



B.E. Mays High School IB Frequently Asked Questions

Benjamin E. Mays High School is a candidate school* for the MYP and CP. This school is pursuing authorization as an IB World School. IB World Schools share a common philosophy- a commitment to high-quality, challenging, international education- that we believe is important for our students.

Why the International Baccalaureate (IB) Programs?

The International Baccalaureate Programs aim to develop active learners and internationally minded young people who can empathize with others and pursue lives of purpose and meaning. IB empowers students to inquire into a wide range of issues and ideas of significance locally, nationally and globally. The result is young people who are creative, critical and reflective thinkers.

What is the difference between STEAM and IB?

There are more similarities than differences between the two signature programs. Both programs focus on the educational needs of the student through real world, rigorous application. Both programs offer strong math & science offerings and focus on technology skills. Where IB differs is that there is an intentional focus on global awareness and international mindedness.

How does IB help our students?

In addition to an international minded focus, IBCP students enjoy the opportunity to earn college credits. Each IBCP course has an additional ten-point weight. Plus, a "B" in an IB course is more desirable to colleges than an "A" in a general course. AP courses are similar, but colleges know that IB is an entire program, not just a few weighted courses. IB coursework prepares students for collegiate coursework and helps to create active, socially conscious citizens.

Is IB appropriate for academically average students?

IB MYP is whole school in grades 9-10. Every student is an IB student and participates in the full program of instruction, assessment, and culminating projects.

Accommodations are made as necessary for English Language Learners, Special Education Scholars, Gifted Scholars, etc.

IBDP and IBCP are options for students in grades 11-12. Both programs are intended for students with average or better academic records and may be better suited for students with above average drive and organizational/time management skills; however, all students can find success in the program. Accommodations are offered to students with identified special needs.

When will Mays be an authorized IB school?

Currently, Mays is preparing to submit its application for authorization by the end of the 2019-2020 school year. After a verification visit during the 2020-2021 school year, a decision will be made by the International Baccalaureate Organization regarding authorization.

For any questions or clarification, please contact Mr. Akil Mason, Signature IB Specialist, at amason@atlanta.k12.ga.us