



## A Look at North American IB Legislation

### **The Issue**

Education funding is being drastically reduced as state and federal governments continue to experience financial distress. IB schools have recognized the importance of having an advocacy role to ensure that they are included in the distribution of these resources. Through hard work and innovative thinking, a number of legislative and education policy successes have been achieved that help support and sustain IB programmes. This drive for legislative and education policy change has come primarily through the disciplined and strategic work of the advocacy agenda set by the IBNA subregional associations.

### **IB Legislative and Education Policy Gains**

Recent IB legislative and education policy successes include:

- support for state and federal examination fees
- subsidized teacher training
- bonuses and performance incentives
- scholarships
- university credit for IB diploma holders
- substitution/equivalency of IB examinations for various state assessments.

See the Current IB Legislative and Education Policies chart on page four for more details.

While policy gains in the US have mainly been in the area of legislation, the concept of integrating the IB into state education policy is becoming increasingly important as a result of standardized testing and augmented graduation requirements. In Canada, there is no official legislation concerning IB programmes, yet the IB is recognized through some provincial practices.

## The Impact

Here's what some members of the IBNA community have said about the success of North American IB legislation:

"[The legislation] has been very important in encouraging support from local school boards in Florida. The return on their investment gets their attention. It also makes students feel that they are able to contribute to their education with the funding their performance brings to the district."

Ed Vetter  
Florida League of IB Schools (FLIBS)

•

"California IB schools have experienced a dramatic improvement in programme quality thanks to the support provided through legislation. Having a dependable funding source has provided stability to our schools and enabled them to plan effectively for a high-quality professional development programme."

Edward L. Marquez  
California IB Organization (CIBO)

•

"Government support of IB programmes supports high achievement for an entire school. State-level commitments enhance total school improvement through subsidizing teacher training, subsidizing IB student test fees and by recognizing successful IB programmes. The Texas AP/IB Incentive Program has made significant changes in the percentage of students who participate in these programmes, as well as in the percentages of low socio-economic students who receive college credit before high school. The success was so evident that Texas chose to support vertical team efforts beginning with the Primary Years Programme. All students need an IB programme— with government support, all students can get an IB programme."

Evelyn Hiatt  
Former Director of Texas Education Agency's Office of Advanced Academic Services

•

"We have found that legislators on both sides of the aisle appreciate all that IB offers for educating students in our state. The high standards and accountability of IB's programmes are an easy sell for bipartisan support. It is important to establish that joint support early so it does not become a 'party' issue. The focus, however, still remains on improving state education standards. We need to start by identifying key legislators, in both parties, with a keen interest in education."

Lou Marchesano  
IB Association of Rocky Mountain Schools (IB ARMS)

## Guidelines for Obtaining Legislative Support

Here are some recommendations on how to obtain legislative support for your school's IB programme.

- **Understand IB's strengths and reputation.**

The IB curriculum offers:

- student achievement
- quality professional development for teachers
- rigorous assessment
- increased access to post-secondary education.

- **Know what you want to achieve through legislation.**

With an understanding of your state's education standards, you can begin to define your legislative goals. Gathering documentation, testimonies and data will demonstrate support for IB initiatives in your state, and will be useful during the hearing stage of the legislative process. Your IBNA subregional association is a critical resource in this process.

- **Understand the legislative process.**

Your IBNA subregional association can help establish timelines that fit with the legislative process. Log on to [www.ibnasubregional.org](http://www.ibnasubregional.org) for more information about IBNA's subregional associations.

- **Establish a support base.**

A strong local support base of students, faculty, administration and parents will allow your IB subregional association to develop an advocacy network and move forward confidently.

- **Identify a Congressional representative.**

The representative should be supportive of your specific policy goals and be willing to introduce your programme's bill into state legislature.

- **Hire a lobbyist.**

A lobbyist can help shepherd you through the legislative process. For example, a lobbyist helped propel Florida's current IB legislation. In addition, the California IB Association (CIBO), used a lobbyist to write CIBO bills, locate sponsors and guide CIBO through the legislative process. This included working with the CIBO Legislative Committee, devising strategies for advocacy and encouraging personal contact between individual schools and legislators.

