



Welcome to the WCHS I.B. Information Night for Grade 9 Parents and Students



Calgary Board
of Education

IB Mission Statement



The International Baccalaureate aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.



IB Diploma Model



All WCHS IB students choose 2-6 subjects in 6 groups & participate in the “core” .



This includes an extra-curricular C.A.S. program as well as 50 hours (partial IB) - 100 hours (full IB) of the Theory of Knowledge curriculum. The Extended Essay (over Grade 11/12) is mandatory for full IB students only.



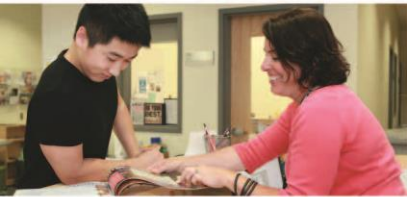
Who should choose IB...?

Students excited about learning!!



- Partial IB students choose courses for interest or career aspirations & should pick two or more classes in which they are **strong**.
- Full diploma IB students should be efficient, self-motivated students who are not currently challenged and love delving deeper.
- Drive and ambition are helpful.

The WCHS IB Learner



- Students with academic integrity
- Students who are fast learners (25-50% more material per class than regular stream)
- Students who continue learning on their own and can get motivated by set-backs
- Students who take responsibility for group work, big projects, heavy workload and deadlines (and ask for help when required)
- Students who develop time management and avoid procrastination

The IB Learner Profile



Balanced
Communicator
Principled
Knowledgeable
Caring
Risk-taker
Open-minded
Inquirers
Reflective
Thinkers

Benefits of the IB Programme



- If something is hard, brain research shows you need to work that part of your brain extra hard before age 20 to maximize potential for life-long learning.
- You get to work with like-minded students.
- Universities appreciate students taking enriched curricula (apply as an “IB Student”).
- Advanced credit or advanced standing may be given based on performance on IB exams.
- Qualify for more scholarships
- The IB Diploma is seen as the “classic” liberal arts education by post-secondary institutions.

French Immersion IB



- French Immersion IB courses and the full Bilingual IB Diploma are only offered at Western so any F.I. “resident of the CBE” can apply
- French Language Arts will need to be one of the chosen IB classes (Math and Social Studies will be the only other two subjects taken in French).
- Francophone, early & late immersion students are all together in classes
- Science, ELA, PE, and options are all in English

French Immersion IB FAQ's



- Can I apply for F.I. IB, but take S.S. and Math in English? - No
- Can I apply for partial IB in French Immersion?
 - Yes, you can take any (2 or more) IB classes you like (one of which must be FLA IB).
- Can I apply for FI IB from an English school? - No
- Can I switch from French Immersion “regular” to Partial English IB to stay at WCHS if French Imm. is too hard?
 - We have a new IB cap for 2024 so this may not be possible.
- Can I apply for English IB and still take FLA IB?
 - not possible as FLA is part of a whole program
 - students who switch to English can take Spanish or Chinese IB or can “challenge” Alberta FSL 30 credits (Gr. 10) and continue to FSL 30-6y IB (Gr. 11) and FSL 30-9y IB (Gr. 12) as an alternate pathway to French B HL.
 - Students who do not get offered a place in the English IB programme can still do regular French Immersion
- Don't forget to fill out the transfer if you are switching to the English IB program from F.I.

How to get in to the IB Programme...



