



LA JOYA HIGH SCHOOL

A COMMUNITY OF EXCELLENCE



"THE STRENGTH OF THE PACK IS THE WOLF, AND THE STRENGTH OF THE WOLF IS THE PACK"

IB Admissions Policy

The IB Programmes @ La Joya Community High School will prepare and empower all Lobos with holistic experiences that develop continuous growth of knowledge, skills, and inquisitive attitudes to become principled, caring, and globally-minded individuals who contribute to an everchanging, more peaceful world.

Philosophy

La Joya Community High School is committed to offering a rigorous, internationally minded education through the International Baccalaureate (IB) programs. Our Comprehensive IB 9-12 Program is designed to develop inquiring, knowledgeable, and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

Open Enrollment

The IB program at La Joya Community High School is school-wide and offered to students as an alternative to honors courses. Students may choose to enroll in the full IB Program or may choose individual IB courses in areas of interest and ability. Placement in the IB program is non-competitive, and all enrolled students are welcome to participate in IB courses and are expected to participate in examinations. Students can attend La Joya's IB program through Open Enrollment. This allows students within the Tolleson Union High School District and from other district boundaries in Arizona to attend our comprehensive program.

IB for Grades 9-10

The IB Program is an accelerated post-secondary preparation program. Students in grades 9 and 10 are expected to take core academic subjects along with world language and other IB courses. During these years, students work on service-learning hours and complete an IB Personal Project which is publicly exhibited at the end of their 10th grade year.

Expectations

- **Grade 9:** World language and at least three other IB courses are required, to include IB Design (a problem-solving STEM class) and Physical Education/Health.
- **Grade 10:** A world language, MYP U.S. Government, MYP Economics, and at least two other IB courses are recommended.
- **Service Learning:** Goal of 40 hours to be completed by the end of tenth grade. Students will receive support to achieve these hours through community service and other projects.
- **Personal Project:** Completed and exhibited at the end of tenth grade.

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IB for Grades 11-12

The IB Program is an accelerated college preparatory program for students looking to challenge themselves academically. Students may choose to pursue the full DP program or take individual IB courses.

Options

- **Full Diploma Program (DP):** Complete all IB requirements, including Theory of Knowledge, Extended Essay, and Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS). Significant benefits upon completion of the full program.
- **Individual IB Courses:** Students may enroll in specific IB courses without pursuing the full diploma.
- **Students are expected to have a C average upon entering the program.**

Admissions Process

Current Students

Students passing from tenth to eleventh grade at La Joya in IB are permitted to continue in the program as long as they are in good academic standing in their core classes (passing with a C or better). Students experiencing academic difficulty will meet with school personnel to determine the best path forward to ensure student success. Each year, students are required to sign a Commitment Statement form indicating the student will adhere to all IB policies.

New Students

Students entering the IB program for the first time must demonstrate preparedness through:

- Strong commitment to learning, evidenced by their previous grades and signature on the Commitment Statement form.
- Successful completion of prerequisite courses.

Prerequisites and Course Sequence

Math Sequence

- Algebra 1-2, Geometry 1-2, and Algebra 3-4 (minimum) or equivalent prior to IB Math courses.
- A grade of B or higher in previous math courses is required or with a teacher

recommendation.

Sciences

- IB Chemistry SL/HL: Grade C or higher in Biology and Chemistry
- IB Physics SL/HL: Grade C or higher in Biology and Chemistry

Other Requirements

- Government and Economics required in grade 10, 11, or 12
- A grade of C or higher in previous courses is recommended for IB subject areas
- Honors courses in grades 9 and 10 are highly recommended in preparation for IB courses

Student Monitoring and Support

Academic Review

Student grades, attendance, and discipline records are reviewed regularly throughout the academic year. This ongoing review ensures students receive appropriate support and maintains program integrity.

Program Participation Requirements

Students who accumulate major disciplinary infractions or excessive absences may risk their participation in the IB program for the following academic year. Decisions regarding continued participation will be made in consultation with students, parents/guardians, IB teachers, the IB Pedagogical Leadership Team, and school administrators.

Support Services

Students with diverse learning needs are encouraged to participate in IB courses. Accommodations for instruction and assessment are provided in accordance with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), 504 Plans, and IB policies.

Exceptional Student Services (ESS)

In accordance with district policy, La Joya Community High School maintains an open enrollment policy. Students with diverse learning needs are encouraged to apply for and participate in IB courses, with appropriate accommodations made in accordance with Individualized Education Plans, 504 Plans, and IB policies.

Policy Review and Communication

Review Process

This admissions policy is reviewed annually by the IB faculty and school administration to ensure alignment with IB program principles and practices.

Communication

The IB Admissions Policy is available to the public and to all current and prospective students and families through the school's website. Policies are communicated directly to students and parents/guardians through annual meetings and individual consultations with IB Coordinators, teachers, and counselors.

Policy Implementation

The IB Coordinator ensures the effective implementation of this policy. All teachers are responsible for familiarizing themselves with this policy and ensuring that course programs align with IB requirements. New teachers receive an overview of IB policies from the IB Coordinator with the support of the IB Pedagogical Leadership Team. This policy is due to be reviewed in the Spring of 2027.

This policy aligns with the International Baccalaureate Organization's standards and practices while maintaining our commitment to providing access to a robust, internationally-minded education for all students.