Exam Funding (Legislation)	Teacher Training (Legislation)	Bonuses (Legislation)	Scholarships (Legislation)	Credits (Legislation)	Assessments (State Education Policy)	State Requirements (Legislation)
<p>&gt; <b>Minnesota</b> - State will pay all or part of IB exam fee for low-income students.</p> <p>&gt; <b>Texas</b> - State will pay \$25 of IB exam fee.</p> <p>&gt; <b>Federal</b> - (Alabama, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, Washington D.C.) - These states receive funds through federal AP Test Fee Program that allow them to partially reimburse IB exam fees for students who have financial need.</p>	<p>&gt; <b>California</b> - IB schools throughout California share \$1.05 million annually for IB professional development and materials.</p> <p>&gt; <b>Minnesota</b> - State will pay portion of costs incurred by school districts to send teachers to IB workshops.</p> <p>&gt; <b>Texas</b> - \$450 may be given to a teacher to subsidize costs incurred to attend IB training.</p> <p>&gt; <b>Federal</b> - Philadelphia School District, PA receives funds through federal AP Incentive Program for partial reimbursement for IB Diploma Programme application and workshop fees.</p>	<p>&gt; <b>Florida</b> - \$50 is given to an IB teacher for each student they instruct who scores a 4 or higher on an IB exam.</p> <p>&gt; <b>Florida</b> - Students completing IB courses will receive an additional grade point average weight of 0.25 per semester course and 0.50 per year course.</p> <p>&gt; <b>Texas</b> - An IB school will receive \$100 for each student who scores a 4 or higher on at least one of their IB exams.</p> <p>&gt; <b>Texas</b> - \$50 may be deposited in the teacher bonus pool for each student enrolled in the school who scores a 4 or higher on an IB exam.</p> <p>&gt; <b>Texas</b> - Schools starting an IB programme will receive a one-time grant of \$3000.</p>	<p>&gt; <b>Florida</b> - IB diploma holders are entitled to receive 100% of their tuition and fees plus \$600 a year paid at any public university in Florida or a comparable amount to any private college in Florida. Students completing IB courses who do not receive their diplomas and have at least a 1270SAT / 28ACT may also qualify for this award. This award is renewable each year for four years pending a cumulative college GPA of 3.0.</p> <p>&gt; <b>Florida</b> - Students completing IB courses who do not receive their diplomas are entitled to receive 75% of their tuition and fees paid at any public university in Florida or a comparable amount to any private college in Florida if they have attained at least a 970SAT / 20ACT score. This award is renewable each year for four years pending a cumulative college GPA of 2.75.</p>	<p>&gt; <b>Colorado</b> - State-supported post-secondary schools will grant 24 college credits to IB diploma holders who score a 4 or higher on each of their exams.</p> <p>&gt; <b>Florida</b> - Post-secondary institutions will grant college credit to students who obtain a qualifying score on an IB exam, as determined by the Florida State Board of Education.</p>	<p>&gt; <b>New York</b> - Students may substitute their IB exam for the state assessment in English if they score a 4 or higher on an IB English A1 SL exam or a 3 or higher on an IB English A1 HL exam.</p> <p>&gt; <b>New York</b> - Students may substitute their IB exam for the state assessment in Math A or Sequential Mathematics Courses I and II if they score a 4 or higher on an IB Math Studies or Math Methods SL exam or a 3 or higher on an IB Mathematics HL exam.</p> <p>&gt; <b>Virginia</b> - Students who score a 2 or higher on IB subject exams will be considered proficient in corresponding SOL subjects.</p> <p>&gt; <b>Texas</b> - Every higher education institution in Texas to grant 24 hours of credit to students with IB diplomas.</p>	<p>&gt; <b>Florida</b> - Students who are awarded an IB Diploma are considered to have met all state graduation requirements.</p> <p>&gt; <b>Texas</b> - State requirements for graduation can be met through IB courses.</p>



## STATE LEGISLATION RELATED TO THE INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAMME

The following pages contain web links to the text of a number of specific US state laws that provide support for the International Baccalaureate Organization's Programmes. These states include:

- 1) California
- 2) Colorado
- 3) Florida
- 4) Minnesota
- 5) Texas

These web links are intended to provide an opportunity to review the precise legal text. They also provide an example of current state practice and/or a demonstration of various approaches that can be taken by state legislators in the process of creating support for IB Programmes through legislation.

