

INTRODUCTION

In February of 2003, Valencia High School was authorized to teach the prestigious International Baccalaureate (IB) Program. This was the final step in an implementation process that included a yearlong self-study, a detailed application, teacher training, and a visitation by members of the International Baccalaureate North America, Inc. (IBNA). In maintaining our commitment to academic excellence, the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District and Valencia High School believe that the IB Program offers the most comprehensive and challenging curriculum available to students. More importantly, the program allows participants to appreciate other cultures and points of view, see the connections between academic disciplines, mature outside of the classroom, and serve the community. For these reasons and because the program is based on international standards of excellence, IB is world-renowned. Students who earn the IB Diploma potentially have access to the world's leading universities.

The IB Program was first designed in 1967 to enable international schools to meet the special needs of their frequently mobile student population. Since then, IB has gained the recognition of ministries of education in countries throughout the world. Currently, 2,066 schools in 115 countries are authorized to offer IB Programs. In the United States, 554 schools offer the Diploma Program, 68 of which are located in California (as of June 2007).

The International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) Mission Statement

The International Baccalaureate Organization 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 IBO works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

The Benefits of IB

International Baccalaureate students are assured an intellectually stimulating and challenging educational experience that provides significant advantages. Some of the benefits of the IB Diploma Program include the following:

- (1) Students are exposed to a strong academic program encompassing many subject areas.
- (2) Students are part of a challenging and stimulating program that is internationally recognized.
- (3) Students are exposed to an interdisciplinary education with a truly “international” perspective.
- (4) Students learn to think critically and develop analytical skills that will prepare them for post-secondary education.
- (5) Students learn how to conduct independent research and write a major term paper.
- (6) Students are encouraged to be well rounded and appreciate the importance of extra-curricular activities and community service.
- (7) Students have a definite advantage regarding admission to post-secondary institutions in the United States and abroad.
- (8) Students may receive course credit or advanced standing at many colleges and universities.

Ultimately, IB provides a challenge to the academically motivated student.

A Comparison of the AP and IB Programs

Many high schools in the United States, including Valencia High School, participate in the Advanced Placement (AP) program. AP and IB both offer opportunities to capable and motivated students, but there are significant differences between the two programs.

AP

National standard of excellence

College level courses

Encouragement for academically talented and motivated students

GOAL

To allow students to earn college credits for specific courses

COURSES AND EXAMS

Students take exams in areas of strength

Students do not have to be enrolled in an authorized school or AP designated course

Students' marks are based on exams graded externally by the College Board Advanced Placement office. Student marks are determined solely on the basis of exam performance

SCOPE

Exams are based on in-depth mastery of specific concepts within a given subject area

Emphasis is placed on multiple choice questions

Policies are determined by national educators

IB

International standard of excellence

Comprehensive curriculum of college level work

Encouragement for academically talented and motivated students

GOAL

To provide a comprehensive education that will prepare students for college and allow them to earn college credits

COURSES AND EXAMS

Students prepare in all academic areas and must also satisfy other requirements including extended essay and Theory of Knowledge

Students must attend an authorized school and be enrolled in IB designated courses

Students' marks are a result of internal and external assessment based on written exams, oral exams, guided coursework and laboratory experiments

SCOPE

Exams are based on broad general understanding of concepts and fundamental themes

There is greater emphasis on student writing

Opportunities exist for the participation of the classroom teacher and local school in shaping curriculum guidelines and international policies

