

The Pierce IBDP Evaluative Interview

The evaluative interview is intended to help the Pierce IB interview committee assess a student-candidate's fit for the Pierce IBDP. The interview committee will be school administrators, the IBDP Coordinator, and IBDP faculty members.

The interview committee speaks with you, asks questions, takes notes based upon your answers and considers how you and the program will complement and benefit each other.

The committee will want to find out exactly what you have to offer as a candidate, that you have future goals in mind, and that you're prepared for a rigorous university-level program as a high school student.

In preparation, we recommend that you show true enthusiasm for your proposed courses and area of study, your outside interests, and your sincere interest in and knowledge of the IBDP and Pierce. We are looking for well-rounded individuals who show the potential to thrive in the IB environment.

Tips:

1. Research possible courses and the IB Program as a whole (yes, thoroughly). You should understand what the IBDP is and what its various components are. You should be very familiar with the IBDP Learner Profile and what each aspect means.
2. Read the IB course information carefully. Consider what particularly interests you about the course(s). Is there a particular aspect of the course that piques your interest? Why are you choosing it? What expectations do you have? Ask around and see if you know anyone who is already doing that course; solicit information from them.
3. Show interest in the world beyond the classroom. Review news articles. Read for background information about the topics associated with courses that really interest you. Don't worry, we are not expecting you to be an expert, but we are looking for self-motivated, curious, and passionate learners.
4. Make yourself memorable and prepare to talk about your hobbies, your interests, what inspires you, and even what your friends like about you.
5. Know and be ready to explain your academic strengths. You should be able to clarify how you recognized your strengths, how you are currently using those strengths, and how you plan to put your strengths to use in the future.
6. Know and be ready to discuss aspects of your academics that need improvement and how you've worked or are working to address them. Please don't simply say you don't have any weaknesses. That's not very believable, honest with self-reflection, and rather arrogant.
7. Ask a teacher or advisor at school to help you practice with a mock interview. For extra practice, get a friend or your parents discuss questions related to the IBDP.
8. Remember: be yourself (well, your "professional student-self"). It's ok to relax in an interview. The best interviews are formal conversations that naturally flow back and forth, so feel free to ask questions if you wonder about something. Please don't memorize your answers; we don't want you to sound robotic.

Below is a video link that you should watch, although it is focused upon interviewing for university admission, there are tips and ideas are similar and will help you prepare for the Pierce IBDP interview.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/college-careers-more/college-admissions/applying-to-college/admissions-interviews/v/succeeding-at-the-admissions-interview>

Best of luck. We look forward to our discussion with you about your future in Pierce's IBDP.