The legislation found by visiting the web links is verbatim. A plain English summary of the substance of this legislation is contained in the table that precedes these web links.



## CALIFORNIA LEGISLATION Related to International Baccalaureate Programmes

### **Date: 2001-2002**

Subject: Allocation of funds for IB

California Education Code Section 52920-52922

(Searchable database) <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>

Click on “California Law” tab

Choose: “Education Code”

Under Keyword enter: “52920-52922” and click “search”

Choose link “Education Code Section 52920-52922”

### **Date: February 22, 2001**

Subject: AB 842 Chapter 01- 557 regarding Middle Years Program (MYP) funding.

Amends Education Code Section 52922.

(Searchable database) <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>

Click on “Bill Information”

Choose: Session “2001-2002”, House “Assembly”, Limit to “All” hits, Bill Number “842”

Click “search”

Choose from a variety of html or PDF document options (chaptered, enrolled, amended).

### **Date: 1999 forward**

Subject: Block grants for charter schools - IB schools qualify for state funds under section 47634.4. (f)(9)

California Education Code Section 47633-47635

(Searchable database) <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>

Click on “California Law” tab

Choose: “Education Code”

Under Keyword enter: “47633-47635” and click “search”

Choose link “Education Code Section 47633-47635”

**Date: 1998**

Subject: Passage of AB 2363 which provides \$25,000 per year for all CIBO diploma schools, to be used specifically for teacher training (Assembly member Honda). It has since been renewed each year. Subsequent legislation provides funds for MYP programs.

(Searchable database) <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>

Click on “Bill Information”

Choose: Session “1997-1998”, House “Assembly”, Limit to “All” hits, Bill Number “2363”

Click “search”

Choose from a variety of html or PDF document options (chaptered, enrolled, amended).

**Date: 1995 forward**

ED source online – California education policy news and data

Subject: Highlights of various California laws for assessing student skills and knowledge including AB 265, SB 376, SB 233, SB 2x, AB 1609, and SB 1688.

[http://www.edsource.org/edu\\_ass\\_law.cfm](http://www.edsource.org/edu_ass_law.cfm)



**COLORADO LEGISLATION**  
**Related to International Baccalaureate Programmes**

**Date: 2003**

Subject: Granting of [IB] college credit – minimum requirements (Chapter 153)

Go to <http://www.leg.state.co.us/>

Select “Bill Digest” on the left hand frame

Select “2003 Digest of Bills”

Select “Education – Universities and Colleges”

Scroll down to “H.B. 03-1108”

Click on “1108” blue hyperlink to access the full bill

**Summary:** **H.B. 03-1108** International baccalaureate diploma program - granting of college credit - minimum requirements. Requires the Colorado commission on higher education ("commission"), on or before January 1, 2004, to ensure that 4-year public institutions of higher

education ("institutions") adopt and implement policies for the acceptance of first-time freshman students who have successfully completed an international baccalaureate diploma program ("program").

Requires the governing boards of institutions to set the number of credits granted to a student who has completed the program and to identify the specific general education or elective requirements satisfied. Specifies that, generally, no fewer than 24 credit hours shall be granted. Permits each institution to determine a minimum level of student performance on program exams to qualify to receive credits. Exempts from the provisions of the act an institution that has entered into a performance contract with the commission.

**APPROVED** by Governor April 18, 2003    **EFFECTIVE** August 6, 2003



**FLORIDA LEGISLATION**  
**Related to International Baccalaureate Programmes**

**Date: 2005**

Go to <http://www.leg.state.fl.us/>

Click on "Florida Statutes"

Select year: choose "2005"

Choose "Title XLVIII K-20 Education Code, Ch. 1000-1013"

**Chapter 1003: Public K-12 Education**

Part IV, Public K-12 Educational Instruction

See section 1003.43 - General requirements for high school graduation

**Chapter 1007: Articulation and Access**

Part II , Articulation

See section 1007.22 - Articulation; postsecondary institution coordination and collaboration

See section 1007.261 - State universities; admissions of students

See section 1007.27 - Articulated acceleration mechanisms

## **Chapter 1009: Education Scholarships Fees and Financial Assistance**

Part III, Financial Assistance

Select “B. Scholarships, Grants, and Other Aid”

See section 1009.531 - Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program