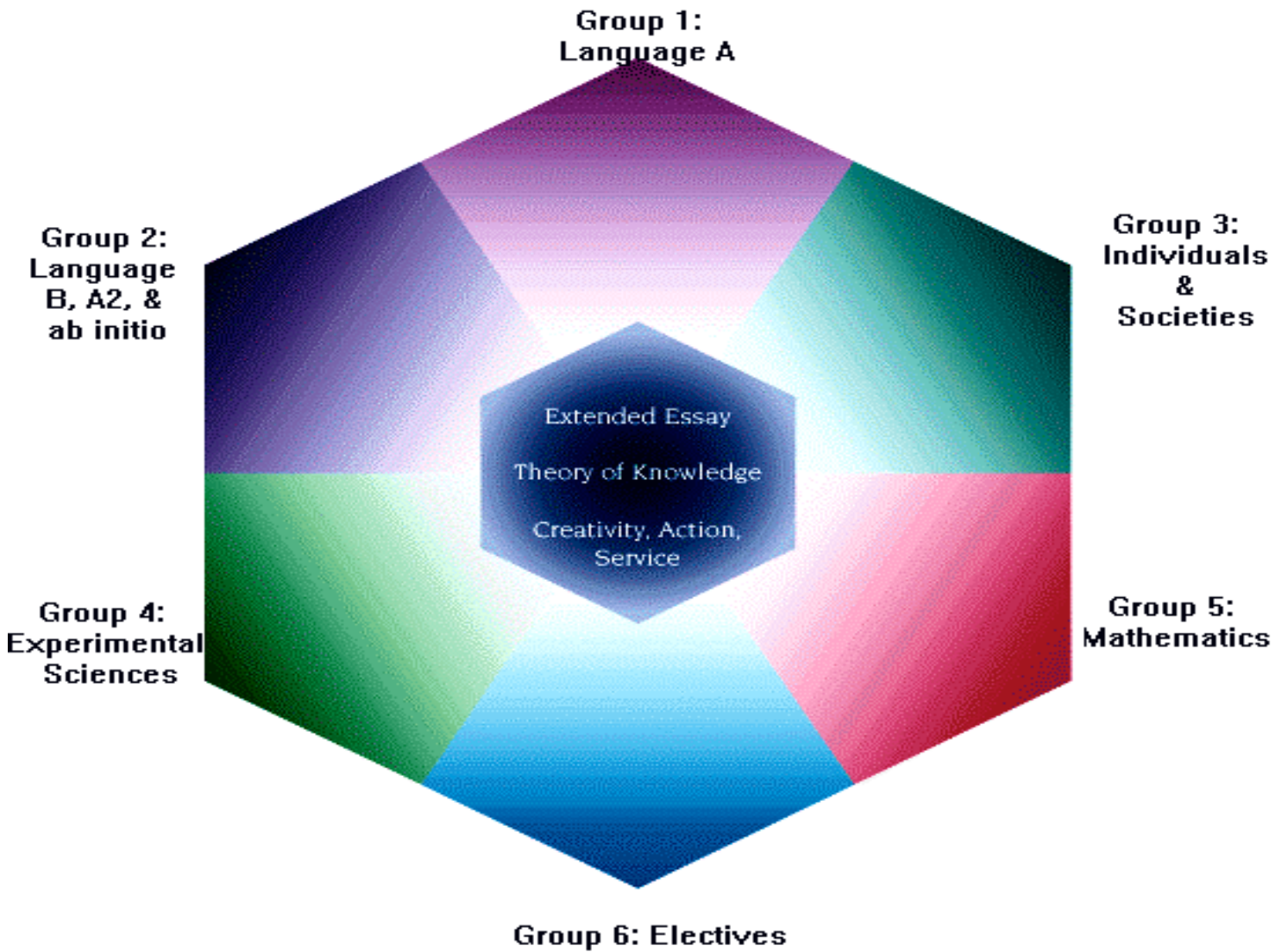
OVERVIEW OF INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE DIPLOMA REQUIREMENTS

The International Baccalaureate program offers a rigorous, comprehensive approach to learning in the last two years of secondary school. Its requirements define a remarkably clear and cogent approach to excellence in the preparation of students for college and university work. The approach has been validated not only by the most selective universities, but also by ministries of education throughout the world. The IB curriculum emphasizes and promotes a persistent curiosity in a broad range of subject areas; critical analysis and creative synthesis in all areas of study; scholarship and intellectual innovation; a concern for sharing, exploring and applying humane values; a respect for the cross-cultural and interdisciplinary solution of problems; an ability to manage time responsibly, and a willingness to work hard.

