

# Prince William County Public Schools International Baccalaureate Programme Admissions Policy

Prince William County Public Schools (PWCS) provides specialty programs at all levels, elementary, middle, and high schools. The International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme is available at all school levels as an interest-based program.

PWCS offers the full K-12 IB continuum to families:

- Five IB Primary Years Programmes in grades K-5 (IB PYP) at elementary schools
- Four IB Middle Years Programmes (IB MYP) in grades 6-8 at middle schools
- Two MYP Programmes in grades 9-10 at high schools
- Two IB Diploma Programme (IB DP) and 2 IB Career Programme (IB CP) in grades 11-12 at high schools

Students outside of a school's zoned attendance area can apply to attend a school that offers the IB. Students must apply online through ParentVUE within the established application window, between November 1 and February 1 each year. Incomplete applications or those submitted after the deadline will not be considered for acceptance.

A transfer to another school is considered a privilege. Students must meet all program requirements. A transfer may be rescinded for the current year or denied for the following year for any serious infraction of the "Code of Behavior," excessive absences, patterns of unexcused early dismissals or tardies, or failure to comply with the requirements of the special opportunity program. Transfer students who fail to comply may be returned to their base school once the withdrawal process is complete.

## Primary Years Program and Middle Years Program

PWCS considers every student enrolled at an IB school as an IB learner. All parts of the IB Program are accessible to all students regardless of whether they attend as a transfer student or are zoned to attend the school. Classes are structured to meet the needs of students.

**Zoned:** All students attending an authorized PWCS IB elementary or middle school who reside in the attendance zone are considered IB learners and participate fully in the IB Program.

**Transfer:** Transfer students must apply within the annual application window and through the online application portal. Transfer students must meet program requirements in the areas of attendance, work habits, and conduct to be accepted. Schools may have caps on the number of transfer students accepted. A cap on enrollment is subject to change and is based on enrollment and zoning.

## Diploma Programme and Career Programme

PWCS believes all students deserve the opportunity to perform to their greatest potential. The goal of the Advanced Academics and Specialty Programs is to provide all students with a learning environment that is challenging, engaging, and meets their individual academic needs. Since the IBDP and IBMYP are the frameworks for teaching and learning in above-grade-level courses, students are encouraged to take the most rigorous schedule their GPAs (grade point average) can support. Schools are looking to include, not exclude, so a desire and interest is enough to get started on the journey.

**Zoned:** All students attending an authorized PWCS IB high school who reside in the attendance zone are considered IB learners and have access to participate at all levels of IB Programs.

**Transfer:** Transfer students must apply within the annual application window and through the online application portal. Schools may have caps on the number of transfer students accepted. A cap on enrollment is subject to change and is based on enrollment and zoning. Acceptance as a transfer student can be impacted by excessive absences, patterns of unexcused early dismissals or tardies, or other academic conditions that cause a student to be off-track for on-time graduation.

[PWCS Regulation 630-2, "Special Opportunity Programs"](#)

[PWCS Specialty Programs](#)

Reviewed May 2025