Current CBE Students		Current non-CBE Students	
In regular boundary (English / French)	In IB boundary (English / French)	In regular boundary (English / French)	In IB boundary (English / French)
IB E of I to WCHS Feb. 1-Mar. 15	IB E of I to WCHS Feb. 1-Mar. 15	IB E of I to WCHS Feb. 1-Mar. 15	IB E of I to WCHS Feb. 1-Mar. 15
Grade 9 report to WCHS Feb. 1-Mar. 15	Grade 9 report to WCHS Feb. 1-Mar. 15	Grade 9 report to WCHS Feb. 1-Mar. 15	Grade 9 report to WCHS Feb. 1-Mar. 15
		School Engage after Jan. 18	School Engage after Jan. 18
	On-line transfer Feb. 1-Mar. 15		On-line transfer Feb. 1-Mar. 15

Expression of Interest (E of I) Process



- Go to www.cbe.ab.ca under the Registration tab and “Forms you need”
- Students email the CBE area IB school for their primary residence an “E of I” between Feb 1 – Mar 15 (must live with a legal guardian).
- Email westerncanada@cbe.ab.ca (please don’t c.c. anyone else at the school)
- **Please email the E of I and Grade 9 interim report card together**
- Please attach documents as .pdf or .doc (no links to a Google drive, please don’t embed photos into the body of the email).
- Leave the CBE # blank if it hasn’t been issued.

[Schools](#)
▼[Programs](#)
▼[Registration](#)
▼[About Us](#)
▼[Get Involved](#)
▼**Registration**

[New Student Registration](#)
[Alternative Programs](#)
[New School Under Construction](#)
[Lottery](#)

[Browse All ->](#)

Fees & Waivers

[Central Fee Waiver](#)
[Flexible Payment Options](#)
[Find My School Fees](#)
[Fee Information Questions and Answers](#)
[Fees, Sales and Services Terms and Conditions](#)
[School Fees Overview](#)

[Browse All ->](#)

Records & Transcripts**[Transfers](#)****[Forms You Need](#)****[Back to School](#)****Calendars**

[Instructional Calendar](#)
[Unique Setting](#)
[Dates of Significance](#)
[Browse All ->](#)

Forms You Need

[Registration](#)[Fees & Waivers](#)[Records & Transcripts](#)[Transfers](#)[Forms You Need](#)[Back to School](#)[Calendars](#)

Forms You Need

Registration or Transfer

[International Baccalaureate \(IB\) Registration Information and Expression of Interest](#)

[Off-campus Education Acknowledgement of Risk](#)

[Off-campus or On-campus Education Agreement](#)

[Parent Acknowledgement of Understanding for Alternative Program Registration](#)

[Student Records Request and Authorization Form](#)

[Transfer Request for Unique Setting High School](#)

[Transfer Request Form ECS-Grade 9 Schools & Early Development Centres](#)

[Transfer Request: Change of Address for High School](#)



Calgary Board
of Education

International Baccalaureate (IB) Programmes Expression of Interest

Complete the fields in the form below and submit to your designated school on or before **March 15**.
Submit this form to **one** school only.

Part 1 | Student Information

Student's Legal Last Name		Birthdate	
			YYYY / MM / DD
Student's Legal First Name		Preferred First Name	
Student Address			Postal Code
Community (Neighbourhood)		Independent Student Phone #	
School Attended for Grade 9		CBE ID Number	
CBE Designated High School			

Part 2 | Parent / Legal Guardian Information

Parent 1

Last Name		First Name	
Home Phone #		Cell Phone #	
Email			
Address (if different from student)			Postal Code
Signature (required for students under 18)			Date

Parent 2 (optional)

Last Name		First Name	
Home Phone #		Cell Phone #	
Email			
Address (if different from student)			Postal Code
Signature (required for students under 18)			Date

Part 3 | IB Preference

Select **One** Option Below

1. ☐ IB Diploma Programme (Full Program)

If selected, choose **one** option below:

- ☐ IB English
☐ IB French Immersion

2. ☐ IB Career Programme

If this option is selected, choose **one** career programme below:

- ☐ Animation
☐ Architecture
☐ Bio Medical
☐ Culinary
☐ Engineering
☐ Financial Management
☐ Graphic Design

3. ☐ IB Course Programme

If this option is selected, complete the following information:
Specify **2 or more** courses:

View the [High School Course Guide](#) for IB course list or school website.