Specific Requirements

- 1) The student must take courses and exams from the **6 subject areas** represented on the Hexagon (see page 5). The subjects represent a traditional liberal arts curriculum that promotes the development of the educationally well-rounded individual. Most universities and colleges have a similar requirement for graduation.
- 2) The student also must take a course in **Theory of Knowledge (TOK)**. Students reflect upon and analyze the fundamental nature of the disciplines studied in order to identify similarities and differences, promote better ways of thinking and acquiring knowledge, and to search for universal truths. This course is taken during their junior year.
- 3) The student must write an **extended essay (EE)** in one of the six subject areas. This is the student's independent and unique effort to explore, research, analyze, and communicate about a topic he or she has selected. A faculty advisor oversees student completion of the assignment. The extended essay is 4000 words and is completed during the second semester of the junior year and the first semester of the senior year.
- 4) The student must complete 150 hours of community or school service (**Creativity, Action, Service--CAS**). Activities that promote student achievement and enrichment outside of the classroom (e.g., athletics, orchestra, etc.) may satisfy a portion of the CAS requirement. Students may start earning CAS hours the summer after their sophomore year.
- 5) While not a specific requirement for IB diploma, an important component is the program's emphasis on **internationalism**. All aspects of the IB Program encourage and promote an international perspective. The Program encourages students to appreciate cultures and attitudes other than their own. Students will learn to appreciate the importance of being informed, tolerant, and willing to communicate with others.

IB Hexagon



Higher Level v. Subsidiary Level Courses

Three of the courses from the 6 subject areas must be taken at the Higher Level (HL). These subjects are taught over both years of the program and allow a student to effectively specialize in areas of strength or interest. Accordingly, a student may not test in an HL subject until his or her senior year.

The other 3 subjects are taken at the Standard or Subsidiary Level (SL). These subjects are one-year courses that allow students to cover certain areas of the program more broadly. A student may take up to 2 SL courses during his or her junior year. The third SL course must be taken during the senior year. Tests in the SL subjects are taken after the completion of the course (either the junior or senior year).

SUMMARY

Higher Level Courses

- represent a minimum of 240 teaching hours
- usually taught over 2 years
- HL tests taken during the senior year
- allow students to explore some subjects in depth
- at least 3 but not more than 4 subjects must be taken at this level

Standard or Subsidiary Level Courses

- represent a minimum of 150 teaching hours
- usually taught over 1 year
- SL tests may be taken during either the junior or senior years
- no more than 2 SL tests may be taken during the junior year
- allow students to explore some subjects more broadly
- at least 2 subjects must be taken at this level (usually 3)

Earning the IB Diploma

1. A student must take a subject from each of the six subject areas (Language A1, Language B, Individuals and Societies, Experimental Sciences, Mathematics, & an Elective).
2. Three of the courses must be taken at the higher level, and three must be taken at the standard or subsidiary level.
3. A student receives a mark of 1 to 7 in each course based on the following:
 - External Assessment (exam)
 - Internal Assessments (papers, projects, portfolios, etc.)
4. A student must complete the core requirements (EE, TOK, and CAS)
 - CAS = 150 hours
 - Additional points (up to 3) may be earned for the EE and TOK course

ULTIMATELY, A STUDENT NEEDS 24 POINTS TO EARN THE IB DIPLOMA

IB AT VALENCIA HIGH SCHOOL

Students do not enroll in IB courses until their junior year. Prior to this, students are part of the pre-IB program. In this program, students prepare for the IB coursework and requirements by taking honors courses in language arts and social science. Students may also take honors courses in mathematics and science, but this is not required to enter the IB Diploma Program their junior year. A typical freshman in the pre-IB program would have the following schedule:

Pre-IB/Honors Language Arts

AP Human Geography

Geometry (Regular or Honors) or Algebra II (Regular or Honors)

Biology (Regular or Honors) or Chemistry (Regular or Honors)

Spanish (I or II), French (I or II), or Japanese (I or II)

PE, Band, or Athletics

Student progress is monitored by the IB Coordinator and IB Counselor in accordance with the Valencia High School Pre-IB Retention Policy.

