IB at Lamar Academy





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IB Mission & Curriculum

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. The curriculum is a rigorous, college-level, holistic program that incorporates 6-8 subject areas, learner profile attributes, approaches to learning skills, global contexts/issues, independent research, student inquiry, and community engagement to prepare students for the global society in which we live.

Program Background

International Baccalaureate® (IB) School of Distinction at Lamar Academy is a two-part program: the Middle Years Programme (MYP) for 9th and 10th grade students and the Diploma Programme (DP) for 11th and 12th grade students.

- IB is a worldwide program renowned for its excellence in 160 countries and over 6,000+ IB World Schools.
- IB schools must be authorized by the IB World Schools and maintain authorization through a rigorous review process every five years.
- Students earn college credits as well as receiving an IB Diploma in addition to the Texas high school diploma.
- IB Diploma recipients are guaranteed a minimum of 24 college hours in public Texas universities; many students earn an average of 30-33 or more. Students who earn the Bilingual Diploma receive a minor in Spanish or equivalent additional college hours at many major universities.
- McAllen ISD's IB Diploma Programme (DP) was established in January 2001 for 11th & 12th grade students.
- IB World Schools recognized the Lamar Academy IB program in 2017 for its achievements, and it was named an IB World School of Distinction.
- The overall IB diploma attainment rate at our program is currently 92%--one of the highest in the world.
- The DP program has graduated 1200+ students since 2003.
- In July 2010, the Middle Years Programme (MYP) was authorized by IBO for 9th & 10th grade.
- MYP students can earn the MYP Certificate; 852 students (99.7%) have received the MYP certificate recognition.
- The program includes competitive organizations such as: State qualifying Science Olympiad and Mock Trial, National qualifying Chess Club, Greenpower, TechWar team, and We Mean Green Clubs.
- The IB staff includes: Multiple District, Region One, and Texas State semi-finalist Teachers of the Year; a district counselor of the year, 1 HEB Excellence in Education Lifetime Achievement finalist; 1 HEB Excellence in Education Leadership Award Winner; 1 National LifeChanger of the Year finalist; 2 Coca-Cola Educator of Distinction Awards; 1 Yale Educator Award, AP Readers; IB Examiners; and numerous advanced degrees in multiple fields.

Awarded Scholarships to IB School of Distinction @ Lamar Academy Students

Year	#Students	Total Scholarships	3 Year Program Scholarship Avg.	
2024-2025	55	\$14,000,000	\$13,903,856	
2023-2024	68	\$12,994,259	SAT Avg. Results (2025)	
2022-2023	62	\$14,717,309	Lamar Academy IB = 1241 Texas = 978 National = 1050	

Program Information & Admissions Applications



2026-2027 IB School of Distinction Course Pathways

Group 1: Language & Literature	Group 2: Language Acquisition	Group 3: Individuals & Societies	Group 4: Sciences
MYP Language & Literature Yr 4 MYP Language & Literature Yr 5 DP HL English A: Literature Yr 1 DP HL English A: Literature Yr 2 *MYP Spanish Language & Literature Yr 4 MYP Spanish Language & Literature Yr 5 *DP SL Spanish Language & Literature Year 1 DP SL Spanish Language & Literature Year 2	MYP Spanish Acquisition Yr 4 MYP Spanish Acquisition Yr 5 DP SL Spanish Yr 1 DP SL or HL Spanish Yr 2 (Students may choose to take the Spanish Language & Literature courses instead to work toward the IB Bilingual Diploma.)	MYP/AP Human Geography MYP/AP World History DP HL History of Americas Yr 1 DP HL History of Americas Yr 2 ************************************	*MYP Biology MYP Chemistry MYP Physics DP SL Biology Yr 1 DP SL or HL Biology Yr 2 or DP SL Chemistry Yr 1 DP SL or HL Biology Yr 2 or DP SL Physics Yr 1 DP SL or HL Physics Yr 2 or DP SL Computer Science Yr 1 DP SL Computer Science Yr 2
Group 5: Mathematics	Group 6: Arts	Group 7: Design	Group 8: Physical Health & Education
*MYP Algebra I MYP Geometry MYP Algebra II MYP/AP Pre-Calculus *DP SL Mathematics Analysis & Approaches Yr 1 DP SL or HL Mathematics Analysis & Approaches Yr 2 or *DP SL Mathematics Applications & Interpretation Yr 1 DP SL or HL Mathematics Applications & Interpretation Yr 2	MYP Art I MYP Art II DP SL Visual Arts Yr 1 DP SL or HL Visual Arts 2	MYP Design BIM 1/ Transition/EQ1 Yr 4 MYP Design BIM II/Prep/ EQ2 Yr 5 Digital Media & Design	MYP Lifetime Fitness & Wellness Pursuits Yr 4 MYP Lifetime Fitness & Wellness Pursuits Yr 5 (Athletics at the home school may count for PHE credits.)
Additional MYP Requirements	Additional DP Requirements		
 10 MYP Service Experiences Receive a score of 3+ for MYP Records of Achievement grades in each MYP class for Yr 4 & Yr 5 Personal Project: Must receive a passing score of 3+ from the campus supervisor. 	 DP CORE: TOK Yr 1 TOK Yr 2 Creativity, Action Service (CAS): Experiences for 18 consecutive months; Student-led collaborative one-month project Extended Essay 	*Students who wish to pursue the Bilingual IB Diploma must take the Spanish Language & Literature courses. *Students who enter with Biology and/or math courses receive credit and take the next course available in the pathway. *Students must complete Algebra II before entering DP mathematics.	NOTE: DP requires 6 courses from groups 1-6; MYP requires 6 courses from the 8 subject groups. NOTE: Students earn college credit through the DP & AP courses and may challenge additional AP exams. ALL MYP/AP courses are for GT/Advanced Students.

Sample List of Universities IB School of Distinction Alumni Have Been Accepted and/or Attended:

Abilene Christian University American University Amherst College Barnard College **Baylor University** Bennington College Boston College Boston University Brown University Carnegie Mellon Catholic University of America College of William & Mary Colorado Mesa University Cornell University Dartmouth University Delft University of Technology Drexel University Duke University Dundee University Emoru Universitu Fordham University George Mason University George Washington University Georgetown University Harvard University Hollins University John Hopkins University Korea University Louisiana State University Loyola Marymount University Maryland University Massachusetts Institute of Technology Midwestern State University Mount Holyoke College New York University Northeastern University Northwestern University Notre Dame University Parsons School of Design Penn State University Pepperdine University Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Rice University Ringling College of Art & Design Rochester Institute of Technology Santa Clara University

Sarah Lawrence College St. Edward's University St. Mary's University St. Louis University School of Art Institute Chicago Southern Methodist University Southwestern University Stanford University Suracuse University Temple University Texas A&M Universitu Texas Christian University Texas State University Texas Tech University Trinity University Tulane University United States Military Academy University of Alabama University of California at Berkeley University of Chicago University of Houston University of the Incarnate Word University of Indiana University of Georgia University of Kansas University of Massachusetts University of Memphis University of Michigan University of Notre Dame University of Oklahoma University of Pennsylvania University of Pittsburgh University of Rochester University of Texas at Arlington University of Texas at Dallas University of Texas at Austin University of Texas Rio Grande Valley University of Texas at San Antonio University of Toronto University of Washington Vanderbilt University Villanova University Wake Forest University Wellesley College Westmont College Yale University