Please type
this form.
(Please note
that
Western
does not
offer the IB
Career
Programme
(but you can
transfer to
Lester B.
Pearson for
it).

FULL IB



French
Immersion /
Francophone
students
should
complete the
IB Expression
of Interest in
French

PARTIAL IB



The School Engage Process



Students who are not currently in a CBE school must register with the school board through the on-line School Engage process.

- Register for the regular English or French Immersion program at the designated CBE high school.
- This cannot happen until next year's registration opens (~Jan. 18)

Not A CBE Student?

If you are **not** a CBE student with a valid CBE Student ID, please follow the prompts below to first register at your designated regular program school and be assigned a Student ID number. Student ID numbers will be updated in your SchoolEngage account **after Feb. 21** and you can then proceed with a transfer request.



I'm Not A Student In The CBE

You **first** need to register at your designated regular or alternative program school

[New Student Registration](#)



Find Your Designated School

Use your address to find your designated school

[Find a School Tool](#)

Grades 1-12

Current School Year

2023-2024

Children must be at least six years old as of Dec. 31, 2023 to start Grade 1 in 2023-2024.

[Register for the Current School Year](#)

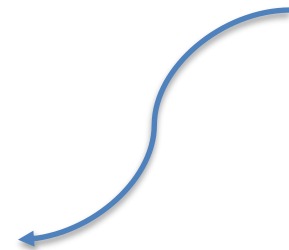
Next School Year

2024-2025

Children must be at least six years old as of Dec. 31, 2024 to start Grade 1 in 2024-2025.

Registration Opens January 2024

[Information for 2024-2025](#)



On-line transfer (for CBE and non-CBE)



- Must fill out an on-line transfer starting February 1st and before March 15th
- A current CBE # is required (start School Engage at your designated regular program CBE high school **early if non-CBE** and CBE #'s should be ready by Feb. 22)
- The CBE will send confirmations of transfer approval in mid to late April. (10 days to accept)

Transfers



The IB programme at Western has a cap of 300 Grade 10 students for 2024-2025.

Order of acceptance:

- French Immersion IB
- In regular boundary English IB
- IB boundary English IB
 - A draw may be necessary. Students not offered a place at Western will likely be offered a spot in another IB programme.
 - You can turn down the placement and attend a non-CBE school
 - A very limited number of Grade 11 students may be accepted to transfer into IB



On-line transfer



High School Transfer

Select from one of the options below:

Program or Sequence of Courses Request

A transfer request can be made to another CBE high school for the next school year when a program or sequence of courses is not offered at their designated school, or when a student in an alternative program wants to return to their Regular Program community school.

[Learn More](#)

Address Change

To request a transfer, complete the Change of Address for High School Form, including proof of the new, current address.

[Learn More](#)

Unique Setting Schools

This is only for requests to transfer to unique settings high schools

[Learn More](#)

International Baccalaureate Programme (IB)

The IB Programme is available to students in each CBE Area. Students can request a transfer if the diploma or course programme is not available at their designated school

[Learn More](#)

Moving into the area before March 15



- Our IB programme will be filled using the March 15th applicants.
- Ensure the current middle school has your correct address.
- CBE schools may need to re-designate.
- The IB area will still require the transfer by the March 15th deadline.

Committing to the IB programme



- WCHS will send you a guide on choosing courses even before transfers can be approved (this is not official acceptance from the CBE).
- We will have virtual course selection workshops for which you can sign up so you can ask questions and get feedback on your choices.
- Students will be re-directed to their regular program designated school in Grade 11 should they not continue into IB.
- *Choose your program carefully as all IB courses (even the IB Options) are highly academic.*

No Entrance Exams



- There are NO entrance exams or placement tests to get in to IB or particular IB courses.
- We do look at Grade 9 interim report cards to counsel students on course selection.
- Junior high teachers and staff should counsel students on course choice and we are also available to do the same during our virtual course selection workshops.
- Ask the junior high teachers if they think IB would be a good fit for you.
- Mandated IPP Accommodations are possible in the IB program.

