



**PROVISO**  
**MATHEMATICS AND**  
**SCIENCE ACADEMY**

*“A CATALYST FOR GREATNESS”*

Proviso Mathematics and Science  
Academy

International Baccalaureate Diploma  
Programme

Student Application for Candidacy

# CONTENTS

1. The International Baccalaureate Organization (IB)
2. The IB Diploma Programme (DP) & Approach to Teaching and Learning
3. The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme at PMSA
4. Student Expectations & Academic Honesty
5. Course Requirements
6. Prospective IB Diploma Programme Student Plan
7. IB Registration and Assessment Fees
8. Internal Application Process
9. Certificate Subject Candidates
10. Additional Information

## 1. The International Baccalaureate Organization (IB)

The IB was founded in 1968 and is currently in place in almost 4,000 schools worldwide. The IB is known for the quality of its education, the high standards to which it holds its affiliated students, teachers, schools and organizations. The IB Organization places a high value on global awareness and intercultural understanding. All of this is evidenced in its Mission Statement, which reads:

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.

To this end the organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.<sup>1</sup>

The IB has developed a “Learner Profile” which is a set of learning outcomes designed for a 21<sup>st</sup> century education. The IB intends these ideals to be a guide for teachers and schools, providing focus and unity in order to foster the development of all students in these areas. The learners should be:

- Inquirers
- Knowledgeable
- Thinkers
- Communicators
- Principled
- Open-minded
- Caring
- Risk-Takers
- Well-balanced
- Reflective

Information and a video about the Learner Profile can be found at <http://www.ibo.org/en/benefits/learner-profile/>

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<sup>1</sup> From the “Mission and Strategy” page of the IBO website, available at <http://www.ibo.org/en/about-the-ib/mission/>

## **2. The IB Diploma Programme (DP) & Approach to Teaching and Learning**

Although the IB offers programs for elementary and middle schools as well, at the high school level the program is the “Diploma Programme” and takes place over the final two years of a student’s high school career.

The IB Diploma Programme is a rigorous course of studies. The educational experience is student-centered and requires that students construct their own knowledge through problem-based and experiential learning activities. Students must develop and use strong analytic skills to draw conclusions and apply the knowledge they have gained in real-world situations, always with a view to community involvement and global implications.

## **3. The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme at PMSA**

We are very pleased to announce that PMSA was awarded a Certificate of Authorization to offer the Diploma Programme of the International Baccalaureate on January 28, 2016. Students participating in the IB Diploma Programme are eligible to earn an International Baccalaureate Diploma.

Some of the many benefits to participating fully in this course of studies are that it will:

- ease the transition to the rigorous expectations of top-tier universities
- prepare your child for the type of coursework offered at prestigious universities worldwide
- foster lifelong learning
- encourage international mindedness
- create active learners who understand how they learn, how they connect learning and how they apply learning

## 4. Student Expectations and Academic Honesty

Students who are accepted into the PMSA Diploma Programme will be issued the IB Guide “General regulations: Diploma Programme for students and their legal guardians” containing specific information about Diploma Programme requirements and responsibilities. This guide is also available upon request to any student or parent interested in the programme or by visiting <http://www.ibo.org/globalassets/publications/become-an-ib-school/dp-general-regulationin-2014.pdf>.

Students will also be issued the Proviso Mathematics and Science Academy International Baccalaureate Programme Academic Honesty Policy which contains the PMSA IB Diploma Programme Honor Code and Pledge. This pledge must be signed by the student candidate and his/her legal guardian in order for the student to be registered as a Diploma Programme candidate.

## 5. Course Requirements

The IB Diploma Programme consists of courses in 6 academic subject areas and 3 core areas:

<b>Academic Subject Areas</b>	<b>Core Areas</b>
Group 1-Studies in Language & Literature	Theory of Knowledge (TOK)
Group 2-Language Acquisition	Community, Action & Service (CAS)
Group 3-Individuals & Societies	Extended Essay (EE)
Group 4-Sciences	
Group 5-Mathematics	
Group 6-Arts & Electives	

During their junior and senior years the students will be taking at least three, but no more than four of the Academic Subject Area courses at the Higher Level (HL), and three or four at the Standard Level (SL). In general both HL and SL courses are taught over this two-year period, the main distinction being in rigor and nature and length of assignments and assessments.

