

Applying for TUM Programs with an IB Diploma

With the International Baccalaureate Diploma/Diplôme du Baccalauréat International, or IB for short, an application at TUM (or any other German university) may be successful if certain preconditions are met. According to the Resolution of the Conference of Ministers of Education of 10 March 1986, as amended on 1 October 2015 and translated by the IB, university applicants must meet the following requirements:

- The IB must be obtained after attending at least twelve years of full-time education
- The **six examination subjects** taken must conform to IB conditions:
 - two languages at A or B level (one of which at least must be a foreign language studied uninterruptedly as "Language A" or "Language B HL")
 - one natural science subject** (Biology, Chemistry, Physics),
 - Mathematics** (Mathematical Methods or Mathematics HL or Further Mathematics together with Mathematics HL)
 - one social science subject** (History, Geography, Economics, Psychology, Philosophy, Social Anthropology und Business and Management).
- The **sixth compulsory subject** may be one of the above or one of the following subjects recognized by the IB: Art/Design, Music, Theatre Arts, Film, Literature and Performance, another modern foreign language; Latin, Classical Greek, General Chemistry, Applied Chemistry, Environmental Systems, Computer Science, Design Technology, World Religions, Sports exercise and health science.
- One of the three** subjects to be taken at **higher level** must be **Mathematics** or a **Natural Science** subject such as Biology, Chemistry or Physics.
- All subjects must have been taken uninterruptedly up to the end of the school career.
- Candidates must earn a minimum **IB Grade of 4** on the six compulsory subjects. Where an IB grade of 3 is awarded in one subject only, it is possible to compensate for this if another subject taken at the same level has been awarded at least an IB Grade 5, and an **aggregate of 24 points** has been attained.

At TUM we do not request proof of German language competence if the candidate has a German passport. The latest amended version of the official German Resolution, including a grade conversion formula is available online:

<http://www.tum.de/en/studies/application-and-acceptance/applicants-with-an-ib-international-baccalaureate-diploma/>

An English translation is provided by the IB:

http://www.ibo.org/country/universities_rec.cfm?country_code=Germany¤t_country=DE

What to do if you do not meet the preconditions?

If you do not meet all preconditions and thus cannot directly apply at a German university, you have two options:

1. All German states maintain so-called **Studienkolleg** which offer tuition-free classes for foreign nationals who wish to study at a university under their jurisdiction, but do not meet German university-entrance requirements. Preparatory studies offered through the Studienkollege prepare international students in two semesters for an assessment exam required for admittance to German universities. If you wish to attend a Studienkolleg, you must apply through the university. Direct applications to the Studienkolleg are not possible. To be admitted to a Studienkolleg, you must pass the German-language skills assessment portion of the entrance exam. For those seeking admission to technical degree programs, there is also a mathematics portion of the exam. Depending on the desired course of study at the TUM School of Management, students admitted to Studienkolleg München will select one of three areas of concentration. As university-entrance diplomas earned from a Studienkolleg are not general, but allow you to enroll in a specified range of majors depending on the specific subjects covered in the assessment test, make sure you know in advance what you want to study and choose the appropriate courses at the Studienkolleg. More information on preparatory Studienkolleg courses can also be found on the university website:

<http://www.tum.de/en/studies/application-and-acceptance/preparatory-study-at-the-studienkolleg/>

2. Another option is for you to enroll in your course of interest at a university in a foreign country whose secondary school-leaving certificates allows candidates to study at a German university. If you successfully complete your first year of study there, you may apply for the same course of study at TUM. Please note that neither option will exempt you from passing the aptitude test before being admitted to your program of choice.