

## PSLHS International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme

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### PRE-REQUISITES: Must have taken Geometry/Algebra II & Spanish 1, 2 (3)

### How do I earn the IB Diploma? (The “Math” of the IB Diploma)

#### 6 Subject areas:

English

Foreign Language

History

Science

Mathematics

An Elective Subject

All assessment components for each of the six subjects and the additional Diploma requirements have been met:

Earn a total of at least 24 points in all 6 subject areas

Earn at least 12 higher level points and 9 standard level points

Do well on the Extended Essay and TOK Course to accumulate up to 3 bonus points

*\*there can be no “N” or “E” awarded for TOK, EE or for a contributing subject.*

Complete all CAS hours and internal/external assessments

*\*There is no grade 1 awarded in a subject/level*

*\*There are no more than two grade 2s awarded (HL or SL)*

*\*There are no more than three grade 3s or below awarded (HL or SL)*

*\*A maximum of three examination sessions is allowed in which to satisfy the requirements for the award of the IB Diploma. The examination sessions need not be consecutive. If you do not pass an exam – you may pay the fee to re-take it. (Registration Fee is 172.00 /Exam Fee is \$119.00)*

#### HL vs. SL

3 courses are to be taken at the “Higher Level” and 3 are to be taken at the “Standard Level”. This accommodates the IB philosophy that every student does not excel at every subject equally. Students can thus choose to take the HL subjects they are interested in the most.

**HL = 240** hours (i.e. a 2 year course)

**SL = 150** hours (i.e. a 1 year course)

The assessments in every IB subject are divided between **Internal Assessments** & **External Assessments**

**Internal Assessments**= graded by the classroom teacher. Student samples are sent and moderated by the external examiner.

**External Assessments**= all work is sent to an IB examiner to grade independently of the classroom teacher.

The IB Diploma Program (DP) is a rigorous, academically challenging and balanced program of education designed to prepare *students* aged 16 to 19 for success at university and life beyond. To ensure both breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding, *students* must choose at least one *subject* each from five *groups*:

- Language and literature
- Individuals and societies
- Mathematics
- Language acquisition
- Sciences

*Students* may choose either an arts *subject* from *group 6*, or a second *subject* from *groups 1* to 5. At least 3 and not more than 4 *subjects* are taken at higher level (240 recommended teaching hours), while the remaining are taken at standard level (150 recommended teaching hours). In addition, three core elements—the extended essay (EE), theory of knowledge (TOK) and creativity, activity, service (CAS)—are compulsory and central to the philosophy of the program. The diploma is awarded to *students* who achieve a minimum score of 24 (out of a possible total of 45), and fulfil other minimum requirements.

*Students* may choose to not enroll in the full Diploma Program, but rather *take* only particular DP *subject* courses (eg Mathematics HL or Economics SL) or any of the core components (TOK, EE and CAS) of their choosing. A *student* may *take* as many or as few DP courses as they wish and their school allows. The award for each of these courses is not the diploma, but a series of scores from one to seven. These individual *subject* results are referred to as Diploma Program course results (formerly called a certificate of results). Additionally, *students* who enrolled in and attempted the full Diploma Program, but did not meet all the requirements, also receive Diploma Program course results (DPCR). Consequently, the DPCR can include all the Diploma Program components but due to one or more failing conditions the diploma was not awarded. The *student* has, however, been examined and assessed according to the same DP standards and principles. The difference between the award of the diploma or the DPCR can depend on 1 point (eg 23 instead of 24), or a *student* failing to fulfill one of the minimum conditions for being awarded the diploma (eg a failing grade on the Extended Essay or non-completion of the CAS component). Thus, a *student* with a total score far exceeding 24 points may not necessarily be awarded the diploma.

Many universities recognize *students'* achievements in individual DP courses and in the core components. In some countries, DP achievements are seen in the context of curriculum enrichment rather than as the main means of admission. In others, universities give credit or tariff points for individual DP courses and also the extended essay and theory of knowledge courses. *Students* should check admission requirements with individual universities.

In the United States and some other countries, as there is no national ministry or centralized bureaucracy that determines a standardized admission policy, each university determines for itself who it will admit. Many universities will admit *students* who have not earned the full diploma. Additionally, community colleges and similar institutions can provide pathways into undergraduate studies for *students* who fail to earn the full diploma.