigor of IB level coursework.
- Work with your school counselor to develop a realistic 4-year plan that leverages prior learning but balances immediate needs and future plans beyond high school.

Sample Career Programme Schedule



Grade 11	Grade 12
Career Path: Teaching Academy 1 ✓	Career Path: Teaching Academy 2 ✓
2-year IB course: Math SL 1	2-year IB course: Math (SL) 2
Business (SL)	
	IB PPS Fall Semester/
IB PPS – 5 Meetings 8 th Period Junior Year	

Comments/Questions:



Planning for Option 3: IB Diploma

- Access the IB Diploma Contract from the Skyline HS IB website.
- Complete your desired IB Diploma plan.
- Sophomores planning on the IB Diploma must use the meeting signup to join a session with the IB Diploma Coordinator to be completed NO LATER THAN end of February in grade 10.
 - Have your IB Diploma plan and the IB Contract available during this meeting for reference.
- Use the link found on the SHS IB Homepage to sign up for an appointment.
- Register for classes in March using the school Course Request Process (CRP)



Planning your 2-year schedule

- Planning for an IB Diploma MUST INCLUDE taking a world language“...offering not only the opportunity to learn an additional language but also the means of learning, appreciating and effectively interacting in a culture different from the student's own.” (emphasis added).
- Use electives wisely. If you drop the IB Diploma you will have to fulfill ALL NORMAL SHS GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS (CTE, Health, PE, Fine Art).
- Be aware of admissions requirements for colleges/programs of interest (Fine Arts, Science, Math, etc..)
- Plan to fulfill 1.0 credit in Fine Arts in grades 9, 10, or 12 unless you plan to include Film, Music, Theatre, or Visual Arts in your IB Diploma. *Note: taking this in grade 12 allows for concurrent IB CAS and SHS course credit.*
 - Saving an 'IB-waivered' class for grade 12 could support CAS requirements.

Sample Diploma Programme Schedule



Grade 11	Grade 12
Lang and Lit HL 1	Lang and Lit HL 2
History of the Americas HL 1	History of the Americas HL 2
Math AA: SL 1	Math AA: SL 2
Spanish 3	Spanish SL
Computer Science SL	Computer Science HL
ASB	Visual Arts SL
Theory of Knowledge 1	Theory of Knowledge 2



Associated Costs

- 1) Currently, the IB charges \$124 per test.
- 2) Diploma Juniors and Seniors use a software platform called "ManageBac" to complete their CAS and Extended Essay requirements for the Diploma. IB Career Programme Seniors also use this platform to complete Community Service and Reflective Project components. There is a yearly charge for this software that comes to approximately \$20 per student and is reflected in student accounts around the same time exam fees are posted.
- 3) Students purchase an IB patch for their grad stole to wear at graduation when they complete the Diploma or Career Programme for approximately \$5

Civics Requirement for Class of 2026 and beyond



Civics is now a senior year class in the ISD (including Skyline) instead of students previously taking it in 9th grade.

Options to meet the .5 credit Civics Requirement as a senior IB student:

- 1) Take IB History HL 1 as a junior AND either History HL 2 or History SL as a senior (the Civics content is embedded in the course curriculum over the 2 years)
- 2) Take a standalone .5 credit Civics class sometime during senior year
- 3) Take the online Civics class after the end of your Junior Year (*Speak with your counselor before senior year to get signed up for this*)

Summer/Online Learning Guidelines



Online Learning:

Max 2.0 credits per school year; Max 4.0 credits total during HS; Max 50% of any graduation category

ISD In-Person Summer School:

No max on credit totals, but only 1.0 credit per summer (check with the ISD as policy changes year to year)

Online Summer School:

No year long classes offered within one summer. A year-long class would split between two sessions.

*NOTE: IB CLASSES ARE NOT OFFERED IN ANY OF THESE OPTIONS



Possible Schedule Conflicts

- We cannot guarantee that every IB Diploma schedule will work.
- Generally, 'singleton classes' such as Vocal Jazz, Evergreen, Theatre, etc...may present scheduling complications.
- Students may have to choose between a subject they love and the IB Diploma.
- IB students (Course, Certificate, and Diploma) are not guaranteed their 1st choice of electives. LIST ALL ALTERNATE COURSES WHEN REGISTERING.



Upcoming Dates

- IB Diploma Intake sessions – February 9th and 10th
- IB Career Intake sessions – February 11th and 12th
- Current IB student-led Q&A in the Theater (FlexTime) on Wednesday, February 4th
- Signed/completed IB plans due to Mr. Phelan on February 25th and 26th
- CRP (Course Request Process) opens in early March
 - When you build your IB plan, make sure to take a picture of your final approved plan, so you can submit those same classes during the CRP week.

International Baccalaureate at Skyline



Thank you for noting your questions throughout the presentation. If one of your questions wasn't clarified here already or when you check the FAQ section on the website, please email me at the address below. I will answer your question as best I can and add it to the website FAQs.

IB Career AND Diploma Program Coordinator

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<https://skyline.isd411.org/academics/international-baccalaureate-ib-program>