



Admissions Policy

International Baccalaureate at Bartow High School

We adhere to the vision that every student who graduates from the IB Diploma Program at Bartow High School is prepared for university and career opportunities. We believe our students are empowered to thrive in a global society by experiencing a relevant learning environment which inspires critical thinking, mindfulness, problem solving and innovation. Demands are high and students must be committed to consistently devote time and energy to their studies.

The IB program expects students to excel to their maximum potential academically, socially, and in extra-curricular activities. Due to the rigor of the program, and out-of-school requirements, participation in the IB program is a family commitment. Students are expected to enter the program with their personal goal of success.

Prospective Students Eligibility Profile for IB at Bartow High School

The admissions policies and procedures of the International Baccalaureate at Bartow High School are developed and implemented by Polk County Schools.

The criteria set by our school district are as follows:

- Middle School Grade Point Average of a 3.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
- Successful completion of Algebra 1 and the End-of-Course state assessment.
- Math Concordant Scores for Algebra 1
 - If not currently enrolled in a public school or cannot take the EOC until July 2020, the following assessments are accepted: PSAT/NMSQT Math 430, SAT Math 420 or ACT Math 16
- Students are required to have permanent residency in the IB @ BHS zone (West Side of Polk County) <https://www.polk-fl.net/schools/zf.asp>
- Applications are accepted through www.PolkEdOptions.com during the school district's Open Enrollment period. Open Enrollment for 2019-2020 was November 1, 2018-January 11, 2019.
- After applying on the site, applicants are given information on where to take the assessment.
- Parents and students are invited to call the district's *Office of Acceleration and Innovation* at 863-534-0631 for more information on the application process.

Procedure After Applying For Admission:

- Students will take an assessment and be admitted based on their rank score.
- To prevent a biased selection, the names of the student applicants are temporarily removed, assigned a number and placed in rank order.
- Students are selected based on their ranked test score and the available seats in the 9th grade.

Procedure After Acceptance into the IB at Bartow High School:

- Selected 8th grade applicants receive communication from the Office of Acceleration and Innovation by the end of March. Families notify the school of their decision to attend by the due date on the letter.
- Families who accept the invitation to attend are invited to attend an Incoming Freshman Orientation in April. A plethora of information on the IB Policies, expectations, etc. are given to students and their parents. Students register for their 9th grade classes through a personalized process.