IB Courses are very challenging



- Congratulations on making the decision to commit to the IB programme!
- IB courses also include Alberta curriculum
- Students should assume they will attend tutorials before and after school every Monday-Thursday to maximize potential for success. (8:35am- 9:00 am and 3:20 – 3:40pm)
- Students are encouraged to form study groups and should start working hard from day 1.
- We can definitely make adjustments to some students' programs after they have done a semester (as long as 2+ IB courses continue).
- Other supports are available (peer tutors...).

Frequently asked questions....



- **What if I move into the IB boundary in the spring? summer?**
 - There is a “Change of Address High School Transfer Request” Online. You should already be enrolled in an IB programme at your area IB school. Late placement in our IB programme is not guaranteed.
- **What if I am an elite athlete; will I have time for IB?**
 - It is definitely possible, but ask yourself, how busy am I now?
- **What if I already have some Grade 10 courses?**
 - Math 10H is still recommended unless students receive 90%+ but please discuss this during course selection time.
- **What if I want to change course selections in the spring / summer?**
 - We would like students to commit to the courses they have chosen for at least the first semester.
 - Please look at your timetable in August and if first semester is "heavier" than second semester, we will try to balance it upon request. Some students get 4 cores scheduled by the computer!
- **What if I decide IB is not for me, right away, as soon as I start?**
 - We timetable based on March course selections and **cannot** accommodate timetable switches in the fall – even if you move to our regular designated boundary.

IB / Honours Courses at Western



- Group 1: English Literature
- Group 2: Spanish & French (beginner, experienced and F.I. will start in different classes). Chinese H is offered on Saturdays through The Chinese Academy.
- Group 3: History of Europe (combined with Alberta Social Studies), Philosophy, Business & Management
- Group 4: Biology, Chemistry, Physics
- Group 5: Math Analysis & Approaches (Math Applications & Interpretations is supported)
- Group 6: Visual Art and Band

Other on-line \$\$\$ possibilities starting in Grade 11 ... www.pamojaeducation.com

IB vs. AP



- IB can be taken as individual courses (like AP) or as a full high school diploma.
- IB courses have an inquiry based internal assessment (~25%) and final exams (~75%) whereas AP accreditation is based on exams only (this helped IB grant diplomas and credits during COVID)
- IB has a CORE – with CAS, the EE, and ToK
- The IBO has a university recognition department, renews their curriculum on a 7 year cycle, has mandatory professional development, and rigorously evaluates their schools every 5 years.

The Full IB diploma



- Must take 6 IB courses
- One course in each group (1-5) plus one extra course from group 1 - 6 (language, second science, Philosophy, Art, Band, Business...)
- The CORE is evaluated as part of the diploma
- May qualify for automatic scholarships, early entrance to university ...
- Advanced credit, apply with IB grades and Alberta grades (schools evaluate both).
- Bilingual diploma possible
- \$25 annual fee
- ~\$200 per exam course ($6 \times \$200 = \1200)
- Our average IB diploma score is 37+ / 45 points and ~50 students complete the diploma each year.

Partial IB (“IB Courses Student”)



- Complete 2+ IB courses to the exam level based on interest / passion (you may not have IB every semester)
- Easiest way to get 3 IB Sciences
- You may drop from full IB to partial IB (only at the end of semesters / years)
- Advanced credit, apply with IB grades and Alberta grades...
- \$25 annual fee
- ~\$200 per exam (in Grade 11 or 12)
- 200 - 250 partial IB students in each of Grade 11 and 12
- Benefit from rigour, knowledgeable classmates, different types of assessments

Course Progressions



- Not every combination is possible.
- There are a maximum of 8 time slots per year and some classes are only offered in a particular semester.
- Students choose their potential IB subjects in the spring of Grade 9 to make their Grade 10 timetable and will meet with a guidance counselor in the fall of Grade 10 to make adjustments during 3 year planning.
- We make every effort to “balance” the difficulty of the two Grade 10 semesters.

