



**International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme
Tates Creek High School
Frequently Asked Questions**



Is there an entrance exam for the IB Diploma Programme?

The philosophy of the International Baccalaureate Organization is one of inclusion. Therefore, no minimum test score is required. The IB Programme at TCHS is open to all students who are interested in the classes and are willing to work hard. That being said, students who are successful in IB are strong academic learners. In addition, students need to complete four years of a world language, 9th-12th grade, and have completed Algebra I, Algebra II and Geometry before entering the Full Diploma Program as a junior.

How do I apply for this program?

Students meet with the IB Coordinator, fill out an “Intent to Participate” packet (see IB Home page for link) and turn it in. Students from other high school area of attendance must also complete an “Out of Area” form. This can be found online up to early October; after October contact Mr. Hatfield, TCHS IB Coordinator. See IB Home page for Checklist to properly enroll at TCHS for the IB Programme. All students who apply are accepted into the program since IB is an open enrollment program.

Freshmen and sophomores participate in the ACE Pre-Diploma Program, while juniors and seniors may choose to enroll as IB Diploma Candidates or as IB Diploma Courses students.

What is the ACE Pre-Diploma Program?

Freshmen and sophomores enroll in the ACE Pre-Diploma Program. This program consists of honors courses taught in the style of IB courses to prepare students for the IB coursework in the junior and senior years. However, the ACE Pre-Diploma courses are excellent for all college-bound students, including those who do not choose to complete the Full Diploma Programme.

Will my child be prepared for college?

Yes. The rigorous IB Diploma Programme prepares students for the complex reading, critical thinking, analytical writing and oral presentations required in college. The IB Diploma Programme is recognized as one of the strongest college preparatory programs available to students today. In fact, when applying for college admission at selective colleges or universities, a student’s strength of schedule is one of the most important factors in the admission process. For example, David DeWitt, admissions director at Centre College, explained that Centre awards points to admission candidates based on their strength of schedule. He stated that students who participate in the IBDP earn the highest score for strength of schedule during Centre’s admission process.

Will my child have time to participate in extra-curricular activities?

Absolutely! Although the course work is rigorous during the junior and senior years, all of the IB Diploma Candidates are involved in extra-curricular activities such as varsity sports, theater, clubs, intramurals and volunteer work. The IB Diploma Programme aims to produce

well-rounded individuals and promotes such activities through the mandatory Creativity, Activity and Service hours (CAS hours.)

Will my child earn college credit for IB courses?

Your son or daughter may be able to earn college credit for his/her IB courses. Students take an exam at the end of the one year or two year course period. Depending upon the student's scores, colleges and universities award credit for these classes.

For example, the **University of Kentucky** awards credit for scores of 5, 6, or 7 on the IB exams. UK awards the following credit hours for these IB classes which are offered at Tates Creek High School:

Biology HL—10 hours of college credit
Chemistry SL—3 to 6 hours of credit
English HL—3 hours of credit
History of the Americas HL—12 hours of credit
Latin/French/Spanish SL/HL—6 hours of credit
Math SL/HL—3 or 4 hours of credit
Music SL—3 hours of credit
Physics SL—3 to 6 hours of credit
Psychology SL—3 hours of credit
Theater SL—3 to 6 hours of hours of credit
Business Management SL—3 hours of credit

With the IB Diploma Courses option, your child can take one or several IB classes in his/her areas of strength and potentially earn college credit.

However, if your son or daughter chooses to participate in the **Full Diploma Programme**, he or she may have a schedule such as this one:

English HL
History of the Americas HL
Biology HL
Spanish SL
Math SL
Physics SL

If your son or daughter takes the schedule above, earns a five or higher on the above IB exams, and chooses to attend the University of Kentucky, **he or she will have earned up to 30 hours of college credit!!!** Most students earn an average of 30 credits during the freshman year of college.

Colleges and universities each have different policies for IB or AP credit. Many universities post this information on their websites. Check with the college/university your son or daughter is considering attending.

While earning college credit as a high school student is certainly a benefit, the overall experience of the IB Full Diploma Programme is what helps the student be successful in a college/university setting.