

# International Baccalaureate Programmes Admissions Policy

### **Mission Statement**

Union Day School's community works together to provide students rigorous content and a rich curriculum that is parallel with the International Baccalaureate ideals of the learner profiles. We strive to build a nurturing environment where each student demonstrates a spirit of respect, responsibility, global mindedness and a commitment to academic and civic excellence.

## **Vision Statement**

Union Day School's vision is to promote and foster thoughtful, caring, and creative students. They will be critical thinkers and problem solvers. Students will be confident, prepared for future success and achieve their academic and social potential as life-long learners in the 21st Century. Global mindedness: We emphasize an understanding of how the world is organized and interconnected and the possibilities and constraints facing its people. Globally literate students analyze and think critically about the world and their roles in it. They become fluent investigators of the world, celebrating our diversity as global citizens.

## **Philosophy**

At UDS, we believe in giving all students the opportunity to receive a challenging education. We follow federal, state, and local rules for enrolling students. Admissions and student enrollment will be handled according to the <u>Current Charter School Agreement</u>, and not following lottery rules stated in NC G.S 115C-218.45 can lead to the statute being terminated.

#### General Admission:

As determined in the current Charter Agreement, which is in force from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2026.

As required by G.S. 115C-218.45, any child who is qualified for admission to an NC public school is qualified for admission to UDS. Admission will not be determined by the school attendance zone/area in which the student resides.

The School will not discriminate against any student on the basis of ethnicity, national origin, gender, disability, religion, creed, intellectual or athletic ability.

According to the Admissions Priority by state law, UDS may give enrollment priority to the following:

- Siblings of currently enrolled students who were admitted to the School in a previous year. The term "siblings" includes any of the following who reside in the same household: step-sibling, half-sibling, and children residing in a family foster home.
- Siblings of students who have completed the highest grade level at UDS
- Limited to no more than 15% of the School's total enrollment, the following may be given priority:



Children of full-time employees, children of the board of directors, a student who enrolled in the School within the two previous years but left the School to participate in an academic study abroad program or a competitive admission residential program or because of the vocational opportunities of the student's parents.

## **Equal Education Opportunities**

Union Day School provides equal education opportunities for all students and does not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, disability, nationality, or religious affiliation. The school adheres to the legal obligations and requirements under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Act Amendments, including identification, evaluation, and provision of an appropriate education.

## **Enrollment-Lottery**

The School will hold open enrollment beginning in December of each year. The enrollment will continue for a minimum of 30 days. At the end of the enrollment period, if the number of applicants exceeds the available space for that grade, students will be placed on a waitlist. Enrollment will continue until the twentieth day of instruction for the upcoming academic year.

## **High School Admissions Policy for the Middle Years Programme (MYP)**

UDS proudly offers the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP) for all students in years 1 to 5. Our admissions policy aims to ensure equitable access to this program for all students, promoting a diverse and inclusive learning community.

## High School Admissions Policy for the Diploma Programme (when authorized)

UDS will be committed to providing equitable access to the IB Diploma Programme (DP) while upholding the rigorous academic standards set by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO). Admission to the IB DP will be available to all high school students who have satisfactorily completed the 9th and 10th grades of the high school curriculum; however, this admissions policy is designed to ensure a fair and transparent selection process for students wishing to enroll in the DP.

#### **Admissions Criteria**

Academic Achievement: The application process for the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme (DP) will takes into account both prerequisites and recommendations from teachers. Applicants should demonstrate a strong academic background, including a history of excellent grades and performance in core subjects relevant to the DP. Prerequisites typically involve academic qualifications or course requirements that students must meet to be eligible. Teacher recommendations are crucial and provide insight into a student's academic abilities and potential. The specific requirements and procedures may vary by student, so students should consult their school's guidelines and seek guidance from teachers or counselors during the application process.



**Partial DP Participation:** Students who choose to participate partially in the IB DP can do so by enrolling in individual DP courses rather than pursuing the full diploma. Such students are required to meet specific course prerequisites and may be subject to different admissions criteria.

**Motivation and Commitment:** We seek students who are highly motivated and committed to the challenges of the DP. Applicants may be required to submit essays or statements expressing their dedication to the program.

**Standardized Testing**: Applicants may be required to provide results from standardized tests, where applicable, to assess their readiness for the DP.

**Language Proficiency:** Proficiency in the language of instruction. Language assessment may be conducted for new students.

**Interview:** Applicants may be interviewed by the IB coordinator and the School's counselor to assess their readiness for the DP and to understand their personal and academic goals.

**Diversity and Inclusivity:** UDS is committed to diversity and inclusivity. Special consideration may be given to applicants from diverse backgrounds, those with unique talents, or those with special educational needs.

#### **Selection Process**

The selection process is based on a holistic review of applicants, considering all of the criteria mentioned above. UDS aims to create a diverse and balanced DP cohort while maintaining the highest academic standards.

#### **Notification**

Applicants will be notified of their admission status within a reasonable timeframe after the selection process is completed.

## **Appeals**

Applicants who are not admitted have the right to appeal the decision. Details of the appeals process will be provided to unsuccessful applicants.



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This document is a living document, reviewed and updated annually by the Pedagogical Leadership Team for current content and practice.

### This policy was inspired and adapted from the following sources:

International Baccalaureate Organization. (2021). Diploma Programme. Retrieved from <a href="https://www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/">https://www.ibo.org/programmes/diploma-programme/</a>

Programme Standards and Practices. (2020).

Rules for IB candidate schools, for use from January 2022

UDS Charter Agreement in force from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2026.