Group 1 – English Literature



Grade 10	English 10 H
Grade 11	English 20 IB
Grade 12	English 30IB English Literature 35IB *SL and HL follow the same path*

Group 2 – Language Acquisition

Beginners – language “*ab initio*”



Grade 10	French or Spanish 10H *French Immersion and Francophone always start at FLA 10H*
Grade 11	French or Spanish 20 IB
Grade 12	French or Spanish 30 – 3y IB

Some Experience (Gr7-9) – Language B

Grade 10	French or Spanish 20 Honours / IB *Spanish bilingual students start at 30-3y IB and finish at 30-9y IB
Grade 10 or 11	French or Spanish 30-3y IB (CBE challenge exam possible)
Grade 11 or 12	French or Spanish 30-6y IB
Grade 12 (for HL)	French or Spanish 30-9y IB

Group 3 – Individuals & Societies



Grade 10	Social Studies 10 H (or 10HF)
Grade 11	Social Studies 20 IB (or 20IBF)
Grade 12	Social Studies 30-1 “regular” (or 30-1F) Western World History 35IB SL (35IBF -required for a bilingual diploma)

Grade 10	Marketing & Management Multilevel
Grade 11	Business Management 20IB
Grade 12	Business Management 30IB SL
	*regular Social 10-20-30 is required

Grade 11 or 12	Philosophy 20/30IB SL (one semester)
	*regular Social 10-20-30 is required

Group 4 – Sciences



Grade 10	Science 10 H Biology 20 Cohort A
Grade 11	Biology 25 IB and Biology 30 IB (for SL)
Grade 12	Biology 35 IB (optional for HL)



Grade 10	Science 10 H
Grade 11	Chemistry 20 IB
Grade 12	Chemistry 25/35 IB Chemistry 30 IB HL



Grade 10	Science 10 H Physics 20 Cohort A
Grade 11	Physics 25 IB and Physics 30 IB (for SL)
Grade 12	Physics 35 IB (optional for HL)

Group 5 – Mathematics



Grade 10	Math 10 H Math 20 H
Grade 11	Math 30 IB Math 31 IB Analysis & Approaches SL
Grade 12	n/a



Grade 10	Math 10 H Math 20 H
Grade 11	Math 30 IB Math 31 IB Analysis & Approaches HL
Grade 12	Math 35 IB Analysis & Approaches HL



Group 6 – Fine Arts



Grade 10	Art 10 or 10H
Grade 11	Art 20IB
Grade 12	Art 30IB SL



Grade 10	Instrumental Music 10 H Band 15 Cohort B
Grade 11	Instrumental Music 20
Grade 12	Instrumental Music 30 Band 35 IB SL



