

IB School of Distinction at Lamar Academy



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[IB @ Lamar Academy Website](https://www.lamaracademy.org/ib)

Social Media: @lamar_academy

IB World School: 001270

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 5,900 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.
- 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; 786 students (99.6%) have received the MYP certificate recognition.
- Lamar Academy has been recognized as one of America's best schools in the *U.S. News & World Report*.
- 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 has included: 7 MISD District Teachers of the Year; 3 Region One and Texas State semi-finalist Teachers of the Year; 1 HEB Excellence in Education Rising Star finalist; 1 HEB Excellence in Education Lifetime Achievement finalist; 1 HEB Excellence in Education Leadership Award Winner; 1 National LifeChanger of the Year finalist; AP Readers; IB Examiners; and numerous advanced degrees in multiple fields.

Program Information & Admissions Applications



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

2025-2026 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 ***** DP SL Psychology Yr 1 DP SL or HL Psychology 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		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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
Emory University
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
Syracuse University
Temple University
Texas A&M University
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