

**International Baccalaureate
Student Information Package
11th and 12th Grade
2006-2007**

*"The intent is that students should indeed learn how to learn, how to analyze, how to reach considered conclusions about people, their languages and literature, their ways in society, and the scientific forces of the environment."
-IB Annual Report.*

Thomas Jefferson High School
4248 S. 288th Street
Auburn, WA 98001
(253) 945-5640 (5600)
Federal Way School District
Every Student... World Class Skills
Every Student... A Reader

Dear IB Candidate:

We are pleased that you have expressed a desire to take classes leading to the International Baccalaureate Diploma or to Individual subject Certificates at Thomas Jefferson High School. The IB Diploma is the highest level of achievement available for high school students in the world.

The IB curriculum is designed to meet or exceed the entrance requirements of the most selective colleges and universities throughout the world. Many colleges and universities offer advanced standing or course credits to students with strong IB exam results. Even more important is the preparation for college that the IB classes provide. A student graduating from an IB program is ready to tackle any college program.

The testing cost of the full diploma is approximately \$560.00 per student. Fees are charged for each examination and are to be paid by each participant. If a student has demonstrated a financial need, the state of Washington may reimburse the family up to 90% of the cost. The school district pays a membership fee to the international organization which supports the program with curriculum support, an international network of teachers, and testing support.

The IB program involves in-depth study in a broad range of subjects representing six fields of knowledge. The Diploma candidate is required to select one subject from each area. The studies culminate in a series of oral and written examinations, taken by IB candidates worldwide. More information on the program can be obtained on the IBO web site www.ibo.org.

In order to attain an IB diploma, the following requirements must be completed:

- IB examinations in at least three or a maximum of 4 higher level (HL) subjects, and three or a minimum of 2 standard level (SL) subjects
- Successful completion of the Theory of Knowledge (TOK) course
- 150 hours of Creativity, Action, and Service (CAS) activities
- Completion of a 4000 word Extended Essay by February 1st of grade 12

Please read the enclosed materials and discuss the program with your family or parent(s). We strongly encourage you to talk with IB teachers and students to gain further understanding of the caliber and intensity of the course work.

The following steps will be necessary to remain a Jefferson IB student in good standing. The overriding goal of this process is to ensure that each student has the best chance for a successful experience. Some of the data requested will assist in building a data-base for communicating frequently to the students and parents about upcoming opportunities and deadlines. Other data will assist in determining the skills and interests with which the student enters the program.

Sincerely yours,

Carol Lee

Thomas Jefferson IB coordinator

**Thomas Jefferson High School
International Baccalaureate**

Key indicators of future success in the IB program:

1. *Grades:* Preference will be given to highly motivated students who achieve a minimum of 3.1 GPA in their core academic subjects.
2. *Ability to communicate:* Strong writing skills are required for success in the program; therefore, each candidate will be required to submit a writing sample.
3. *Willingness to cooperate:* Students will be expected to participate in class discussions and projects and to work positively with others; therefore, each candidate will be required to submit teacher recommendations.
4. *International Interests:* The IB program is an international program. Students in the program are expected to be internationalists in interest and focus. They should have broad interests in all countries, culture, beliefs, and customs and be willing to extend their cultural experiences through participation in the program.
5. *Test scores:* Students should have passed all of their Sophomore WASL (Washington State Assessment of Student Learning) tests. During their Sophomore year, pre-IB students should take the PSAT test and concentrate on practicing their weak "test taking" areas before their Junior year.
6. *Honor and Integrity:* These two attributes must be strongly evident in the IB students. Students must choose this program because he/she wants to make the most of the educational opportunities available. Each one must honor the individual acquisition of knowledge and skills. Each candidate will be required to agree to an Honor Code.
7. *The successful student in this program will be one who is active in school and service activities. The program recognizes the importance of these non-academic skills through the CAS program.*

Junior students taking a minimum of 4 IB classes are considered IB students for the purposes of activity eligibility and priority scheduling.

Seniors taking a minimum of 3 IB classes are considered IB students for the purposes of classification.

Only diploma candidates are eligible for waivers.

Certificate Students: The student who does not plan to pursue the IB diploma may work in specific subject areas to prepare for examination in those subjects only.

Any students choosing to participate in three to six IB classes must complete this IB application package. All students in any IB course must sign the honor code.

The following items are to be completed and returned to Ms. Carol Lee, Thomas Jefferson High School, 4248 S. 288th Street, Auburn, WA 98001. (Please keep the first pages of this packet which contain program information.)

- **The complete application, including honor code statement - due June 1, 2006**
- **Two teacher recommendations - due June 15, 2006**
- **A list of your IB two year course preferences - ASAP**
- **Writing sample - due June 1, 2006**

**International Baccalaureate Program
Application**

_____ / _____
Last name

_____ / _____
First name

_____ / _____
Middle initial

Home Address: _____

City: _____ Zip code: _____

Telephone: _____

Home

Work (Father)

Work (Mother)

Student cell phone/ pager

School attended (ninth grade): _____

(tenth grade): _____

What is your current GPA? _____ PSAT score? _____ Date taken: _____

What are your WASL 2001 component scores (available in the Fall)?