Band at Western

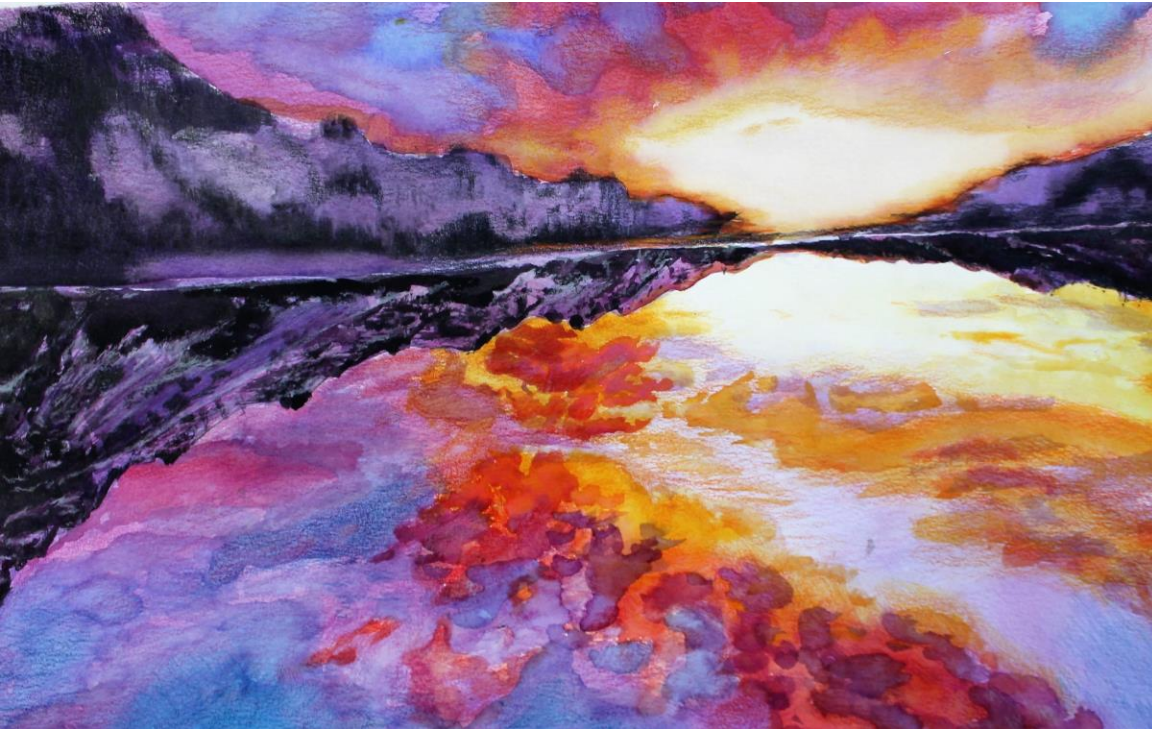
- **Band 10 H** (*new course offering as of 2023*)
- **Band 10**
- **Band 15**
- **Band 10 AM**



Prerequisites

- **Brass, Woodwind, Percussion, String players and Pianists** are all eligible to enroll in Band Program
- *Course registration details can be found in the **Fine Arts** section of the school website*

Visual Art at Western



➤ **Art 10 H**

➤ **Art 10**

No experience required
for enrollment

➤ *Course registration information can be found in the **Fine Arts section of the school website***



Fine and Performing Arts Opportunities

- Our courses in **Band, Visual Art, Dance, Drama and Choir** at the g.10 level do not require any previous experience
- There are many options to choose from, each providing an opportunity to engage in a healthy balance to your education
- All Fine Arts registration information for incoming grade 10 students can be found on our school website.





亚省中文学校 The Chinese Academy 2023-2024

27
Years





History of The Chinese Academy

- **The Chinese Academy started in 1997**

- Accredited by Alberta Education
- Alliance with the Calgary Board of Education to provide International Baccalaureate (I.B.) Chinese Program
- To offer Mandarin and Cantonese classes from Kindergarten to Grade 12
- To offer Chinese as a Second Language (CSL) classes in the afternoon
- To offer option classes such as English and Maths Tutorials, Adult Mandarin/Cantonese, badminton, ballroom dancing etc. to our students and parents



- **Chief Superintendent: Elaine Chan**

- First certificated teacher to pilot the Chinese IB program in Alberta
- Over 30 years of teaching experience in Canada
- Recipient of many prestigious awards including The People's Republic of China's Overseas Lifetime Achievement Award, The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal and The Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee Medal

- **Principal: Vicky Liang**

- Over 20 years of language teaching experience in both China and Canada
- Specialized in the International Baccalaureate Chinese program, second language teaching and curriculum development
- Currently a teacher at the Calgary Board of Education





