



International  
Baccalaureate

Class of 2014

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION



**OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL HIGH SCHOOL**  
17301 Old Vic Boulevard | Olney, MD 20832

Mr. Andrew Collins, IB Coordinator

## IB PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The International Baccalaureate Program is a two-year course of studies for juniors and seniors which encourages self-motivated, consistent achievers to accept the challenges of a demanding curriculum. Students in the IB Program take a well-rounded selection of courses culminating in internationally administered examinations. These students expand their educational experience beyond the classroom through participation in extracurricular activities and community service, writing a formal research paper, and completing an interdisciplinary course that critically analyzes methods of thinking from an international perspective. Upon the successful completion of these requirements, the International Baccalaureate Organization awards students the IB Diploma. Many colleges and universities award credit or grant advanced standing based upon a student's achievement of the IB Diploma or performance on the IB examinations administered at the conclusion of the course.

IB Diploma candidates study advanced course material in English, World Languages, Social Studies, Science, Mathematics, and Fine Arts or Electives. Three of these subjects are completed at the Higher Level (HL) requiring 240 hours of classroom work. The remaining three subjects are studied at the Standard Level (SL) requiring 150 hours of classroom work. Student schedules vary based upon prior achievements and individual interests. Upon completion of their course work, students take six IB examinations. Furthermore, Diploma candidates complete the Theory of Knowledge course, reflect upon their Creativity, Action, And Service (CAS), and write an Extended Essay.

**The following IB courses are offered annually at Our Lady of Good Counsel High School:**

- World Literature I & II (HL)
- Economics (SL and HL)
- 20<sup>th</sup> Century World History (SL and HL)
- Psychology (SL)
- Information Technology in a Global Society (SL)
- Math Studies (SL)
- Chemistry (SL and HL)
- Music – Vocal and Musical (SL and HL)
- Theater (SL and HL)
- Physics (SL)
- French (Ab Initio, SL, and HL)
- Spanish (Ab Initio, SL, and HL)
- Mathematics Discrete (HL)
- Mathematics-Calculus (SL)
- World Religions I & II (SL)
- Biology (SL and HL)
- Visual Arts (SL and HL)

### APPLICATION and ACCEPTANCE to the IB PROGRAM

Our Lady of Good Counsel High School supports the participation of a wide range of students in the IB Program. Students apply for admission to the IB Program during the third quarter of their sophomore year. To apply, students must complete all parts of this application which will then be reviewed by a committee of administrators and teachers. Students will be notified of their acceptance into the program prior to course registration in March.

A vital component of achieving success in this demanding program is balancing the student's academic aspirations with other significant time commitments. Consequently, families of IB students are asked to consider their children's need to prioritize carefully their academics and extra-curricular activities. Additionally, while the school attempts to accommodate all of Diploma Program participants' course preferences, course registration is subject to class size limits and graduation and program requirements.

## SELECTION PROCESS:

Students are accepted into the IB Program based on the following criteria:

### Academics:

1. Grades
  - Above-average grades in Honors courses
  - High grades in Non-Honors courses
2. Standardized Test Scores
  - Standardized test scores from the following exams will be reviewed:
    - HSPT
    - EXPLORE
    - PSAT
3. Teacher Recommendations

### Personal Background:

A list of applicants will be circulated to the Deans of Students, Guidance Counselors, and Department Resource Teachers for feedback. Areas of focus include, but are not limited to:

- A demonstrated high level of motivation and maturity
- Active participation in extracurricular activities, service, or athletics
- Positive recommendations from school personnel
- Superior conduct and consistent school attendance
- Full parental patience and support

## DIRECTIONS TO STUDENTS:

1. Complete the **Applicant Profile**
2. Request that **three (3)** of your current Good Counsel teachers complete a **Teacher Recommendation Form** and provide each of them with a copy of the form.

Recommendations must come from the following:

1. One from a humanities teacher (English, Religion, or History),
2. One from a math or science teacher, and
3. One from a foreign language or fine arts teacher.

3. Compose a **Short Essay** (typed, 300-500 words) that answers the following question:

**How have two past experiences in your life influenced your desire to participate in the IB Program?**

**THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATION MATERIALS IS JANUARY 24, 2012**  
Applications should be returned to Mr. Andrew Collins in the AP/IB Office.

## APPLICANT PROFILE

**APPLICANT'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST FIRST MIDDLE

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
CITY STATE ZIP CODE

**TELEPHONE NUMBER** (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNSELOR** \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a transfer student to Our Lady of Good Counsel High School? \_\_\_\_\_

If you answered "yes", indicate the school(s) you attended prior to enrolling in Good Counsel.

\_\_\_\_\_

### Community Service

In the space below, or on an attached sheet of paper, list any community service you performed during your high school years. As you list your items, explain the relevance of this service to the community, and what you learned through the performance of this service.

**DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE PERFORMED**

**RELEVANCE AND LEARNING OPPORTUNITY**

**Extracurricular Activities**

List all extracurricular activities (athletics, clubs, etc.) that you participated in during your high school years. These activities may be either in or outside of school. Explain the nature and extent of your involvement, and what you learned through your involvement.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY	LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

**Recommendations**

List the names of the teacher(s) who have agreed to write recommendations for you. (Give a form to each teacher).

HUMANITIES: \_\_\_\_\_ MATH/SCIENCE: \_\_\_\_\_

FOREIGN LANG/FINE ARTS: \_\_\_\_\_

**Parental Statement**

*To the Parent/Guardian:* Your child has expressed interest in enrolling in the IB program. A major factor in student academic success is parental involvement, patience, and support. By signing below you are acknowledging that you are aware of the rigor and demanding nature of the IB Program and support your student's candidacy for these classes. If you choose, please feel free to add a personal statement in the space below regarding your child's interest in undertaking the IB Program.

**Signatures**

I attest that the above information is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Furthermore, I understand that being approved to take IB courses does not guarantee enrollment in specific IB classes.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Teacher Recommendation

APPLICANT'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
LAST
FIRST
MIDDLE

This student is applying for admission to Our Lady of Good Counsel High School's IB Program. Your input regarding this student is greatly appreciated. This recommendation will remain confidential.

In which course(s) did you teach this student? \_\_\_\_\_

As compared to other Good Counsel students, please assess this student for the following characteristics:

	ONE OF THE VERY BEST	EXCELLENT	ABOVE AVERAGE	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	NO BASIS FOR JUDGEMENT
Academic performance in your class						
Academic ability for your subject						
Motivation						
Written expression						
Oral expression						
Reading skills						
Ability to work with others						
Learns independently						
Completes assignments on time						
Performs well on exams						
Conduct						
Responsibility/Integrity						
Organization						
Intellectual Curiosity						
Ability to cope with stress						

**Overall Assessment:**

- I highly recommend this student to be accepted to Good Counsel's IB Program.
- I recommend this student to be accepted to Good Counsel's IB Program.
- I do not recommend this student to Good Counsel's IB Program.

*\*Please feel free to add any additional comments on the back of this form.*

Teacher's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this recommendation to the IB/AP Office by January 24, 2012.**

## Teacher Recommendation

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FIRST
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