See section 1009.534 - Florida Academic Scholars award

See section 1009.535 - Florida Medallion Scholars award

Note: the above list is not exhaustive; other sections under Chapter 1009 may apply

## **Chapter 1011: Planning and Budgeting**

Part II, Funding for School Districts

See section 1011.62 - Funds for operation of schools



## **MINNESOTA LEGISLATION**

### **Related to International Baccalaureate Programmes**

**Date: 2004 to 2007**

Subject: Minnesota Statutes 2004, Section 120B.13 original bill and amendments

To read the original bill “Advanced placement and international baccalaureate programs”, go to:

[http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/bin/getpub.php?pubtype=STAT\\_CHAP\\_SEC&year=2004&section=120B.13&keyword\\_type=exact&keyword=120B.13](http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/bin/getpub.php?pubtype=STAT_CHAP_SEC&year=2004&section=120B.13&keyword_type=exact&keyword=120B.13)

To read the 2005-2006 amendments, go to:

[http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/committee/2005-2006/amendments/sf1148\\_comeng.htm](http://www.senate.leg.state.mn.us/committee/2005-2006/amendments/sf1148_comeng.htm)

- See “Program structure, training for teachers” – Sec. 6, Subd. 1(a), 1(b) (starts at line 54.1)
- See “Subsidy for examination fees” – Sec. 7, Subd. 3 (starts at line 55.3)
- See “Teacher Stipends” – Sec. 8, Subd. 3(a) (starts at line 55.18)
- See “College Credit” – Sec. 9, Subd. 3(b) (starts at line 55.27)

To read the 2006-2007 amendments, go to:

[http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/bin/bldbill.php?bill=H0141.1&session\\_year=2005&session\\_number=1](http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/bin/bldbill.php?bill=H0141.1&session_year=2005&session_number=1)

- See “Program structure, training for teachers” – Sec. 13, Subd. 1(a), 1(b) (starts at line 59.6)
- See “Subsidy for examination fees” – Sec. 14, Subd. 3 (starts at line 60.8)
- See “College Credit” – Sec. 15, Subd. 3(a) (starts at line 60.23)  
Mandates that IB exam scores of **four** or higher receive college credit at all colleges and universities in the MNSCU system.
- See “Appropriations: Examination fees, teacher training and support” – Sec. 84, Subd. 13(a), (b), (c), (d) (Starts at line 127.31)

**Date: April 22, 2005**

Journal of the House - 45th Day

Subject: Reports of Standing Committees

Go to: <http://ww3.house.leg.state.mn.us/cc/journals/2005-06/J0422045.htm>

- See “Requirements for high school graduation in Minnesota” – Page 2639  
Note “rigorous course of study waiver” in Subdivision 1(a)  
Also see Minnesota Statutes 2004, Section 120B.024, and Section 120B.021 (page 2, below)
- See “Program, structure, training for teachers” – Page 2642
- See “Subsidy for examination fees” – Page 2643

The following two links do not pertain solely to IB students, but summarize state requirements for graduation:

Minnesota Statutes 2004, Section 120B.024 – “Graduation requirements; course credits”

[http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/bin/getpub.php?pubtype=STAT\\_CHAP\\_SEC&year=2004&section=120B.024&keyword\\_type=exact&keyword=120B.024](http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/bin/getpub.php?pubtype=STAT_CHAP_SEC&year=2004&section=120B.024&keyword_type=exact&keyword=120B.024)

Minnesota Statutes 2004, Section 120B.021 – “Required Academic Standards”

[http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/bin/getpub.php?pubtype=STAT\\_CHAP\\_SEC&year=2004&section=120B.021&keyword\\_type=exact&keyword=120B.021](http://www.revisor.leg.state.mn.us/bin/getpub.php?pubtype=STAT_CHAP_SEC&year=2004&section=120B.021&keyword_type=exact&keyword=120B.021)

**Date: March 29, 2005**

House Research Bill Summary

Subject: Funding for elementary and middle school International Baccalaureate pilot program[me]s

