

FAQs

International Baccalaureate Program

2021-2022

Q: Why IB?

Why not IB? All students should be challenged, take courses that interest them, and require them to think critically. IB courses encompass all of these. Students will learn to write with flair, “think outside the box”, be able to listen to differing viewpoints, analyze, and more. Consider pushing yourself and taking courses that will build your knowledge. Students will work with their peers consistently and build friendships. For most IB courses, the class sizes are smaller which allows for more individualized instruction.

Q: What is the difference between IB and AP Programs and honors courses?

As for the differences between IB and AP both programs offer challenging courses to high school students and allow them to earn college credit. However, their philosophies and goals are quite different. The AP program was developed in the United States to help high school students prepare for college by taking advanced courses. Students can take just one AP class or multiple. The AP will allow students to test in a subject even if they are not enrolled in that subject.

The IB program was developed in Switzerland to be an internationally recognized diploma and uses a holistic approach to learning. To earn the diploma, students take a certain number of courses in a range of subjects. There are 3 IB programs we offer here at CHS. They are the full diploma program, the career program, and the course program. Each program has its own set of guidelines. IB puts more emphasis on writing and developing critical-thinking skills and not just on the exams themselves. The IB diploma requires an extended essay (a long, college-style research paper) and community service. The Career Program requires a reflective project as well as community service. The Course Program requires internal assessment papers and testing for each course. Courses offered range from standard level courses to higher level courses in each subject. A student must be enrolled in an IB class to be able to take an IB exam. The ultimate benefit for IB graduates is that they are literate, articulate, confident young adults with an understanding of global issues and other cultures. Both AP and IB end the school year with standardized testing.

Our honors courses are accelerated courses in their specific area. Students earn honors credit. If the course is offered as dual enrollment, students can earn college credit. All AP and IB classes are also considered honors level courses.

Q: What is the MYP Programme?

The MYP program is the Middle Years Programme. It is designed for all freshman and sophomore students. The MYP program requires students to take at least 50 hours of teaching time for each subject group in each year of the programme. The subject groups are: Individual and Societies (History), Science, Mathematics, Language and Literature (English), and Language Acquisition (World Language). As you can see, many of these courses are courses students are required to take for graduation. The key component is the world language piece, which is a IB requirement, but not a graduation requirement. We would like to encourage all students to take part in the MYP programme. It will encourage students to think critically, employ more written work, and require students to showcase their work through a personal project.

Q: When will students need to make their personal project for the MYP program?

Students will work on their personal projects during their sophomore year. This project will be due April 1st of their sophomore year. Please see the following link to see examples of a personal project: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eDZMySq-Lrl>

Q: Will students in the MYP program be put into different classes than students who aren't in the program?

Not necessarily, this is not a school within a school program.

Q: What is the difference between a Diploma Programme and the Career Programme?

The Diploma Programme and the Career Programme occur during the students junior and senior years. Both programs utilize core IB courses; however the Career Programme only requires 2 IB courses where the Diploma Programme requires 6. Each IB course requires an assessment at the end of the school year and an internal assessment (written paper). The Diploma Programme requires World Language (in one language) all 4 years of high school. If you are behind in the number of World Language courses you have taken, you can take a world language over the summer through the Chandler Online Academy. The Career Programme does not have the World Language requirement, but does require a language portfolio within the programme. Both programs require community service. The Career Programme

works in conjunction with our Career and Technical Education department and requires students to choose an area of focus for their junior and senior year.

Both programs emphasize writing, and work on developing critical-thinking skills.

The Diploma Programme includes the following:

- Was developed in Switzerland
- Uses a holistic approach to learning
- Complete assessments in each IB subgroup (6 areas)
- 3 Standard Level and 3 Higher Level assessments and courses
- Puts more emphasis on writing
- Develops critical-thinking skills
- Requires an Extended Essay (a long college -style research paper)
- Community Service (CAS) - Time must be documented only during a students junior and senior year.
- Requires students attend a theory of knowledge course

The Career Programme includes the following:

- Was founded in 2012 to address the needs of students engaged in career-related education.
- Requires students to take 2 IB courses over 2 years with an Internal Assessment for each course. However, if a student chooses to take more than 2 IB courses they may.
- Requires students to take a CTE course over 2 years. (i.e. Woods, Auto, Graphics, programming, etc.)
- Requires a Reflective Project
- Community Service
- Language Portfolio
- Requires the IB Personal and Professional Skills course

For both programs, a student will receive an IB Diploma if they have met all the requirements.

