

How Does IB Differ from AP?

International Baccalaureate vs. Advanced Placement

- IB offers an international standard of excellence.
- IB involves a comprehensive curriculum.
- Students take IB courses in all six subject areas.
- IB offers the IB Diploma, which students earn in addition to the Florida Diploma.
- The IB Diploma *automatically* qualifies students for a 100% Florida Bright Futures Scholarship.
- The IB Diploma qualifies students for entry into universities around the world.
- IB students may earn up to 30 hours of college credit as a result of scores on their IB assessments.
- Schools must be vetted and authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) to offer the IB curriculum.
- IB teachers receive training before teaching IB courses.
- Assessment scores are awarded by trained examiners around the world.
- Outside their coursework, IB students must complete:
 - The Extended Essay*
(4,000-word research paper)
 - Theory of Knowledge course*
 - Creativity, Action, and Service hours (CAS)*
- The original purpose of IB was to offer a rigorous yet standardized curriculum for the children of traveling diplomats. Recognition for college credit came later as a result of the quality of the curriculum.
- An IB score results from a variety of assessments in each subject.
- AP offers a national standard of excellence.
- AP offers single, college-level courses.
- Students choose AP courses in their strong subjects.
- AP offers no nationally recognized diploma in addition to the Florida Diploma.
- AP students must meet Bright Futures requirements for SAT/ACT test scores, GPA, and community service.
- AP courses may not qualify students for entry into international universities.
- AP students may earn college credit for the AP courses they take, depending on exam scores.
- Any high school may offer AP courses.
- AP teachers receive training before teaching AP courses.
- Examination scores are awarded by nationally trained AP scorers.
- AP students have no requirements beyond coursework.
- The original purpose of the AP curriculum was to earn college credit. AP has achieved recognition by universities across the United States.
- An AP score results from a single, standardized exam in each subject.

IB students are often twice as likely to be admitted to prestigious universities as other applicants. Also, a study by the Admissions Office at the University of Florida found that the IB Diploma is a better indicator of college success than AP preparation.