Students must meet with the IB Coordinator at least once a year, usually during the first semester. If a student maintains a minimum GPA and fulfills the requirements of the retention policy, he or she may enter the IB Program during the junior year.

In order to receive the full Diploma, students must take one course and exam from each of the 6 subject areas. Three courses must be taken at the higher level and three at the subsidiary level. A student may take up to 2 SL courses/exams his or her junior year. In addition, students must complete the extended essay, TOK course, and the CAS requirement.

Students may participate in International Baccalaureate even though they are not interested in earning the full Diploma. The certificate program allows students to select one or more areas of study based on their interests and abilities. After taking appropriate courses, students take IB examinations and receive certificates based on their performance that may lead to college credits. Certificate candidates do not have to write an extended essay, meet the CAS requirement, or take the TOK course.

Admission to the Program

Applications to the Valencia High School International Baccalaureate Program are due in March of the student's 8th-grade year. Applications are available online (www.vhstigers.org), at any of the district's junior high or middle schools, or may be obtained at the Valencia Academy office located at 500 N. Bradford. Admission to the program is based on past academic performance, standardized test scores, and teacher recommendations. Minimum requirements to enter the program include the following:

- 1) A grade of "B" or better in Algebra (Students who have not completed Algebra by the end of the 8th grade are not eligible for the program.)

- 2) A grade of "B" or better in Honors or GATE Language Arts and an English/Lang. Arts CST score of 390+ on the 7th grade STAR Test

or

A grade of "A" in regular Language Arts and an English/Lang. Arts CST score of 390+ on the 7th grade STAR Test

- 3) Two recommendations from teachers of core academic subjects

Applications of students who do not meet some or all of these requirements will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Students who do not live in Valencia High School's attendance area, but live within the attendance area of the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District, will automatically receive transfers upon acceptance into the International Baccalaureate Program. Students residing outside of the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District must request an interdistrict transfer.

Valencia High School IB Course Offerings

HIGHER LEVEL COURSES

- Group 1: Language Arts
- Group 2: Japanese & Spanish
- Group 3: History of the Americas
- Group 4: Biology & Chemistry
- Group 5: Mathematics
- Group 6: None

STANDARD OR SUBSIDIARY LEVEL COURSES

- Group 1: None
- Group 2: French, Japanese, Mandarin, & Spanish
- Group 3: Economics
- Group 4: Chemistry & Physics
- Group 5: Mathematics & Computer Science
- Group 6: Music

Group 6 may also be satisfied by taking an elective from Groups 2, 3, 4, or 5

A Few Typical Exam Patterns

Student #1

HL
Language Arts
History of the Americas
Biology

SL
Spanish
Mathematics
Economics

Student #2

HL
Language Arts
Spanish
History of the Americas

SL
Chemistry
Mathematics
Music

Student #3

HL
Language Arts
History of Americas
Mathematics

SL
French
Chemistry
Music

Student #4

HL
Language Arts
Biology
Mathematics

SL
Japanese
Economics
Physics

Student #5

HL
Language Arts
Spanish
Biology

SL
Economics
Mathematics
Computer Science

IB Course Requirements (to receive IB Mark of 1 to 7)

Language A1 (HL): Language Arts

Internal Assessment (30%)

--Individual Oral Commentary (15%)

--Individual Oral Presentation (15%)

External Assessment (70%)

--Written Assignment (reflective statement & literary essay) (25%)

--Two-part exam (each part 2 hours) taken at the end of the course (45%)

Language B (SL): French, Japanese, Mandarin, & Spanish

Internal Assessment (30%)

--Individual Oral (20%)

--Interactive Oral Activity (10%)

External Assessment (70%)

--Written Assignment done in class (20%)

--Two-part exam (each part 1.5 hours) taken at the end of the course (50%)

