

Agreement on the recognition of the "International Baccalaureate Diploma /Diplôme du Baccalauréat International"

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(Decision of the Standing Conference of Education Ministers of 10.03.1986 in the version of 01.10.2015)

1. An International Baccalaureate Diploma/Diplôme du Baccalauréat International gained in accordance with the regulations of the International Baccalaureate Organization/Office du Baccalauréat International is recognized as a qualification for entry to higher education if it has been gained after at least twelve consecutive years' attendance at schools with full-time teaching and if the following conditions are fulfilled:

a) The six examination subjects for the International Baccalaureate Diploma/Diplôme du Baccalauréat International (IB) must include the following subjects as described in the terminology of the IB:

- two languages at Level A or B (at least one of which is a continued foreign language as Language A[1] or Language B HL[2]),
- one scientific subject (biology, chemistry, physics),
- mathematics (mathematical methods[3] or mathematics HL or further mathematics in combination with mathematics HL),
- a social science subject (history, geography, economics, psychology, philosophy, social anthropology, and business and management).

In addition to the subjects listed above, the sixth compulsory subject may be one of the following subjects as described in IB terminology:

- art/design[4], music, theatre arts[5], film, literature and performance, a further modern foreign language, Latin, Classical Greek, general chemistry, applied chemistry, environmental systems[6], computer science, design technology, world religions, and sports, exercise and health science.

b) The three subjects to be examined at higher level for the International Baccalaureate Diploma/Diplôme du Baccalauréat International must include either mathematics or a scientific subject, that is biology, chemistry or physics.

c) All subjects must have been studied continuously, that is for two consecutive years, within the IB Diploma Programme,

d) At least IB grade 4[7] must be awarded for each of the required six subjects.

If IB grade 3 is awarded in one subject only, this may be compensated for if at least IB grade 5 is awarded in another subject at the same or a higher level and if a total of at least 24 points has been achieved.

e) Before embarking on a course of study in Germany, German holders of the IB Diploma, who did not study German as part of the IB programme at a school outside Germany, must provide evidence of an adequate knowledge of German; the detail will be regulated by the legal provisions of individual German states.

2. If the conditions in point 1 are not fulfilled, the passing of an additional examination in accordance with the "Rahmenordnung für den Hochschulzugang mit ausländischen Bildungsnachweisen für die Ausbildung an den Studienkollegs und für die Feststellungsprüfung" [Framework regulation for entry to higher education with foreign educational certification for preparatory courses of study and for the assessment test] (Decision of the Standing Conference of Education Ministers of 15.04.1994 in the applicable version) is required for recognition as a qualification for entry to higher education. Recognition as a subject-specific qualification for entry to higher education is also possible in the form of a successfully completed one-year higher education course in a country whose school leaving certificates give access to higher education in Germany either directly or after a successfully completed one-year course of study.

3. The average grade for an International Baccalaureate Diploma/Diplôme du Baccalauréat International will be calculated in the state in which the certification is evaluated. The procedure for this will be based on the "Vereinbarung über die Festsetzung der Gesamtnote bei ausländischen Hochschulzugangsberechtigungen" [Agreement on establishing the overall grade for foreign authorizations for entry to higher education] (Decision of the Standing Conference of Education Ministers of 15.03.1991 in the applicable version) together with the following regulation, which refers specifically to the IB.

The calculation of the average grade (N) will be based on the total points (P) indicated in the International Baccalaureate Diploma/Diplôme du Baccalauréat International and on a maximum of 42 points (Pmax) and a minimum of 24 points (Pmin). Any extra points achieved will also be taken into consideration. Points totals between 42 (Pmax) and 45 (highest possible IB points total plus the maximum achievable 3 extra points) will be equated to the German average grade of 1.0.

The calculation is made using the following formula:

$$N = \frac{P + 3}{P_{\max} - P_{\min}}$$

Mit

N = gesuchte Note (Durchschnittsnote)

P = in Zeugnis ausgewiesene Gesamtpunktzahl

P_{max} = 42 Punkte (IB-Gesamtpunktzahl ohne Zusatzpunkte)

P_{min} = 24 Punkte (unterer Eckwert)

N = 1,0 (für 42 < P < 45)

4. The IBO will keep the Standing Conference of Education Ministers informed of any changes to the final examination (requirements, content, organization) and will give the German school supervisory authority the opportunity to look into the work of the schools. If advice is needed or at the request of one of the German states, the Advisory Board of the Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen (ZAB) [German Central Office for Foreign Education] will check whether the IB still meets the requirements for recognition.

5. This decision comes into force on the date on which it is passed by the Standing Conference of Education Ministers.

[1] From 2013 examination, Language A: Language and Literature or Language A: Literature.

[2] Applies since 2013 examination.

[3] Called "mathematics SL" since 2006 examination.

[4] Called "visual arts" since May 2000.

[5] Called "theatre" since 2009 examination.

[6] Called "environmental systems and societies" since 2010 examination

[7] (IB fail grades:

1 = very poor/très faible

2 = poor/faible

3 = mediocre/médiocre

IB pass grades:

4 = satisfactory/satisfaisant

5 = good/bon

6 = very good/très bon 7 = excellent/excellent)