



## Admissions policy

Generally, students who are qualified for the final two years of the Abitur Programme (state curriculum, two years and of qualification plus final written and oral exams) may apply for admission to the IB Diploma Programme at Gymnasium Birkenfeld by way of a form signed by parent/legal guardian and student and submitted to the programme coordinator, thus stating their interest in the programme and enrolling in three SL and three HL courses (full bilingual diploma) or opting for one or several from our choice of options (Courses).

- At Gymnasium Birkenfeld, the IB Diploma can only be obtained in combination with the *Abitur RLP*. Since the latter entails a large number of exams in German, proficiency in German is required of all students wishing to participate in the dual-course programme. Our foreign students need to meet the necessary requirements to enter the *Qualifikationsphase*, which is assessed and confirmed by the local government. In case of other external applications, besides academic records, an interview with the Head of Senior School (Oberstufenleiter) and the IB Coordinator will be undertaken to assess attitude and commitment.
- Excellent grades are not strictly required; our experience shows that often diligent and hard-working students are best suited to meet the course requirements, even if their grades are only on occasion above average.
- Students with special needs are welcome as long as the limits of the school buildings to cater for physically handicapped students do not curtail the student's chance to successfully participate in the programme.

The following character traits are expected of participants in the IB programme:

- Willingness to deliver maximum performance
- Enthusiasm for learning
- Open-mindedness
- Keen interest in the sciences
- Willingness to read, write essays and give presentations in English
- Social commitment
- Overall attitude in close alignment with the IB learner profile
- Sufficient ability in English

## **Fees**

- The majority of costs resulting from this course offer (school certification, exam costs, teacher training and materials) is currently covered by the local community.
- The DP participants have to cover the exam fees.
- Some course materials (e.g. books) have to be bought by the participants themselves.

Last reviewed: September 2024