



International Baccalaureate®  
Baccalauréat International  
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# IBCC

The International Baccalaureate  
Career-related Certificate





Life in the 21st Century places many demands on students. Enabling students to become self-confident, internationally-minded learners must be integral to their education. The IB Career-related Certificate (IBCC) is a new qualification that increases access to an IB education and is specifically designed to provide a flexible learning framework tailored by the school to meet the needs of students and the local community as well as the world beyond.



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

The IBCC incorporates the educational principles, vision and learner profile of the IB into a unique offering that specifically addresses the needs of students who wish to engage in career-related education. The IBCC encourages these students to benefit from elements of an IB education, through a selection of two or more Diploma Programme courses in addition to a unique IBCC core, comprised of an approaches to learning (ATL) course, language development, a reflective project, and community and service. The IBCC is designed to provide a “value added” qualification to schools

that already offer the IB Diploma Programme and are also delivering career-related studies to their students. The IBCC enables schools to widen participation to an IB education. Schools retain the ability to choose the career-related courses that are most suited to local conditions and the needs of their students. Schools gain the added flexibility in direct curriculum development as well as the IBCC core to create an educational pathway that puts a strong focus on individual student needs.

### The IBCC enables students to:

- develop a broad range of career-related competencies and deepen their understanding in general areas of knowledge
- prepare for effective participation in an ever-changing world of work
- foster the attributes of the learner profile allowing them to become true lifelong learners willing to consider new perspectives
- engage in learning that makes a positive difference to future lives
- become self confident people ready for life in the 21st century.

## The IBCC framework

The IBCC consists of the study of Diploma Programme courses along with a unique IBCC core. The core includes community and service, an approaches to learning (ATL) course, language development and a reflective project blended together to enhance individual critical thinking and intercultural understanding. These elements come together to help students develop the communication and personal skills necessary for success. Surrounding the IBCC core is the requirement of a minimum of two IB Diploma Programme courses. The core forms a bridge between the rigorous requirements of the IB Diploma courses and the targeted career-related studies chosen by the student.

In addition to the IBCC core and the IB Diploma courses, students are expected to engage in the value added elements of a career-related course of study.

## THE IBCC CORE

### Approaches to learning (ATL) course

This course is designed to introduce students to life-skills. At the heart of the ATL model is the learner who uses a range of skills to make sense of the world around them and develops skills with an emphasis on thinking critically and ethically and communicating effectively.

### Community and service

This element of the IBCC core is based on the principle of service learning, which uses community service as a vehicle for new learning that has academic value. The service learning model in the IBCC emphasises knowledge development, civic development, social development and personal development.

### Language development

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

### Reflective project

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 a variety of formats including an essay, web page or short film. This work allows the student to engage in personal inquiry, action and reflection and to develop strong research and communications skills

## Diploma Programme courses

IB World Schools offering the IBCC select a number of IB Diploma Programme courses that can be offered as part of the IBCC qualification. These courses can come from any of the hexagon groups currently offered under the IB Diploma Programme and can be studied at standard or higher level. It is possible to study more than two Diploma Programme courses depending on the nature of the student’s career-related course of study and timetable. The Diploma Programme courses chosen should be relevant to the student’s career-related field of study.

## The career-related qualification

Sitting alongside the IBCC core and the Diploma programme courses is the career-related qualification that students undertake. It must be of sufficient size to complement the IBCC in the student timetable in the last two years when the IBCC is implemented. The career-related qualification and its curriculum are selected by the school. It must satisfy IB criteria in relation to accreditation, assessment and quality assurance and must be studied concurrently with the Diploma Programme courses and elements of the IBCC core. The career-related qualification must be completed before the IBCC can be awarded to the student.

**“The IBCC is a wonderful opportunity to be more inclusive”**

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

**“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, Binghamton High School, USA



## Assessment

The two Diploma Programme courses are assessed in accordance with the standard Diploma Programme assessment process. 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). Community and service and the approaches to learning (ATL) course is assessed by the school, which is also responsible for confirming to the IB that the language development component of the core has been achieved.



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## Quality assurance and professional development

IB World Schools wishing to offer the IBCC must first go through an authorization process and must already be an IB World School authorized to deliver the IB Diploma Programme. The IBCC authorization process is designed to ensure that schools are well prepared to implement the IBCC qualification successfully.

The IBCC is a challenging and rewarding qualification that demands the best from both motivated students and teachers. To achieve authorization IBCC educators must complete the professional development courses relevant to the IBCC framework. Schools can access a comprehensive package of IB professional development for teachers and administrators as part of the authorization process. Similar to the IB Diploma Programme, schools that offer the IBCC are required to participate in an ongoing process of review and development, using standards and practices that apply to all IB World Schools.

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 in your school's educational offerings, please visit [www.ibo.org/IBCC](http://www.ibo.org/IBCC) or email [ibid@ibo.org](mailto:ibid@ibo.org)