



# The IB Career-related Certificate

# The IB Career-related Certificate (IBCC): preparing students to follow their chosen pathways in life

## What is an IB education?

The IB continuum of international education for 3 to 19 year olds is unique because of its academic and personal rigour. We challenge students to excel in their studies and in their personal growth. We aim to inspire a quest for learning throughout life that is marked by enthusiasm and empathy.

The IB aspires to help schools develop well-rounded students with character who respond to challenges with optimism and an open mind, are confident in their own identities, make ethical decisions, join with others in celebrating our common humanity and are prepared to apply what they learn in real-world, complex and unpredictable situations.

The IB offers high-quality programmes of international education that share a powerful vision. Informed by the values described in the learner profile, an IB education:

- focuses on learners - the IB's student-centred programmes promote healthy relationships, ethical responsibility and personal challenge
- develops effective approaches to teaching and learning - IB programmes help students to develop the attitudes and skills they need for both academic and personal success
- works within global contexts - IB programmes increase understanding of languages and cultures, and explore globally significant ideas and issues
- explores significant content - IB programmes offer a curriculum that is broad and balanced, conceptual and connected.

IB learners strive to become inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective. These attributes represent a broad range of human capacities and responsibilities that go beyond intellectual development and academic success.

## What is the IB Career-related Certificate (IBCC)?

The IBCC incorporates the vision and educational principles of the IB into a unique programme specifically developed for students who wish to engage in career-related learning.

The IBCC's flexible educational framework allows schools to meet the needs, backgrounds and contexts of students. Each school creates its own distinctive version of the IBCC.

### **The IBCC enables students to prepare for effective participation in an ever-changing world of work as they:**

- consider new perspectives and other points of view
- engage in learning that makes a positive difference
- develop a combination of traditional academic skills and practical skills
- think critically and creatively in rapidly-changing and global workplaces
- communicate clearly and effectively
- work independently and in collaboration with others
- become self confident people who are resilient and flexible.

## The IBCC framework

The IBCC framework allows students to specialize in, and focus on, a career-related pathway. The programme's three-part framework comprises the study of at least two Diploma Programme courses alongside career-related studies and the distinctive IBCC core which is designed to create a bridge that connects each student's chosen Diploma Programme courses and career-related studies.

For IBCC students, Diploma Programme courses provide the theoretical underpinning and academic rigour of the programme; career-related studies further support the programme's academic strength and provide practical, real-world approaches to learning; and the IBCC core helps them to develop skills and competencies required for lifelong learning.

### **Diploma Programme courses**

IB World Schools select a number of IB Diploma Programme courses as part of the IBCC framework. These courses can come from any of the subject groups in the IB Diploma Programme and may be studied at standard or higher level. It is possible to study more than two Diploma Programme courses (up to four courses), depending on the nature of the student's career-related studies and timetable. The Diploma Programme courses chosen should be relevant to the student's career-related studies.

IBCC students can enrol in one of the authorized DP courses online offered via their IB World School through Pamoja Education Ltd.

### **Career-related studies**

The career-related element of the programme provides the opportunity for students to learn about theories and concepts through application and practice while developing broad-based skills in authentic and meaningful contexts. The career-related studies are selected by the school and must satisfy IB criteria in relation to accreditation, assessment and quality assurance.



### The IBCC core

The IBCC **approaches to learning** course introduces students to transferable life skills—to help students make sense of the world around them. The course emphasises critical and ethical thinking, intercultural understanding and the ability to communicate effectively.

**Community and service** in the IBCC core is based on the principle of service learning, using community service as a vehicle for new learning with academic value. The service learning model in the IBCC emphasises knowledge development, civic development, social development and personal development.

**Language development** ensures that all IBCC students have access and are exposed to, a second language that will increase their understanding of the wider world. Students are encouraged to begin or extend the study of an additional language that suits their needs, background and context.

Through a **reflective project** students identify, analyse, critically discuss and evaluate an ethical issue arising from their career-related studies. The project can be submitted in different formats including an essay, web page or short film. This work encourages the student to engage in personal inquiry, action and reflection, and to develop strong research and communications skills.

*“The IBCC enables a school to open up the IB experience to a wider range of students”*

David Barrs, Head Teacher, The Anglo-European School in Essex, UK

*“One of my favourite aspects of the IBCC is that it meets not one of the needs, but all the needs of the student”*

Robert Gazda, Director of Curriculum, New York Binghamton school district, USA

## Assessment

Diploma Programme courses within the IBCC framework are assessed in accordance with rigorous international standards. Students take written examinations at the end of their courses, which are marked by external IB examiners. The marks awarded for each course range from 1 (lowest) to 7 (highest). The reflective project is assessed by the school and moderated and graded by the IB (grades A to E with A being the highest). The school is also responsible for monitoring and confirming with the IB that students have completed requirements for community and service, approaches to learning and language development.

## Quality assurance and professional development

Any school, or group of schools, wishing to offer one or more IB programmes as an IB World School must first be authorized. The requirements are the same for all schools, and the procedure is designed to ensure that schools are well prepared to implement the programme(s) successfully. All IB World Schools are required to participate in an ongoing process of review and development, using the same programme standards and practices.

As part of its ongoing commitment to the development of a highly skilled global learning community, the IB provides a wide range of high-quality professional development opportunities to help new, experienced and expert school leaders and educators understand, support, and successfully deliver IB programmes reflecting IB standards and practices.

## The IB Mission

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.

If you would like to know more about the IBCC or if you are an IB World School offering the Diploma Programme and would like to include the IBCC at your school, please visit [www.ibo.org/IBCC](http://www.ibo.org/IBCC) or email [ibid@ibo.org](mailto:ibid@ibo.org)

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- Become an IB World School
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