

Pierce-IBDP Admissions Policy

Admissions Requirements for Internal and External Candidates

Admission to the Pierce IBDP is open to all Pierce and non-Pierce Grade 10 students (A Lyceum). Selection is not based solely on high scores on a standardized English test. Student-applicants must demonstrate the ability to be independent learners and critical thinkers, to be 'internationally-minded' in their thinking and their actions, and meet the key attributes of the IB Learner Profile. The IB Learner Profile traits are embedded within the IBDP and reflect the student's ability to respect themselves, demonstrate respect to others and the wider communities of which they are members.

Student-applicants must demonstrate a competent international English language proficiency level in order to be successful in the IBDP. The three core components are in English as are the overwhelming majority of IBDP courses. Student-applicants must also have a mathematical background sufficient to successfully undertake one of the following: IBDP Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches (Higher or Standard Level) or Mathematics: Applications and Interpretation (Higher or Standard Level).

Admission Procedures for Internal and External Candidates

1. All student-applicants and their parents should attend one of the Pierce IBDP Information presentations about the Pierce IBDP. If the student-applicant and parents are unable to attend, they must attend a separate conference with the IBDP Coordinator.
 2. All student-applicants must complete an application form by the announced deadline.
 3. Student-applicants must successfully complete and pass the following DP-related entrance exams:
 - An English language comprehension exam (duration: 1/2 hour). (*)
 - A written response on a topic related to the IBDP philosophy (duration: 1/2 hour)
 - A Mathematics exam (duration: 1 hour).
- (*) All Pierce students are excluded from the English language comprehension exam. However, their language and academic ability will be assessed through both the review of their grades in their English classes and oral feedback from their English teachers from 7th grade onwards.
4. All applicants must provide a copy of their A' Lyceum Grade Report Card, of the 1st semester.
 5. After the written exams, all student-applicants will be invited to the next step, an interview with a panel comprised of Pierce IBDP faculty and administrators. *(Please note that the invitation to the interview is not admission into the Pierce IBDP, it is the next step in the admissions process.)*

6. The interview is conducted in English and designed to focus on personal qualities such as the student-applicant's critical and creative thinking, initiative, commitment to achieving goals, English language proficiency, and the applicant's understanding of the ten traits of the IB Learner Profile. The committee may request an art portfolio from a student who is considering the IB Visual Arts classes as a part of the interview process.
7. Based upon the results of the interview, all exams results, and the report card, the Pierce IB Admissions Committee will discuss and make the final choice for admission into the Pierce IBDP. All students who interview will be notified that they are either invited to participate in the Pierce IBDP or they have not qualified for the program.
8. Students accepted into the Pierce IBDP will be sent an invitation letter with documents requiring both parental and student signatures. Once all documents are signed and received by the DP Coordinator, the student is officially a member of the Pierce IBDP.