Q: What is the minimum number of world language courses that are required for IB?

Middle Years Program = 2 years of world language

Diploma Program = 4 years of world language

Career Program = none
Course Program = none

Q: Is there a way I can make up my world language credits?

If you are behind in the number of World Language courses you have taken, you can take a world language over the summer through the Chandler Online Academy.

Q: Does the CTE program you choose for the Career Program have to relate to the degree you want in college?

No. This program is a way for students to gain a more in depth understanding of a particular career field. If you know the program you want to pursue in college, choosing a CTE program that fits your college program would be a good start to your career.

Q: What are the CTE options for the career program?

Here are some of the CTE offerings: Auto Technologies, Computer Science, Culinary Arts, Early Childhood ED, Sports Med, Graphic Design, Woods, Marketing, Software Engineering, Multimedia/Film, Agriculture and Cyber Security.

Q: What are the benefits of the Career Programme for students and their future college?

The Career Programme helps students make real world connections and build relationships within their given career field. It helps them learn skills that will be useful in their career choice while also giving them opportunities to earn college credit and scholarships to be used in the future.

Q: What if a student just wants to take an IB course?

Any student can take an IB course. They will be required to complete all assessments for that course. At the end of the year, provided they completed all the requirements, a student will receive an IB certificate for that course. There is no limit to the number of IB courses a student can take.

Q: Is there college credit available for IB courses?

Some IB courses have dual credit available, please check with your instructor. Please see the following links to see what each of our in state universities offer for IB credit.

- ASU - https://catalog.asu.edu/credit_exam#IB
- gNAU - <https://www5.nau.edu/policies/Client/Details/487>
- UofA - <https://catalog.arizona.edu/policy/international-baccalaureate-ib-program>
- GCU-
https://www.murrieta.k12.ca.us/cms/lib/CA01000508/Centricity/Domain/1559/Grand_Canyon_University.pdf

Q: Are the classes taken honors courses?

Any course list as honors, AP or IB are considered honors courses. Students in the Middle Years program or Career program do not have to be taking all honors courses.

Q: Is there an advantage to taking IB career over IB diploma?

There is no advantage from one IB program over the other. Which program an individual student chooses should be based on their interest and goals for the future.

Q: Can I begin the service (volunteering) portion of the CAS project before the start of my junior year?

For the Diploma Programme and the Career Programme, the service learning hours must be completed during a students junior and senior year. For the Middle Years Program students service learning hours must be completed during a students freshman or sophomore year. Middle Years Program hours are due by April 1st of their sophomore year. All service learning hours for all programs must be logged into Managebac.

Q: How many service hours are required? What is the support system for meeting the requirements?

Middle Year Program - 50 Hours

Career Program - 50 Hours

Diploma Program - Based on Learning Objectives (7 different objectives). Must meet at least 2 objectives for each activity. Also must include a CAS project (month long service activity)

Students will have access to a google classroom where service learning opportunities will be made available. All service learning hours for all programs must be logged into Managebac.

Q: How does the IB program help with college admissions?

Colleges highly respect the rigor and critical thinking of IB students. These students often go to the top of the acceptance list. Having an IB diploma opens up doors for college admissions as well as scholarships.

Q: What happens if you fall short of IB points?

The Diploma Programme requires a certain number of points in order to receive the diploma. If a student falls short of reaching those points, they will not receive the IB diploma but will receive a certificate for all the courses they did pass. The Career Program requires students pass all the required courses. If they do not pass all the required IB courses they will not receive a IB career diploma. They will receive certificates for any classes they passed. A Chandler High School Diploma is separate from the IB diploma. A student may not receive an IB diploma but could receive a Chandler High School diploma.