Listening _____ Reading _____

Math _____ Writing _____

Email addresses:

Family : _____

Student : _____

Parent at work (if acceptable): _____

Please list the names of two to three teachers who know you well. Indicate from whom you have requested recommendations.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

Parent/Guardian names: _____

Parental consent:

I understand the requirements for this program and give my consent for _____

_____ to seek acceptance into the International Baccalaureate Program at Thomas Jefferson High School.

Parent Signature

Date

IB Honor Code

The IB Program offers a quality education that not only insures knowledge, but cultivates the virtues of honor, courtesy, and perseverance. Of these virtues, honor is of great importance, for it is personal integrity that will influence and finally determine many of our actions and beliefs. This Honor Code exists in order to uphold and reinforce values that are central to the IB tradition of excellence and to prevent violations of that tradition such as cheating or plagiarism. Students should consider this Honor Code to be enforced in all IB classes, non-IB classes, and all activities associated with Thomas Jefferson High School.

The Honor Code, simply stated, is:

Students shall be honor bound to refrain from cheating of every kind, including plagiarism. Students shall be honor bound to take actions to stop any and all violations of this Honor Code which they see. Inaction implies that one condones inappropriate behavior. Living in a manner that is consistent with this code will produce an atmosphere of trust, freedom, and integrity necessary to the success of each student in this program. Without maintaining a high standard of honesty and conduct, the reputation of the school and of IB are compromised and society is poorly served.

What constitutes cheating?

- Plagiarism; Using any resource without attribution, substituting another's work as your own
- Copying homework
- Looking at someone's paper or giving answers
- Using unauthorized cheat sheets
- Giving out questions that are on a test
- Having disallowed preprogrammed formulas and/or programs on calculators used on tests
- Any behavior that could be reasonably construed as cheating

Special attention must be given to the avoidance of plagiarism of Internet resources. Students must make a point of using these sources appropriately because of the ease of copy-and-paste techniques.

Honor Pledge

I hereby pledge to uphold the Honor Code of the International Baccalaureate Program at Thomas Jefferson High School. I shall refrain from all forms of academic dishonesty: cheating; plagiarism; or other deceitful means of obtaining good grades.

If I have knowledge that a student has violated the honor code, I have an obligation to take action to prevent damage to the program and its participants.

I understand that breaches of the honor code may result in my removal from the International Baccalaureate Program and from Thomas Jefferson High School.

Student Signature _____ Date _____

IB Program - Confidential Teacher Recommendation

Student: _____ **Graduating class:** _____

The student above is applying to the IB program. Please evaluate this student on a 1-5 scale with 1 being the lowest rating and 5 the highest rating.

	1	2	3	4	5
Student's work is often late or incomplete.					All work is turned in on time and finished.
Student is inattentive in class or frequently off task.					Student is always on task.
Student exerts minimum effort in class.					Student exerts maximum effort at all times.
Student is a passive recipient of knowledge.					Student is intrinsically motivated, seeking knowledge rather than just "will this be on the test?"
Student's work shows poor written communication skills.					Student's work shows strong written communication skills.
Student gets lost in the detail.					Student sees the big picture and comprehends abstract ideas easily.
Typically more than 5 absences during a trimester.					Zero absences.
Student reads poorly and has difficulty grasping meaning.					Student reads well and comprehends easily.
Student introduces conflict in a group assignment,					Student works well in a group, contributing without controlling.
Student is intolerant of others.					Student is tolerant of others and helpful to those who may not grasp a concept as quickly.

Total _____

Would you recommend this student as a reasonable candidate for the IB program?

Yes _____ No _____

If you have answered no, or have some reservations, can you give a suggestion or a caution that we can share with the student?

Teacher Signature: _____

Please return this confidential evaluation to Carol Lee, Thomas Jefferson High School.

Student: _____ **Graduating class:** _____

The student above is applying to the IB program. Please evaluate this student on a 1-5 scale with 1 being the lowest rating and 5 the highest rating.

1	2	3	4	5
Student's work is often late or incomplete.				All work is turned in on time and finished.
Student is inattentive in class or frequently off task.				Student is always on task.
Student exerts minimum effort in class.				Student exerts maximum effort at all times.
Student is a passive recipient of knowledge.				Student is intrinsically motivated, seeking knowledge rather than just "will this be on the test?"
Student's work shows poor written communication skills.				Student's work shows strong written communication skills.
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Total _____

Would you recommend this student as a reasonable candidate for the IB program?

Yes _____ No _____

If you have answered no, or have some reservations, can you give a suggestion or a caution that we can share with the student?

Teacher Signature: _____

Please return this confidential evaluation to Carol Lee, Thomas Jefferson High School.

IB Writing Samples

Name: _____

Date submitted: _____

Please respond to the following questions. Each answer should be approximately 100 words in length. Your answers are to be typed and attached to the cover sheet. In addition, please include a copy of a piece of writing that you are particularly proud of because of its content/organization, etc. This could be a prepared essay for a class, a creative story or poem, or a factual report. This should not be a piece of writing done just for this application. Choose a work done within the past year.

1. Submit a concise explanation of your interest in the IB program. Please explain why you wish to participate, what you will contribute to the program, and what you expect to receive from the IB program.
2. What is the last book you read that was not required for a class? When did you read it and why? Briefly summarize what you learned from reading this book or reflect on the personal meaning of a passage in the text.
3. What subject or class have you've taken in school that has turned out to be the most worthwhile up to this point? Explain your choice.
4. If you could have studied one subject in school that you didn't or that wasn't offered, what would it be? Explain your choice.
5. What do you see as your strengths and your weaknesses as a student?