

Policy for Admission to the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program at Gjøvik videregående skole

Criteria for admission to the IB Diploma Program

The Diploma Program at Gjøvik videregående skole considers applicants from the Norwegian National Curriculum (NNC), the IB Middle Years Program (MYP), and from other programs in Norway or abroad.

- Applicants must be Norwegian citizens or have a residence permit Applicants with a residential address in Oppland will have priority.
- Admissions are competitive, and based on grade average.
- There are 30 available places in each cohort, and places are offered to applicants with the highest grade averages.
- Applicants with a NNC grade average of lower than 4.0, or equivalent from an alternative educational system, normally will not be considered qualified for the program.
 - In special circumstances, and when there is available space in the cohort, applicants with a grade average of between 3.7 and 4.0 may be considered for admission. In these cases, a decision is made by the school after consultation with the candidate, his or her parents or guardians, the candidate's previous teachers, and careful consideration of the applicant's unique situation.
 - National and regional rules for special admission status may in some cases also apply for applicants that are subject to Norwegian laws and regulations.

Students applying from the NNC

- Applicants must have completed and passed a *VG1 studieforbredende* (freshman) year.
- Applicants may have completed this VG1 year in any of the NNC's college preparatory programs, such as *studieforbredende* (college preparatory); *kunst, design og arkitektur* (art, design and architecture); *musikk* (music); or *media og kommunikasjon* (media and communication).

Students applying from the International Baccalaureate MYP

- Applicants must have completed and passed their final MYP year.
- Applicants from the MYP have two options:
 - They may apply directly to the Diploma Program

- They may apply to a VG1 college preparatory program in the NNC, and apply to the DP after having completed and passed that year.
- When MYP students apply directly to the DP, the central admissions office (*Inntakskontoret*) convert their IB grades to NNC grades according to the following table:

IB MYP grade	NNC grade
7	6
6	6
5	5
4	4
3	3
2	2
1	1

Students applying from systems other than the NNC or MYP

- Applicants must have completed and passed an equivalent of the VG1 year in the NNC, or the final year of the MYP.
- Documentation of level of study, subjects studied, and results must be sent to the central admissions office in Oppland county well in advance of the March 1st application deadline.
- The applicant's grades are converted to a NNC equivalent, in order to compare them with other applicants. This is done on a case by case basis by the admissions office, if necessary in cooperation with Gjøvik videregående skole, depending on the system from which the student is applying. Where this is not possible, the admissions office has the final decision on how this application will be treated.

The advising process

Lower secondary school

- The DPC, together with GVS's academic advisors, ensures that lower secondary school advisors in the school district are fully aware of the existence of the DP, its nature, and its admissions requirements, so they are able to communicate this information to potential DP applicants.
- The advising process begins in the autumn of the 10th grade year. During this time, all students in the school district are informed by academic advisors

about all of their options for upper secondary education, including the Diploma Program at GVS.

- NNC students interested in the DP will be encouraged to apply for GVS's "International VG1," a freshman NNC year in which we teach most subjects in English.
- MYP students at Gjøvik International School, together with their parents, will meet with an academic advisor at the school in order to discuss whether they should apply directly to the DP, or apply first to do a VG1 year in the NNC.
- The DPC, and in some cases with some of the schools own DP students, visit Lower secondary schools when there are official information meetings about upper secondary school programs, as far as the organizers of these meetings find room for this.

Upper secondary school

- In the spring term of their freshman year, the DPC will visit each regular college preparatory class at GVS and inform them about the DP, how it is similar and different to the NNC curriculum, and its admission requirements.
 - The International VG1 class, in addition to receiving an informative visit in the spring term, is advised about the abovementioned matters by the DPC and their form teacher periodically throughout the school year.
- All freshmen in regular college preparatory classes at GVS have, in the spring term, a meeting with an academic advisor to discuss and plan their course of study over the final two years of upper secondary school. To what extent they are interested in, and qualified for admission to the DP will be a part of this interview.
 - In cases in which a student is interested in applying for the DP but their qualifications for admission are in doubt, the academic advisor will call the DPC in for a meeting with the student and his or her parents or guardians.

Communication of admissions criteria

The admissions criteria are available to the community via a number of channels:

- Posted on the "IB" section of the GVS website
- GVS's academic advisors are familiar with the admissions policy, and communicate its information to interested students and parents
- They are communicated to interested students and parents at recruitment evenings at the area's lower secondary schools
- They are communicated directly to MYP parents at a parents' evening at Gjøvik International School

DP Courses and the IB Diploma

- GVS does not currently offer individual DP Courses; all students are candidates for the full Diploma.
 - Students interested in taking individual DP Courses may inquire directly to the DPC and Head of School. Cases are evaluated on an individual basis.