The IB Diploma Programme can and does co-exist with Advanced Placement (AP) courses and certain of the courses during the junior and/or senior years may be categorized as both AP and IB. This can lead to a very busy May during senior year as both AP and IB assessments take place during this period. Time management, setting priorities and creating a manageable balance between academic, social and other obligations are key to success at this time of year.

## 6. Proposed IB Diploma Programme Student Plan

The chart below outlines the course progression and yearly requirements designed to meet both PMSA and Proposed IB Diploma Programme requirements.

11 <sup>th</sup> Grade	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade
IB Math Studies 1 or IB Mathematics 1	IB Math Studies 2 or IB Mathematics 2
IB English A – Language & Literature 1 HL	IB English A – Language & Literature 2 HL
IB Biology 1 HL	IB Biology 2 HL
IB History 1 HL	IB History 2 HL
IB Language B French 1 SL or Spanish 1 SL	IB Language B French 2 SL or Spanish 2 SL
IB Psychology ----- IB Economics 1 <sup>2</sup>	PMSA 5th Year Mathematics
TOK 1	TOK 2
[CAS]/[EE] <sup>3</sup>	[CAS]/[EE] <sup>5</sup>
Wellness	Wellness

<sup>2</sup> Available to be offered only if enough students register for the course.

<sup>3</sup> CAS (Creativity, Activity, Service) and EE (Extended Essay) are IB Diploma Core Requirements that students must satisfy, but these classes are not scheduled subjects during their school day.

## **7. IB Registration and Assessment Fees**

Candidates accepted for registration in the PMSA IB Diploma Programme will have IB Student Registration Fees assessed at the beginning of their 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade year(s). Currently the IB Student Registration Fee is \$168. Additionally, there is an IB Assessment Fee, which is currently \$116 per Academic Subject Area, \$10 for C.A.S., \$89 for Extended Essay and \$45 for T.o.K. (for an assessment total of \$840, bringing all fees to a projected total of \$1,008 or \$1,176). As has been the case with AP courses, for those students who qualify for free or reduced price lunch, there may be state funds<sup>4</sup> available to mitigate the Subject Area Assessment Fees.

## **8. Internal Application Process**

PMSA students in good standing<sup>5</sup> are encouraged to apply to the Preliminary PMSA IB Diploma Programme. Applications are due by December 1 of the Candidate's 10<sup>th</sup> grade (sophomore) year. The requirements for consideration are

- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher
- Regular Attendance
- Clear Disciplinary Record
- Response to Learner Profile Prompt (see Appendix A)
- Math, Science and English Teacher Recommendations (sent to teachers electronically)
- Meeting with the applicant, IB Counselor, and DP Coordinator (may be waived for those students who meet all of the above requirements)

## **9. Certificate Candidate Courses**

The IB allows for academic subjects (as well as the core components) to be taken for an IB Certificate, for those students not pursuing the full Diploma Programme. If these are taken at the HL level, college/university credit may be awarded. Priority enrollment in IB DP courses is reserved for those students pursuing the full Diploma, however, Certificate candidates may be enrolled if space is available. Elective course offerings may vary from year to year and may not be offered if there is insufficient enrollment.

Certificate Candidates accepted for registration in an IB DP Course (or courses) will have IB Student Registration Fees assessed at the beginning of their 11<sup>th</sup> grade year. Currently the IB Student Registration Fee is \$168. Additionally, there is an IB Assessment Fee, which is currently \$116 per Academic Subject Area (Core Areas: EE, \$89; TOK, \$45; CAS, \$10). Please refer to Section 7 above for more information.

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<sup>4</sup> Availability of state funding to offset Assessment Fees varies from year to year and may not be available as it is contingent on Illinois State budgetary allocations. We often do not know until just before assessments are given whether or not this funding is available for any given year.

<sup>5</sup> Good standing is defined as a having a cumulative grade of a B- average or better and no serious disciplinary infractions.

## 10. Additional Information

Thank you for your interest in candidacy in the Preliminary PMSA IB Diploma Programme.