Language B (HL): Japanese & Spanish

Internal Assessment (30%)

--Individual Oral (20%)

--Interactive Oral Activity (10%)

External Assessment (70%)

--Written Assignment done in class (20%)

--Two-part exam (each part 1.5 hours) taken at the end of the course (50%)

Individuals and Societies: History of the Americas (HL) & Economics (SL)

History of the Americas (HL)

Internal Assessment (20%)

--Historical Investigation

External Assessment (80%)

--Three-part exam (1, 1.5, & 2.5 hours) taken at the end of the course

Economics (SL)

Internal Assessment (25%)

--Portfolio

External Assessment (75%)

--Two-part exam (each part 1.5 hours) taken at the end of the course

Experimental Sciences: Biology (HL), Chemistry (HL), Chemistry (SL) & Physics (SL)

Biology (HL) & Chemistry (HL)

Internal Assessment (24%)

--Investigations

--Group 4 Project

External Assessment (66%)

--Three-part exam (1, 2.25, & 1.25 hours) taken at the end of the course

Chemistry (SL)

Internal Assessment (24%)

--Investigations

--Group 4 Project

External Assessment (66%)

--Three-part exam (.75, 1.25, & 1 hour) taken at the end of the course

Physics (SL)

Internal Assessment (24%)

--Investigations
--Group 4 Project
External Assessment (66%)

--Three-part exam (.75, 1.25, & 1 hour) taken at the end of the course

Mathematics: Math (HL), Math (SL), & Computer Science (SL)

Math (HL)

Internal Assessment (20%)

--Portfolio

External Assessment (80%)

--Three-part exam (2, 2, and 1 hour) taken at the end of the course

Math (SL)

Internal Assessment (20%)

--Portfolio

External Assessment (80%)

--Two-part exam (each part 1.5 hours) taken at the end of the course

Computer Science (SL)

Internal Assessment (35%)

--Program Dossier

External Assessment (65%)

--Two-part exam (each part 1.5 hours) taken at the end of the course

The Arts and Electives: Music (SL)

Music (SL)

Internal Assessment (50%)

--Solo Performance or Group Performance or Composition (students choose one)

External Assessment (50%)

--Exam (2.25 hours) taken at the end of the course (30%)

--Musical Investigation (20%)

International Baccalaureate Course Sequence

Group 1: Language A1

- 9th: Honors/Pre-IB Language Arts I
- 10th: Honors/Pre-IB Language Arts II
- 11th: IB Language Arts III (HL) (1st year of HL)
- 12th: IB Language Arts IV (HL) (2nd year of HL)

- Students take their Language A1 HL Exam their senior year
- Students may also take the AP English Literature and Composition Exam their senior year

Group 2: Second Modern Language (Language B)

- 9th: French I or II, Japanese I or II, Spanish I or II
- 10th: French II or III, Japanese II or III, Spanish II or III
- 11th: French III or IV (SL), Japanese III or IV (SL), Spanish III or IV (SL)
- 12th: French IV (SL), Japanese IV (SL) or V (HL), Spanish IV (SL) or V (HL)

- French is only offered at the Standard Level
- The Language B SL Course/Exam may be taken the junior or senior year
- Spanish and Japanese are offered at the Higher Level and students take these exams their senior year
- Students may also take the AP French, AP Japanese, and AP Spanish Exams when they take their Language B SL Exams in those subjects

Group 3: Individuals and Societies

Option 1: History of the Americas at the Higher Level

- 9th: AP Human Geography
- 10th: AP European History
- 11th: AP U.S. History (1st year of HL)
- 12th: History of the Americas (HL) (2nd year of HL)

- Students may take the AP Human Geography Exam their freshman year
- Students may take the AP European History Exam their sophomore year
- Students may take the AP U.S. History Exam their junior year
- Students take the History of the Americas HL Exam their senior year

Option 2: Economics at the Standard Level

- 9th: AP Human Geography
- 10th: AP European History
- 11th: IB Economics (SL) or AP U.S. History
- 12th: IB Economics (SL)

