



School of the Nations
Admission Policy-IB Diploma Programme.

Candidates applying for entrance into the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IBDP) at the School of the Nations must meet the requirements described in one of the two categories listed in this section of the handbook.

1. Category 1: Candidates Who Are Internal Students

i. Internal Students:

Internal students refer to students who are enrolled to Form 4 at the school for at least two academic terms (5 months) before the end of the Form 4 year.

ii. Promotion from Form 4 to the IBDP in Form 5:

To be entered into the IBDP, internal students have to achieve a promotion status described below:

Students must achieve a satisfactory academic standard at the Form 4 level in the school and complete the required credits from the Character Development Programme.

The passing mark for every subject is 65%. A student will be promoted to Form 5 and therefore enter the IBDP if he/she

- passes ALL subjects **or**
- has an average mark of 65% or above, has failed at most TWO subjects other than English

Students are allowed to sit supplementary examination(s) in at most TWO subjects if they have achieved at least 50% in these subjects. Should they gain a grade of 65% or higher in the supplementary examination, they will be awarded a pass grade for that subject.

2. Category 2: External Candidates Who Are Applying to Enter The IBDP

External Students: External students refer to candidates who are applying for a seat in Form 5 and entering the IBDP.

i. Entrance Requirements and Tests for External Students:

a. Application timeline:

For September entry, applicants must meet the regular application deadline for full consideration. Entrance exams and interviews will be completed after applications are accepted.

Entry into the IBDP after September in Year 1 (Form 5) is discouraged. Unless a student is currently pursuing the IB diploma at another institution, it is very challenging to start an IB curriculum after it has begun. If a student wishes to be considered for mid-year entry, a minimum of twenty (20) working days are required to coordinate document review, entrance exams, and interviews to be completed.



b. Required documentation:

Students who move from other schools need to provide the following documents:

- Completed application form, including a picture of the applicant and application fee.
- Proof (letter from Head of School, reports, etc.) that the student has completed Form 4 (Grade 10) or equivalent.
- Contact details of the previous school in order for us to receive a reference and coordinate entrance test administration if the applicant is not in Macau during the application process.
 - Two academic letters of reference are required. One must be from an English teacher and the other from a subject the applicant wishes to pursue at the Higher Level (HL) in the IBDP.
- Official report cards for at least the last two years of education.
- Any official or predicted exam results that an applicant has/will take (e.g. IGCSE, IELTS, TOEFL, PSAT, etc.).
- A recently marked English essay with teacher commentary.
- A copy of the admission policy signed by the applicant's parent(s)/guardian(s).
- Any medical documentation in the case of a medical condition that may affect student learning or experience at SON.
- Subject Proposal of curriculum to be taken for the IBDP.
 - Applicants must indicate which subjects he/she wishes to study at the Higher Level and Standard Level (three of each). Please consult the SON course offerings.

c. Entrance tests:

All applicants are required to take entrance tests for admission. Depending on the student's first language and programme preference, the following subjects may be tested:

English-

Skills: English language mastery and analytical skills

Content:

Part 1: Unseen Commentary

Part 2: Essay on a prescribed topic

Mathematics-

Skills: Mathematical techniques and Applying mathematical techniques to solve problems

Content:

- Numbers and mathematical notations

- Algebra

- Mensuration

- Plane and 3D Geometry

- Trigonometry

- Graphs

- Sets, Vectors and Functions

- Matrices and Transformations

- Statistics and Probability



Sciences-

Skills: Knowledge and understanding, handling information and problem solving

Content:

CIE IGCSE syllabi of Biology, Chemistry and/or Physics depending on the Science subject(s) selected in the proposal of curriculum.

d. Time and venue of entrance tests:

The School will accept applications beginning on the 1st of March for admission to the following academic year. This process continues until the class is full or the academic year has begun in September.

Students who fail the entrance tests in April are allowed to retake the tests in August. Applicants living in Macau may be able to schedule alternate testing and interview dates, but must be done so with IBDP Coordinator approval.

To meet the needs of prospective students who cannot sit tests in Macau, the School allows students to take entrance tests at their present school, providing the school assures that the tests will be taken in strict exam conditions. Completed test papers should be scanned and emailed to the IBDP Coordinator. Contact information for a school guidance counsellor or administrator must be submitted with the admission application to coordinate entrance test procedures.

e. Interview:

In addition to the entrance tests, the School may request that the student attend an admission interview. This is an opportunity for the student to present his/her educational background and explain any inconsistency in the test results or to demonstrate language proficiency. A web-based interview is possible for students living abroad during the time of application.

f. Admission decision and choice of curriculum:

Having considered entrance requirements (e.g. tests, references, etc.) and the applicant's curriculum proposal, the School will make an admission decision. Students may be admitted to the full diploma programme or advised to follow a certificate track that is tailored to their needs and abilities. Admission to the School or the IBDP may be denied if a candidate's command of the English language, academic preparation, or academic commitment is considered insufficient for the student to successfully cope with the requirements of the programme. Decisions will be made in writing.