Chinese Courses Offered

		Mandarin	Mandarin Beginners (CSL)	Cantonese	Cantonese Beginners (CSL)
Time (Saturdays)		9 AM – 12 PM 1 PM – 4 PM	1 PM – 4 PM	9 AM – 12 PM	1 PM – 4 PM
Kindergarten		Kindergarten (K1): age 4 – 5 Kindergarten (K2): age 5 – 6 *As of December 31 of the calendar year (Morning & Afternoon)			
Elementary		Grades 1 – 6	Grades 1 – 6	Grades 1 – 6	Grades 1 – 6
Junior High		Grades 7 – 9	Grades 7 – 9	Grades 7 – 9	Grades 7 – 9
Senior High	Grades 10	Mainstream & Pre-IB (Morning & Afternoon)	Mandarin Beginners & Pre-IB	Mainstream & Pre-IB	Grades 10 – 12
	Grade 11	Mainstream & Language B SL (Morning & Afternoon)	Mandarin Beginners & ab initio SL	Mainstream & Language B SL	
	Grade 12	Mainstream & Language B SL (Morning & Afternoon)	Mandarin Beginners & ab initio SL	Mainstream & Language B SL	

Misconceptions of IB



- **“It is only for the highest achieving students.”**
 - with the right attitude and work ethic, many can do it
- **“I can’t be well-rounded in IB...no time.”**
 - IB students can be very well-rounded and are leaders in many of our school clubs and organizations.
- **“The homework is WAY more than the regular program.”**
 - likely 25% more per core course (plus more core courses per semester)
- **“There is no flexibility and no choice.”**
 - With our large IB selections, there is definitely choice but few “options”
- **“IB is only for people who want to go to school overseas.”**
 - Can. and US schools respect the IB curriculum, but benefits vary
- **“My marks will be way lower if I take IB.”**
 - The grades reflect how students perform in the regular Alberta program (however, not a perfect system)

What full IB students don't normally have time for:



- Electives in Grade 10 (except band or choir) – Band and choir are specifically timetabled to include IB students as classes are offered “outside of the regular timetable”)
- Phys-Ed after Grade 10
- Three I.B. Sciences (most Science enthusiasts will take at least one summer school class to complete a third non-IB Science)
- CALM is usually taken on-line during Grade 11 (outside of the timetable)

University Recognition of IB



- Most universities recruit IB graduates. (Though, in general, universities want all of our Alberta grads!)
- Universities will generally evaluate both the IB and Alberta marks and choose the most advantageous to the student.
- (Full IB – they will look at the total IB points /45, Partial IB – they may convert the IB grade out of 7 to a percentage grade for the admission average)

UBC – 15% of their undergraduate population is made up of IB grads

- *Google your university of choice with the term “IB recognition” or take a look at the links on our IB page.

University of Calgary



- \$2000 for IB diploma students with 35+ points
- Earn up to a full year of university credit (partial IB can take credit for HL classes with a minimum of grade 5-6)
- Conversions:
 - IB 7 – Alberta 100%
 - IB 6 – Alberta 91%
 - IB 5 – Alberta 83%
 - IB 4 – Alberta 75%

What I.B. Students have said...



- Good students should try full Honours in Grade 10 to keep options open.
- Don't cave in to peer pressure or parental pressure to go into IB or to stay out of IB.
- First year university was a piece of cake.
- "I am a lab goddess" at U Penn.
- Don't procrastinate too much (or your mental health may suffer)

What I.B. Students have said...



- Do (and re-do) all the practice questions.
- There will be tears.
- Most people are not “born smart” but put in more effort to succeed.
- IB brings out the best in people – lots of personal growth, strong sense of responsibility and great work ethic
- Great people, great learning, struggle together, form bonds

Thank you!

- Email Susan Rivers
serivers@cbe.ab.ca with IB specific questions.
- No Grade 9 personal appointments are possible but most questions can be answered by phone, email, or during class selection in our spring (virtual) group registration sessions.