- The Economics SL Course/Exam may be taken during the junior or senior year
- Students may also take the AP Microeconomics and Macroeconomics Exams after successful completion of the IB Economics Course

Group 4: Experimental Sciences

Option 1: Biology or Chemistry at the Higher Level

- 9th: Biology (Regular or Honors) or Chemistry (Regular or Honors)
- 10th: Chemistry (Regular or Honors) or Physics (Regular or AP)
- 11th: Physics (Regular or AP) or Elective
- 12th: IB Biology (HL) (2 Periods) or IB Chemistry (HL)

- The Biology HL and Chemistry HL Courses are taught for two periods during the student's senior year
- Students take the Biology HL and Chemistry HL Exams their senior year
- Students may also take the AP Biology Exam or AP Chemistry Exam after successful completion of the IB Biology or IB Chemistry Courses

Option 2: Chemistry at the Standard Level

- 9th: Biology (Regular or Honors) or Chemistry (Regular or Honors)
- 10th: Chemistry (Regular or Honors) or Physics (Regular or AP)
- 11th: IB Chemistry (SL) or Elective
- 12th: IB Chemistry (SL) or Elective

- The Chemistry SL Course/Exam may be taken during the junior or senior year

Option 3: Physics at the Standard Level

- 9th: Biology (Regular or Honors) or Chemistry (Regular or Honors)
- 10th: Chemistry (Regular or Honors) or Elective
- 11th: IB Physics (SL) or Elective
- 12th: IB Physics (SL) or Elective

- The Physics SL Course/Exam may be taken during the junior or senior year

Group 5: Mathematics

Option 1: Mathematics at the Higher Level

- 9th: Geometry (Regular or Honors) or Algebra II (Regular or Honors)
- 10th: Algebra II (Regular or Honors) or MA or AP Statistics
- 11th: TMAH (1st year of HL)
- 12: IB Math (HL) (2nd year of HL)

- Students take the Math HL Exam their senior year
- Students may also take the AP Calculus BC Exam their senior year

Option 2: Mathematics at the Standard Level

- 9th: Geometry (Regular or Honors) or Algebra II (Regular or Honors)
- 10th: Algebra II (Regular or Honors) or MA
- 11th: MA or IB Math (SL)
- 12th: IB Math (SL) or Calculus AB or AP Statistics

- The Math (SL) Course/Exam may be taken during the junior or senior year
- The stronger math student may go directly from Algebra II to Math (SL)

Group 6: The Arts and Electives

- 9th: Band or Orchestra or Choir
- 10th: Band or Orchestra or Choir or AP Computer Science A
- 11th: AP Computer Science A or IB Computer Science (SL) or IB Chemistry (SL) or IB Physics (SL) or IB Economics (SL) or IB Music (SL)
- 12th: IB Computer Science (SL) or IB Chemistry (SL) or IB Physics (SL) or IB Economics (SL) or IB Music (SL)

- All electives are offered at the Standard Level
- AP Computer Science A is a prerequisite for IB Computer Science (SL)
- IB Electives may be taken during the junior or senior year

Additional IB Requirements

- Theory of Knowledge (TOK) (11th Grade)
- Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) (11th and 12th Grade)
- Extended Essay (11th and 12th Grade)

District/State Requirements

9th: Health (Semester), Academic Studies and Career Planning (Semester), PE

10th: PE

11th: U.S. History

12th: Economics (Semester), U.S. Government (Semester)

--Health is offered during the summer before or after the 9th Grade or during 0 Period during the 9th Grade

--Academic Studies and Career Planning is waived for full diploma candidates, but must be taken if a student drops the Diploma Program

--Economics (if not taken in the IB Program) and Government are offered during the summer after the 11th Grade

Costs
(as of the 2012-2013 School Year)

The two primary costs of the IB Program are the *Registration fee* and *Subject or Exam fees*. The registration fee is paid during the junior year only for full diploma candidates. Certificate candidates must pay this fee each year that they take exams. Subject fees are paid each year and are dependant on the number of exams the student is taking at that time.

