

Admissions Policy (IB Program of Study)

Duval County Public Schools is committed to offering students the ability to participate in and successfully complete the IB Diploma Programme curriculum. Students are invited to apply for the IB program of study in order to be on track for working towards earning the IB diploma.

How will students be invited to apply for the IB program of study?

The Duval County Public Schools' Office of School Choice mails letters inviting students to apply for the IB program of study to students and their families in September/October of their 8th grade year.

Eligibility criteria:

Due to the limited number of seats that Paxon is able to accommodate, the following eligibility criteria is needed in order for students to apply for the IB program of study at Paxon:

- Unweighted 7th grade final core GPA of 3.0 or higher (the core includes only English, math, science, and social studies)
- Credit earned for Algebra 1
- Additional program criteria regarding Florida State Assessment (FSA) scores for public school students (Norm Referenced Test (NRT) scores for private school students) in reading and math is required and determined by the Duval County Public Schools' Office of School Choice and Office High School Accelerated Programs.

IB Information Sessions

The invitation letter includes the dates and times of information sessions discussing the general expectations for students in the IB Diploma Programme. Applications are passed out at these sessions.

Point Evaluation Criteria

Students submitting applications are scored according to the following criteria:

(All applicants are rank-ordered according to the total points for admission)

Up to 40 points - For core academic courses during 8th grade (first grading period)

Up to 30 points - For 7th grade FSA or NRT scores in ELA and math

Up to 20 points - For core academic courses during 7th grade (final grades)

Up to 10 points - For personal statement

Admission to the IB program of study at Paxon

Admission is limited to 150 students and is a merit-based admissions process. Students are notified of their admission to the IB program of study at Paxon in early February and must accept their seat by the designated deadline.

If students are not accepted into the IB program of study at Paxon as a 9th grader, is it possible for them to be considered as they enter the 10th grade?

Only students currently enrolled at Paxon in the 9th grade may be considered for entering the IB program of study as a 10th grade student. Students and parents who are interested in this opportunity should contact the IB coordinator during the spring semester (early March) of the 9th grade in order to discuss this possibility.

Communicating the Admissions Policy

- Paxon's IB program of study admissions policy will be published for parents, students and community members to access.
- A copy of the IB program of study admissions policy will be made available for current school
 personnel to access. Newly hired school personnel will be made aware of this document and how to
 access it during one of the Paxon new teacher orientation meetings.

Review of the Admissions Policy

The admissions criteria for Paxon is set by the Duval County Public Schools' Office of School Choice and Office of High School Accelerated Programs. The admissions policy will be reviewed by the School Improvement Team (SIT) on an annual basis as needed in accordance with any district changes that are implemented.