File Number: H.F. 1225

Version: As introduced

Status: Education Finance Committee

Authors: Sieben and others

Analyst: Lisa Larson, 651-296-8036

<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/bs/84/hf1225.html>

**Date: March 29, 2005**

House Research Bill Summary

File Number: H.F. 1835

Version: As introduced

Status: Education Finance Committee

Authors: Erickson

Subject: Funding advanced placement and International Baccalaureate exam fees

Analyst: Lisa Larson, 651-296-8036

<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/bs/84/hf1835.html>

**Date: March 23, 2005**

House Research Bill Summary

File Number: H.F. 1719

Version: First Engrossment

Status: Higher Education Committee

Authors: Klinzing and others

Subject: Proposing high school reform measures

Analyst: Lisa Larson, 651-296-8036

<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/bs/84/hf1719e1.html>

**Date: March 10, 2004**

House Research Bill Summary

File Number: H.F. 2853

Version: As introduced

Status: Education Finance Committee

Authors: Seagren and others

Subject: Advanced Placement/ International Baccalaureate Program[me]s; Appropriations Rider

Analyst: Tim Strom, 651-296-1886

<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/bs/83/hf2853.html>

**Date: April 2, 2001**

House Research Bill Summary

File Number: H. F. 1862

Version: As Introduced  
Status: Education Finance  
Authors: Seagren and Others  
Subject: Advanced Placement/International Baccalaureate Program Provisions & Appropriations  
Analyst: Lisa Larson, 651-296-8036  
<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/bs/82/hf1862.html>

**Date: March 1, 2000**  
House Research Bill Summary  
Subject: Student Scholarships and Teacher Stipends under AP and IB Programs  
File Number: H.F. 3819  
Version: As introduced  
Status: Education Policy  
Authors: Entenza and Others  
Analyst: Lisa Larson, 651-296-8036  
<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/bs/81/hf3819.html>

**Date: March 19, 1999**  
House Research Bill Summary  
File Number: H. F. 404  
Version: As introduced  
Status: K-12 Finance Committee  
Authors Erickson and others  
Subject: Providing funding for advanced placement and International Baccalaureate programmes  
Analyst: Lisa Larson, 651-296-8036  
<http://www.house.leg.state.mn.us/hrd/bs/81/hf0404.html>



## TEXAS LEGISLATION Related to International Baccalaureate Programmes

### **SB 111 (passed May 25, 2005)**

This bill amends the Texas Education Code Chapter 28. It requires all Texas institutions of higher learning to grant credit to IB diploma holders. Minimum credit and conditions are specified.

Access html document:

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/cgi-bin/tlo/textframe.cmd?LEG=79&SESS=R&CHAMBER=S&BILLTYPE=B&BILLSUFFIX=00111&VERSION=5&TYPE=B>

Download PDF document:

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/data/docmodel/79r/billtext/pdf/SB00111F.PDF>

### **Texas Education Code Chapter 28 – Courses of Study; Advancement**

Download PDF document (see pages 23-25):

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/cgi-bin/statutes/pdf/frame.cmd?filepath=/statutes/docs/ED/content/pdf/ed.002.00.000028.00.pdf&title=EDUCATION%20CODE%20-%20CHAPTER%2028>

Download Word document (see pages 12-14):

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/statutes/docs/ED/content/word/ed.002.00.000028.00.doc>

### **Texas Statutes – Main download page for Education Code**

All Chapters (available in .doc and .PDF formats as well as html)

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/statutes/ed.toc.htm>

**Note:** For Education Code sections specific to the International Baccalaureate Diploma, please refer to download links for Chapter 28 (and Chapter 28 amendment), as well as Chapter 29, and 42. You can also access the same documents by clicking on the above link and selecting the chapter of your choice in html, Word or PDF format.

### **Texas Education Code Chapter 29 - Educational Programs**

Download PDF document (see page 70):

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/cgi-bin/statutes/pdf/frame.cmd?filepath=/statutes/docs/ED/content/pdf/ed.002.00.000029.00.pdf&title=EDUCATION%20CODE%20-%20CHAPTER%2029>

Download Word document (see page 39): <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/statutes/docs/ED/content/word/ed.002.00.000028.00.doc>

### **Texas Education Code Chapter 42 – Foundation School Program**

Download PDF document (see page 25):

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/cgi-bin/statutes/pdf/frame.cmd?filepath=/statutes/docs/ED/content/pdf/ed.002.00.000042.00.pdf&title=EDUCATION%20CODE%20-%20CHAPTER%2042>

Download Word document (see page 14):

<http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/statutes/docs/ED/content/word/ed.002.00.000042.00.doc>