Junior Year:

<i>Registration fees:</i>	\$151
<i>Subject fees:</i>	\$104 (per exam)

Senior Year:

<i>Subject fees:</i>	\$104 (per exam)
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The Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District pays the *Registration Fee* for full diploma candidates. Thus, the approximate cost for a student to complete the IB Diploma Program at Valencia High School is \$624.

The state does provide financial aid to students who qualify. The extent and nature of this aid depends on the yearly budget.

Number of Diploma Winners and Universities Attended

<u>Year</u>	<u>Diploma Winners</u>	<u>Universities Attended</u>
2006	28	Brigham Young University California State University, Fullerton California State University, Long Beach Dartmouth College Lehigh University James Madison University Pennsylvania State University Scripps College University of California, Berkeley University of California, Irvine University of California, Los Angeles University of California, Riverside University of California, San Diego University of California, Santa Cruz University of Pennsylvania
2007	45	California State Polytechnic University, Pomona California State University, Fullerton California State University, San Diego Chapman University Claremont McKenna College Creighton University University of California, Berkeley University of California, Davis University of California, Irvine University of California, Los Angeles University of California, Merced University of California, Riverside University of California, San Diego University of California, Santa Barbara University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign University of San Diego University of the Pacific

Number of Diploma Winners and Universities Attended

<u>Year</u>	<u>Diploma Winners</u>	<u>Universities Attended</u>
2008	38	Bates College Brigham Young University California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo California State Polytechnic University, Pomona California State University, Fullerton California State University, Long Beach Claremont McKenna College Creighton University Massachusetts Institute of Technology Northwestern University Scripps College University of California, Berkeley University of California, Davis University of California, Irvine University of California, Los Angeles University of California, Riverside University of California, San Diego University of California, Santa Barbara University of California, Santa Cruz University of Southern California Wellesley College
2009	48	American University California State University, Fullerton Chapman University Fashion Institute of Design & Merch. Johns Hopkins University New York University Northeastern University Northwestern University Parsons New School of Design Stanford University University of Buffalo

Number of Diploma Winners and Universities Attended

<u>Year</u>	<u>Diploma Winners</u>	<u>Universities Attended</u>
2009	48	University of California, Berkeley University of California, Irvine University of California, Los Angeles University of California, Riverside University of California, San Diego University of St. Andrews University of Southern California University of the Pacific Williams College Yale University
2010	28	Boston University Brown University California State University, Fullerton Colorado College Cornell University Georgetown University Pepperdine University University of California, Berkeley University of California, Davis University of California, Irvine University of California, Los Angeles University of California, Riverside University of California, San Diego University of California, Santa Barbara University of Miami University of Southern California University of the Pacific

Number of Diploma Winners and Universities Attended

<u>Year</u>	<u>Diploma Winners</u>	<u>Universities Attended</u>
2011	45	Biola University Boston University California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo California State Polytechnic University, Pomona California State University, Fullerton Case Western Reserve University Chapman University Harvard University Loyola Marymount University Massachusetts Institute of Technology Stanford University University of Arizona University of California, Berkeley University of California, Davis University of California, Irvine University of California, Los Angeles University of California, Riverside University of California, San Diego University of California, Santa Barbara University of California, Santa Cruz University of Delaware University of San Francisco University of Southern California

Number of Diploma Winners and Universities Attended

<u>Year</u>	<u>Diploma Winners</u>	<u>Universities Attended</u>
2012	50	Biola University Boston University Brown University California State Polytechnic University, Pomona California State University, Fullerton Chapman University Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Emory University Harvard University Johns Hopkins University San Francisco State University Smith College Stanford University United States Air Force Academy University of California, Berkeley University of California, Davis University of California, Irvine University of California, Los Angeles University of California, Riverside University of California, San Diego University of California, Santa Barbara University of California, Santa Cruz University of Southern California University of Texas Washington University in St. Louis