

Admissions policy for the IB Diploma Programme at the Gymnasium Bäumlhof

The General Admission Policy for the Swiss State Gymnasium Bäumlhof

The Gymnasium Bäumlhof is a state secondary school which caters for grades 12-15¹. By law, only students can be accepted to the school who fulfil the grade requirements and who will have not reached more than 22 years of age at the point of their final exams.

To be admitted into the Gymnasium (secondary school II), students of secondary school I have to have a certain grade average and a certain number of points depending on their course (E-Zug or P-Zug), as is shown in the chart below.

Deutsch	Note	x 2	=	...
Mathematik	Note	x 2	=	...
Natur und Technik	Note	x 1	=	...
Räume, Zeiten, Gesellschaften	Note	x 1	=	...
Französisch	Note	x 1	=	...
Englisch	Note	x 1	=	...
Sämtliche Pflicht- und Wahlpflichtfächer der Sekundarschule				
Notendurchschnitt				Summe
				BM* FMS IMS* WMS* GYM
A-Zug	≥ 5,5	und	≥ 42 Punkte	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
E-Zug	≥ 4,5	und	≥ 36 Punkte	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
	≥ 5,0	und	≥ 40 Punkte	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
P-Zug	≥ 4,0	und	≥ 32 Punkte	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
	≥ 4,0	und	≥ 34 Punkte	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
Definitive Berechtigung: Anforderungen im 1. und 2. Zeugnis erreicht.				
Provisorische Berechtigung: Anforderungen im 1. oder 2. Zeugnis erreicht.				
*BM, IMS, WMS: Nur definitive Berechtigung. Dies bedeutet, dass die Bedingungen nur in einem Zeugnis erreicht werden müssen.				

Once a student is accepted, the official reporting takes place once a year with the grade report card being issued in June. The students' achievements in their various subjects are assessed with a final grade system from 1.0 to 6.0 (6.0 stands for an excellent performance; 4.0 is a pass). The subjects are German, English, French, Maths, Physics, Biology, Chemistry, Geography, History, Music or Arts, Physical Education, a focus subject and a supplementary subject chosen by the student. For students to pass the

¹ The Swiss school system counts 2 years of Kindergarten, 6 years of Primary school, and 3 years of Secondary school. Adolescents enter the Gymnasium at about the age of 16 and are at the school for 4 years.

academic year at the Gymnasium, they must have an average of at least 4.0. Furthermore, their total of negative points (i.e. marks below 4.0; a 3.5 = 0.5 negative points) must not exceed half of their positive marks (i.e. marks above 4.0; a 5.5 = 1.5 positive points).

The Admission Policy for the IB DP

For students who want to choose the IB DP, the admission policy is initially the same as for the whole school; they must fulfil the general grade requirements. It is compulsory for all students to complete the national curriculum and do the Swiss Matura exams beside the IB DP subjects².

Most of the students will already have decided to do the IB DP when entering the school in grade 12. These students form a so-called “IB class” with an IB teacher core team, despite the programme only starting in the second semester of grade 13. Students in the “IB class” have a half-day workshop with the IB coordinator in grade 10 about what the IB DP entails. All other applicants (students who develop an interest for the IB DP despite having chosen another class) have a 20–30-minute interview with the DP coordinator to make sure that they are correctly informed. Beside the interview, the DP coordinator also liaises with the class and subject teachers of the various applicants to gauge whether they are suitable for the programme. Should the form teacher and the DP coordinator have doubts about a candidate’s suitability for the DP, they will communicate these to the said applicants and their parents.

The IB programme only starts in the second semester of year two. We therefore have the advantage of knowing the students for a longer period of time where we can thoroughly brief them on the challenges, advantages and the contents of the IB DP.

We do not want to state any required grade point average or other competences as being necessary to register for the DP, however, we strongly stress that the IB DP is challenging, especially in combination with the Swiss Matura system and that, therefore, students taking the IB DP need to have large mental resources and be highly motivated.

Students coming from abroad are interviewed by the head of school and the decision about the suitability for the IB DP is based on the student’s dossier, school report card, abilities, and needs.

For language requirements and language support services at our school, see our school’s *Language Policy Statement*.

² In the IB DP at the Gymnasium Bäumlhof, the general subjects German, English, French, Mathematics, Biology and History are replaced by the IB subjects German A (HL), English B (HL), French B (HL), Mathematics (SL), Biology (SL) and History (SL) respectively, and the students are taught the additional core subjects TOK and CAS beside the other general school subjects Physics, Geography, Music or Arts, PE, and their chosen focus subject.

For information on assessment of student's work in the IB DP see *Assessment Policy Gymnasium Bäumlhof*.

IB costs

Parents of all students at the Gymnasium Bäumlhof are required to cover the costs for school material (stationery, schoolbooks, laptops) as well as school projects and camps with a yearly deposit. Extra costs for IB pupils are limited to IB books that are used in some of the IB subjects. The examination fees are covered by the school if parents can verify that they do not have the necessary means.

Source:

Systematische Gesetzessammlung SG 410.700. Verordnung über die Beurteilung und die Schullaufbahntscheide der Schülerinnen und Schüler der Volksschule und der weiterführenden Schulen (SLV). Fassung vom 11.9.19, wirksam seit 12.8.19.

https://www.gesetzessammlung.bs.ch/app/de/texts_of_law/410.700