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# General regulations: Diploma Programme



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## **Article 4: Equal opportunities statement**

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- 6.5 Under the licence granted upon submission for assessment purposes, the IB can electronically scan, store or reproduce submitted materials in any medium in order to allow the materials to be communicated to examiners, moderators and any other persons involved in the assessment process

7.6 Candidate data may be used:

- a. to register candidates in the DP and administer the DP and its requirements for the candidate and school, including sensitive personal data if making determinations about assessment accommodations
- b. to provide DP support and services for the candidate and school, including website services and online forums, assessment services and accommodations, delivery of courses online to the candidate and assisting candidates and their school with providing information to institutions of higher education (such as universities and colleges or governmental authorities related to admission to institutions of higher education)
- c. for use in research and statistical analysis related to the IB's mission, including research on assessments and results and the effectiveness of the DP
- d. for advertising and promotional purposes for the IB (such as student and/or alumni networks and social media platforms)
- e. for educational, training, commercial and other compatible purposes

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- 10.3 The same response language must be used for all components of a subject. However, if a subject is being retaken and the desired response language is not available in the target session for the subject concerned, internal assessment can be carried over from a previous session resulting in more than one response language for the same subject.

## III. Assessment

### **Article 11: Candidate registration**

- 11.1 Candidate registration is an application by a candidate to take DP assessments. The registration process is conducted using the IB information system (IBIS), a secure web-based service used by DP coordinators. Registration must be undertaken by the school's DP coordinator. No other method

## **Article 13: Award of the IB Diploma**

- 13.1 All assessment components for each of the six subjects and the additional Diploma requirements must be completed in order to qualify for the award of the IB Diploma, except under the conditions stipulated in articles 18 and 19 of these regulations.
- 13.2 The IB Diploma will be awarded to a candidate provided all the following requirements have been met.
- a. CAS requirements have been met.
  - b. The candidate's total points are 24 or more.
  - c. There is no "N" awarded for theory of knowledge, the extended essay or for a contributing subject.
  - d. There is no grade E awarded for theory of knowledge and/or the extended essay.
  - e. There is no grade 1 awarded in a subject/level.
  - f. There are no more than two grade 2s awarded (HL or SL).
  - g. There are no more than three grade 3s or below awarded (HL or SL).
  - h. The candidate has gained 12 points or more on HL subjects (for candidates who register for four HL subjects, the three highest grades count).
  - i. The candidate has gained 9 points or more on SL subjects (candidates who register for two SL subjects must gain at least 5 points at SL).
  - j. The candidate has not received a penalty for academic misconduct from the Final Award Committee.
- 13.3 A maximum of three examination sessions is allowed in which to satisfy the requirements for the award of the IB Diploma. The examination sessions need not be consecutive.

## **Article 14: Form of the results**

- 14.1 Successful IB Diploma Candidates will receive an IB Diploma and a document entitled "Diploma Programme (DP) Results" listing the total IB Diploma points score, the subject grades, confirmation of the completion of all CAS requirements and any points awarded and individual grades for the combination of theory of knowledge and the extended essay.
- 14.2 A Bilingual IB Diploma will be awarded to a successful candidate who fulfills one or both of the following criteria.
- a. Completion of two languages selected from group 1 with the award of a grade 3 or higher in both
  - b. Completion of one of the subjects from group 3 or group 4 in a language that is not the same as the candidate's group 1 language. The candidate must attain a grade 3 or higher in both the group 1 language and the subject from group 3 or 4.
- 14.3 An IB Diploma Candidate who fails to satisfy the requirements for the award of an IB Diploma will receive DP Course Results indicating the grades obtained in individual subjects, together with results in theory of knowledge and the extended essay, and confirmation of the completion of all CAS requirements, as appropriate.
- 14.4 DP Course Candidates receive DP Course Results indicating the results obtained in individual subjects and the core requirements, as appropriate.

## **Article 15: Enquiry upon results**

- 15.1 A candidate's assessment material may be re-marked, returned to the school (in electronic format or as a photocopy) and/or subject to re-moderation (for internal assessment) as part of the enquiry upon results service, the details and fees for which are specified in the handbook. The categories and conditions of this service are subject to change and therefore are in accordance with the details given in the handbook for the examination session concerned. All enquiries upon results must be submitted by the school on behalf of the candidate.
- 15.2 Re-marking a candidate's assessment material may lead to a higher or a lower grade for the subject. Therefore, before submitting a request for an enquiry upon results service that may result in a change of grade, the school must obtain the written consent of the candidate or his or her legal guardian ensuring that the candidate and/or the legal guardian are aware that the grade may go up or down.
- 15.3 If the school's DP coordinator believes the process leading to the grade upon re-marking or re-moderation did not respect the procedures defined in these general regulations and/or the handbook, the coordinator may request, on behalf of the candidate, a report on the re-mark. Before requesting a report the school must obtain the consent of the candidate(s) or his or her legal guardian(s).
- 15.4 Beyond the enquiry upon results service, the coordinator may not request a subsequent re-marking of work or a further moderation of marks for internal assessment. However, the candidate is entitled to submit an appeal under the conditions defined in article 22.

## **Article 16: IB DP Final Award Committee**

- 16.1 The IB DP Final Award Committee is the body that formally awards the IB Diploma and DP Course Results on the basis of the grades determined by grade award procedures. The award is made by the committee on behalf of the IB Board of Governors.
- 16.2 The Final Award Committee consists of representatives of the IB Board of Governors, of the Examining Board and senior IB assessment staff, and is chaired by the chair of the Examining Board. The IB Board of Governors established the Examining Board, which comprises senior IB examiners, with the principal aim of safeguarding and enhancing the academic standards of the DP.
- 16.3 The Final Award Committee may delegate decisions on cases of alleged academic misconduct to a sub-committee, but the Final Award Committee is the body that has authority to make the final

- 17.4 If a candidate needs inclusive assessment arrangements, the DP coordinator must make such arrangements and, where appropriate, request authorization for inclusive assessment arrangements from the IB according to procedures stated in the handbook.
- 17.5 If the inclusive assessment arrangements authorized by the IB are considered inappropriate for a candidate by a school, a candidate or the candidate's legal guardian(s), the DP coordinator may request a re-evaluation of the candidate's needs to decide whether the authorized arrangements are appropriate. A first re-evaluation of the arrangements will be undertaken by the IB staff who authorized the arrangements. If the first re-evaluation does not then meet with agreement from the school, a second re-evaluation will be undertaken jointly by persons with appropriate qualifications, one who is an IB employee not involved in the original decision and one who is not an employee of the IB. No further re-evaluations are possible after the second re-evaluation. The IB must receive any re-evaluation request from the DP coordinator within one month of the coordinator having received initial confirmation of the authorized inclusive assessment arrangements or the result of the first re-evaluation request, as appropriate.
- 17.6 If a candidate is granted inclusive assessment arrangements (and these are properly implemented by the school), candidates and/or their legal guardian(s) are not entitled to claim that they are affected by adverse circumstances in the event that assessment results following such arrangements are not at levels desired and/or anticipated by candidates. The authorization of inclusive assessment arrangements is the sole accommodation by the IB for candidates with learning support requirements.

## **Article 18: Candidates affected by adverse circumstances**

- 18.1 Adverse circumstances are defined as those beyond the control of the candidate that might be detrimental to his or her assessment performance, including severe stress, idisr(p)-1-4.2(g)2.1(ipst)-27.8(o)-6.97(s o)-4 ty anfm11.96su92.5(s)-1-mea0e10.2f.1(e)-1(g11(d)8( ))-1.a gnnr-e cdates7wt dates7wt3e92n.a ac.5(t h.9(e)-o )2.11()-2.4

in such affected subjects) will be raised; in the case of theory of knowledge and the extended essay, one mark away from the next higher grade boundary is required for a grade adjustment to be made. This is the only possible accommodation for candidates in the event of adverse circumstances. If a candidate's marks are not within the required range, then no adjustment will be made.

## **Article 19: Candidates with incomplete assessment**

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- e. unethical behaviour such as the inclusion of inappropriate material in any assessment materials or the breach of ethical guidelines when conducting research
- f. any other behaviour that gains an unfair advantage for a candidate or that affects the results of another candidate (for example, falsifying a CAS record, disclosure of information to and receipt of information from candidates about the content of an examination paper within 24 hours after a written examination via any form of communication/media).

## **Article 21: Investigating cases of suspected academic misconduct**

- 21.1 If questions arise about the authenticity of a candidate's work before submission for assessment, the situation must be resolved within the school. If possible academic misconduct (for example, plagiarism, collusion) is identified after a candidate's work has been submitted to the IB for assessment, the school's DP coordinator must inform the IB as soon as possible.
- 21.2 When a school, an examiner or the IB establishes evidence to suspect academic misconduct by a candidate, the school will be required to conduct an investigation and provide the IB with statements and other relevant documentation concerning the case. If a school fails to support the investigation into possible academic misconduct, no grade will be awarded to the candidate in the subject(s) concerned.
- 21.3 If the IB notifies a school that a candidate is suspected of academic misconduct and that the IB has the intention of initiating an investigation, at the discretion of the head of school it is permissible for the candidate to be withdrawn from the session or from the subject(s) in which academic misconduct may have occurred. However, at the discretion of the IB the investigation into the suspected academic misconduct by the candidate may still proceed and a decision be reached on whether to uphold or dismiss academic misconduct. If a candidate is withdrawn from a subject no mark for that subject may contribute to the award of a grade in a future examination session.
- 21.4 Candidates suspected of academic misconduct must be invited, through the school's DP coordinator, to present a written statement that addresses the suspicion of academic misconduct. If a candidate declines to present a statement, the investigation and decision on whether the candidate is in breach of regulations will still proceed.
- 21.5 The majority of cases of suspected academic misconduct will be presented to a sub-committee of the Final Award Committee. The sub-committee will normally comprise IB staff, school representatives, and chief/deputy chief examiners, but any group or combination of these persons may make decisions on cases subject to the approval of the Final Award Committee. The sub-committee will be chaired by the chair or vice-chair of the Final Award Committee, or a chief examiner nominated by the vice-chair.
- 21.6 Decisions of the sub-committee are made on behalf of and under the supervision of the Final Award Committee. After reviewing all statements and evidence collected during the investigation, the sub-committee will decide whether to dismiss the suspicion of academic misconduct, uphold it, or ask for further investigations to be made. If the sub-committee is unable to reach a decision, then the case will be referred to the Final Award Committee.
- 21.7 If the sub-committee decides that a case of academic misconduct has been established, a penalty will be applied in the subject(s) concerned. The penalty will, in the judgment of the sub-committee, be proportionate with the severity of the misconduct.
- 21.8 If no grade is issued for a subject that contributes to a candidate's IB Diploma, no IB Diploma will be awarded to the candidate. DP Course Results will be awarded for other subjects in which no academic misconduct has occurred. Except in cases of serious or repeated misconduct, the candidate will be permitted to register for future examination sessions, which may include the session that follows six months later, if the relevant registration deadlines are met. In the case of an IB Diploma Candidate, if the session in which the academic misconduct has been established is the candidate's third examination session towards achieving the award of the IB Diploma, no further IB examination sessions will be permitted.

- 21.9 If the candidate has already been found in breach of regulations in any previous session, this will normally lead to disqualification from participation in any future examination session.
- 21.10 If there is substantive evidence, the IB is entitled to conduct an investigation into academic misconduct after a candidate's results have been issued. If academic misconduct is subsequently established by the Final Award Committee, or its sub-committee, the candidate's grade for the subject(s) concerned may be withdrawn from the candidate which will also result in the withdrawal of his or her IB Diploma where applicable.

## V. Appeals

### **Article 22 Admissibility of an appeal**

- 22.1 The IB accepts appeals in relation to five areas of decision-making during an examination session. Appeals are possible against:
- a. results—when a school has reason to believe that a candidate's results are inaccurate after all appropriate enquiry upon results procedures have been completed
  - b. a decision upholding academic misconduct, but not the penalties imposed for misconduct
  - c. a decision in respect of special consideration—following a decision not to give special consideration to a candidate as a consequence of alleged adverse circumstances-maki4nwc



## **Article 27: Arbitration**

Any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of, or in relation to, these general regulations, including the interpretation, validity, breach or termination thereof, shall be finally settled by arbitration by the Geneva Chamber of Commerce in accordance with the Swiss Rules of International Arbitration of the Swiss Chambers' Arbitration Institution ("Rules") in force on the date when the notice of arbitration is submitted in accordance with such Rules. The number of arbitrators shall be one, the seat of the arbitration shall be Geneva and the arbitral proceedings shall be conducted in English. The parties hereby agree to use information technology systems and electronic communications to the extent permitted in conducting any arbitral proceedings. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the IB may seek injunctive relief with respect to a violation of intellectual property rights or confidentiality obligations in any applicable jurisdiction.

## **Article 28: Entry into force and transitory rules**

The IB may amend these general regulations from time to time. This version of the general regulations enters into force on 1 September 2016 and applies to all candidates commencing the DP on or after that date.