If you or your parent has any questions about the program or the application process, please feel free to contact:

Mrs. Rebecca Tanaka  
IB Diploma Programme Coordinator  
Proviso Mathematics & Science Academy  
Main Office, Room 221J  
8601 W. Roosevelt Road  
Forest Park, IL 60130  
(708) 338-4169  
[rtanaka@pths209.org](mailto:rtanaka@pths209.org)

Ms Amy Paulus  
IB Diploma Programme Counselor  
Proviso Mathematics & Science Academy  
Room 509A  
8601 W. Roosevelt Road  
Forest Park, IL 60130  
(708) 338-4173  
[apaulus@pths209.org](mailto:apaulus@pths209.org)



## PMSA IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME CANDIDATE APPLICATION AND LEARNER PROFILE PROMPT

PMSA Diploma Candidate Name

PMSA Diploma Candidate Signature

Date

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Parent/Legal Guardian Name

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature<sup>6</sup>

Date

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Learner Profile Prompt

The International Baccalaureate Programme's "Learner Profile" identifies the following traits which should be developed throughout the student's education. Please select any two of these traits and explain in detail how you have developed in them during your education at PMSA and how you intend to continue in the development of them (or in any other of the learner profile traits) as a candidate in the PMSA IB Diploma Programme. Please use the reverse side of this sheet, or attach an additional sheet if you prefer.

Inquirers	Knowledgeable	Open-minded	Thinkers	Caring
Principled	Communicators	Well-Balanced	Reflective	Risk-Takers

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<sup>6</sup> The parent signature above indicates that: you have accessed the IB Guide "General regulations: Diploma Programme for students and their legal guardians" containing specific information about Diploma Programme requirements and responsibilities; and that you are aware of potential related costs for your child to participate as a Diploma Programme candidate.



## PMSA IB DIPLOMA PROGRAMME CERTIFICATE CANDIDATE APPLICATION

PMSA Certificate Candidate Name

PMSA Certificate Candidate Signature

Date

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Parent/Legal Guardian Name

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature<sup>7</sup>

Date

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On the reverse side of this application, please list the IB DP academic course(s) that you are interested in and list the related current year course(s) and teacher(s).

For IB Core options: EE indicate the subject area of interest and your current teacher for that subject; TOK indicate your current year's English teacher; CAS indicate number of PMSA service hours already completed and entered.

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<sup>7</sup> The parent signature above indicates that: you are aware that your child is requesting permission from you and from his/her teacher(s) for the course(s) listed on the reverse; you have accessed the IB Guide “General regulations: Diploma Programme for students and their legal guardians” containing specific information about Diploma Programme requirements and responsibilities; and that you are aware of potential related costs for your child to participate as a Certificate Candidate.

## IB CERTIFICATE CANDIDATE COURSE SELECTION(S)

Check the appropriate box in front of the course(s) in which you are seeking to enroll and list the related current year course(s) and teacher(s). For IB Core options: EE indicate the subject area of interest and your current teacher for that subject; TOK indicate your current year's English teacher; CAS indicate number of PMSA service hours already completed and entered.

### IB Academic Courses

Check	IB DP Course	Current Teacher
	IB Language A: language and literature - DP Year 1	
	IB Language B Spanish - DP year 1	
	IB Language B French - DP year 1	
	IB History - DP Year 1	
	IB Biology - DP Year 1	
	IB Mathematical Studies - DP Year 1	
	IB Mathematics - DP Year 1	
	IB Psychology* - DP	N/A
	IB Economics* - DP	N/A

IB Academic Option Courses (Please indicate the one you would like to take, if there is sufficient student interest).

Check	IB Academic Option	Current Teacher
	IB Physics* - DP	
	IB Chemistry* - DP	
	IB Visual Arts - DP Year 1	

### IB Core Options

Check	IB Core Options	Subject Area of Research
	IB Extended Essay (EE)	

Check	IB Core Options	Current English Teacher
	IB Theory of Knowledge (TOK)	

Check	IB Core Options	Number of PMSA Service Hours already completed
	IB Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)	

\*Indicates an "anticipated course." These courses are one-year courses and are tested in May of the students' 11th grade year.