



**KULTUSMINISTER  
KONFERENZ**

**Agreement on the Recognition of the  
'International Baccalaureate  
Diploma/Diplôme du Baccalauréat  
International'**

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(Resolution of the Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of  
10/03/1986, as amended on 07/03/2019)

1. An 'International Baccalaureate Diploma/Diplôme du Baccalauréat International' issued in accordance with the regulations of the 'International Baccalaureate Organization/Office du Baccalauréat International' shall be recognized as a university entrance qualification if it has been obtained after attending at least twelve years of full-time education in ascending year groups, and if the following requirements are met:
  - a) The six examination subjects taken for the 'International Baccalaureate Diploma/Diplôme du Baccalauréat International' (IB) must include the following subjects, referred to here by their official IB title:
    - two languages at level A or B (of which at least one advanced foreign language as 'Language A'<sup>1</sup> or 'Language B HL'<sup>2</sup>);
    - one natural science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics);
    - mathematics (Mathematical Methods<sup>3</sup> or Mathematics HL<sup>4</sup> or Further Mathematics in conjunction with Mathematics HL<sup>4</sup>);
    - one social science (History, Geography, Economics, Psychology, Philosophy, Social Anthropology, Business and Management, Global Politics).

The sixth compulsory subject may be one of the above or one of the following subjects, referred to here by their official IB title:

- Art/Design<sup>5</sup>, Music, Theatre Arts<sup>6</sup>, Film, Literature and Performance, an additional modern foreign language, Latin, Classical Greek, General Chemistry, Applied Chemistry, Environmental Systems<sup>7</sup>,

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<sup>1</sup> As of examination year 2013, Language A: Language and Literature or Language A: Literature.

For pupils who are unable to receive instruction in their mother tongue at their school, a corresponding school-supported self-taught course may be recognized as Language A: Literature SL.

<sup>2</sup> Applies as of examination year 2013.

<sup>3</sup> From examination year 2006 up to and including examination year 2020 for Mathematics SL.

Qualifications in Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches SL or Mathematics: Applications and Interpretation SL obtained in examination year 2021 shall be regarded as subject-specific university entrance qualifications for technical universities and universities providing access only to courses of study not falling within the mathematical/scientific/technical field.

<sup>4</sup> From examination year 2021, Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches HL or Mathematics: Applications and Interpretation HL.

<sup>5</sup> Referred to as Visual Arts since May 2000.

<sup>6</sup> Referred to as Theatre as of examination year 2009.

<sup>7</sup> Referred to as Environmental Systems and Societies as of examination year 2010.

Computer Science, Design Technology, World Religions, Sports Exercise and Health Science.

- b) Of the three 'International Baccalaureate Diploma/Diplôme du Baccalauréat International' subjects taken at 'Higher Level', at least one must be either Mathematics or a natural science, i.e. Biology, Chemistry or Physics.
- c) All subjects must have been studied continuously as part of the 'IB Diploma Programme', i.e. in two ascending year groups.
- d) Pupils must have obtained at least IB grade 4 in the six compulsory subjects<sup>8</sup>.  
If an IB grade of 3 has been obtained in only one subject, this can be compensated for if a minimum IB grade of 5 and a minimum total of 24 points have been obtained in another subject of at least the same level of difficulty.
- e) German qualification holders attending an IB school abroad that does not offer German as a subject must provide proof of competence in German before starting higher education in Germany; the further details are governed by federal state provisions.
2. If the conditions under paragraph 1 have not been met, in order for recognition as a university entrance qualification to be granted, the pupil must successfully pass an additional examination in accordance with the 'Framework Decree on the Recognition of Foreign University Entrance Qualifications, Preparatory Courses and the Assessment Test' (Resolution of the Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of 15/04/1994, as amended). Recognition as a subject-specific university entrance qualification is also possible on the basis of successful completion of a one-year higher education course in a country whose school leaving certificates qualify graduates for entrance to university in Germany directly or after successful completion of a one-year course of study.

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<sup>8</sup> IB fail grades:                    1 = very poor/très faible  
    2 = poor/faible  
    3 = mediocre/mediocre

IB pass grades:                    4 = satisfactory/satisfaisant  
    5 = good/bon  
    6 = very good/très bon  
    7 = excellent/excellent

3. The average grade for an 'International Baccalaureate Diploma/Diplôme du Baccalauréat International' is calculated in the country in which the qualification is issued. This shall be subject to the procedure set out in the 'Agreement on Determining the Overall Grade for Foreign University Entrance Qualifications' (Resolution of the Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of 15/03/1991, as amended) together with the following IB-specific rules.

The average grade (N) is calculated based on the total number of points (P) obtained in the 'International Baccalaureate Diploma/Diplôme du Baccalauréat International', and on a maximum score (Pmax) of 42 and a minimum score (Pmin) of 24. Any bonus points obtained are included in the calculation. Total scores between 42 (Pmax) and 45 (highest possible IB score when including the maximum available 3 bonus points) are deemed equivalent to the German grade 1.0.

The conversion is performed using the following formula:

N	=	1 + 3	$\frac{P_{\max} - P}{P_{\max} - P_{\min}}$
where			
N	=	average grade to be calculated	
P	=	total score received for IB diploma	
Pmax	=	42 points (IB total score without bonus points)	
Pmin	=	24 points (lower benchmark)	
N	=	1.0 (where $42 \leq P \leq 45$ )	

4. The IBO shall regularly update the Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs about any changes to the final examination (requirements, content, organization), and shall give the German Schools Inspectorate the opportunity to inspect the work being done by the schools. If there is a need for consultation, or at the request of one of the federal states, the Advisory Committee of the Central Office for Foreign Education (ZAB) shall assess whether the criteria for recognition of the IB are still met.
5. This resolution shall enter into force on the date of its adoption by the Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs.