



Award of the IB Diploma

The IB Diploma is a two-year course of study. All IB students study six subjects from different academic areas, of which three are studied at higher level and three at standard level. IB subjects are graded on a 1-7 scale with 7 being the highest score. To qualify for the award of the IB Diploma a student must receive a combined score of 24 points across six subjects with at least 12 points from higher level subjects and a minimum of nine (9) points from standard level subject.

In addition to the six subjects, IB Diploma students are required to complete three Core elements – Theory of Knowledge, the Extended Essay and CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service).

The maximum points that can be awarded to an IB Diploma student is the full score of 45 with 42 points generated across the six subjects and three (3) bonus points derived from Theory of Knowledge and the Extended Essay. To be eligible for the award of the Diploma, students must receive at least a D in Theory of Knowledge and the Extended Essay as explained in the table below.

Theory of Knowledge

	EXCELLENT A	GOOD B	SATISFACTORY C	MEDIOCRE D	ELEMENTARY E	NOT SUBMITTED
EXCELLENT A	3	3	2	2	1+ FAILING CONDITION*	N
GOOD B	3	2	1	1	FAILING CONDITION*	N
SATIS- FACTORY C	2	1	1	0	FAILING CONDITION*	N
MEDIOCRE D	2	1	0	0	FAILING CONDITION*	N
ELEMEN- TARY E	1+ FAILING CONDITION*	FAILING CONDITION*	FAILING CONDITION*	FAILING CONDITION*	FAILING CONDITION*	N
NOT SUBMITTED	N	N	N	N	N	N

What is the CORE and how is it assessed?

The Core comprises Theory of Knowledge, the Extended Essay and CAS (Creative, Activity, Service).

Theory of Knowledge

Theory of Knowledge is a one hundred hour course taught over two years with a focus on critical thinking and inquiry into the nature of knowledge.

The Extended Essay

The Extended Essay is a 4,000-word independent research essay into a topic of the student's interest. The student is guided by a supervisor.

CAS

CAS is a journey of self-discovery in which students participate in a range of activities to meet seven learning outcomes.

Example 1: Subjects selected from all six groups

	SUBJECT	LEVEL	GRADE
GROUP 1	ENGLISH A LITERATURE	HL	7
GROUP 2	FRENCH B	SL	6
GROUP 3	HISTORY	HL	7
GROUP 4	BIOLOGY	SL	6
GROUP 5	MATHEMATICS: ANALYSIS & APPROACHES	SL	6
GROUP 6	VISUAL ARTS	HL	7
THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE		A	3
EXTENDED ESSAY		A	
TOTAL POINTS			42

An IB score of 42 is equivalent to an ATAR of 99.40

Example 2: The double science option

	SUBJECT	LEVEL	GRADE
GROUP 1	ENGLISH A LITERATURE	SL	6
GROUP 2	SPANISH AB INITIO	SL	6
GROUP 3	ECONOMICS	HL	7
GROUP 4	CHEMISTRY	HL	6
GROUP 5	MATHEMATICS: ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION	SL	6
GROUP 6	BIOLOGY	SL	5
THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE		A	2
EXTENDED ESSAY		B	
TOTAL POINTS			38

An IB score of 38 is equivalent to an ATAR of 96.70

Example 3: Studying two humanities subjects

	SUBJECT	LEVEL	GRADE
GROUP 1	ENGLISH A LITERATURE	SL	4
GROUP 2	FRENCH	SL	5
GROUP 3	GLOBAL POLITICS	HL	6
GROUP 4	BIOLOGY	HL	4
GROUP 5	MATHEMATICS: ANALYSIS & INTERPRETATION	SL	5
GROUP 6	GEOGRAPHY	SL	4
THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE		C	1
EXTENDED ESSAY		C	
TOTAL POINTS			29

An IB score of 29 is equivalent to an ATAR of 81.90

University Recognition and Scholarships

A full score of 45 points is equivalent to an ATAR of 99.95. The average IB score worldwide is 29 points and equivalent to an ATAR of 81.90.

Universities often award bonus points or credit exemptions for IB students' language and Maths options. For instance:

- UWA welcomes IB students with a total score of 27 points for entry to Bachelor of Arts, Biomedical Science and Commerce, with an adjustment to 26 points for a second language and Maths at higher or standard level.
- University of Queensland offers up to one semester (8 units) of credit to IB students attaining a score of six (6) in most higher level subjects.
- Curtin University may offer Credit Recognised Learning (CRL) for subject scores of six (6) or above.
- Griffith University recognises the rigour of the IB Diploma programme and offers students the opportunity to fast-track their studies. IB Diploma students may also be eligible for the Dean's Sir Samuel Griffith Scholarship.
- University of Melbourne's Chancellor's Scholars programme is available to students who complete the IB in Australia.
- Deakin University's International Baccalaureate Scholarship is available to Australian citizens.