

Admission Philosophy

Central High School works to prepare its students for a rigorous course of study during high school, and transition into post-secondary education. We strongly encourage our students to be academic risk-takers and to follow a challenging program of studies that addresses their interests while at the same time requires them to be well-rounded. The IB Diploma Programme (DP) and IB Career-related Programme (CP) is considered "open-access" and open to all students at Central High School, as well as offered as a Magnet Program to students in the Bibb County School District and surrounding areas. Upon admission and advisement, students may choose to participate as a full IB DP Candidate, CP Candidate, or may elect to DP courses as course candidates. The inquiry-based, rigorous, and collaborative environment of all these classes reflect the IB philosophy and help shape students through development of the IB Learner Profile.

Admission Criteria for rising 9th grade Magnet Students:

- Complete Magnet Application by December 6th deadline
- Attend Required Interview in February
- Successful completion of Math 8 (Gifted, AP, Advanced), Accelerated Algebra I, or the equivalent of Algebra I at the 8th grade level. Accelerated Algebra I is HIGHLY recommended, but not required.
- Grades in core subjects (85 or above)
- Maturity, interest, and commitment of student
- Attendance Records: No more than 5 absences per semester (7th and 8th grades) excepting hospitalization or long-term illness
- Discipline Records: No chronic disciplinary problems. Cheating, fighting, and bullying are considered especially serious.
- Written recommendation from Middle School Counselor and/or 8th grade teacher. Students are expected to meet or exceed standards in all subjects on state standardized tests including the Georgia Milestones

Note: Because the course sequence, focus, and depth of Pre-Diploma/IB courses differ from the

curricula of other schools, DP magnet students are generally not admitted after ninth grade. CP Magnet students may be admitted after 9th grade provided they meet the admission criteria. Remediation in summer school is **not** permitted for the same reasons.

Admission Criteria for current 9th-11th grade students:

- Meet with DP/CP Coordinator and high school counselor to determine placement Grades in core subjects (85 or above)
- Maturity, interest, and commitment of student
- Attendance Records: No more than 5 absences per semester (7th and 8th grades) excepting hospitalization or long-term illness
- Discipline Records: No chronic disciplinary problems. Cheating, fighting, and bullying are considered especially serious.
- Written recommendation from current teacher, counselor or administrator. Students are expected to meet or exceed standards in all subjects on state standardized tests including the Georgia Milestones

Note: CP students may be admitted after 9^{th} grade provided they meet the admission criteria. Remediation in summer school is not permitted for the same reasons.

Maintaining Acceptance/Dismissal From Program:

- <u>Acceptance is provisional</u>: a final review of eligibility will be made at the end of the 8th grade year, and if necessary, parents will be notified of rescission of the offer to participate. Student must agree to remain in the IB program for one year.
- Student must abide by the **IB Academic Integrity Policy** or face dismissal from the program. Students who violate the policy will be placed on probation. A second violation will be grounds for dismissal.
- Student and parent must sign acceptance agreement.
- Failure—a final average below 70 (**before** addition of bonus points for gifted, AP weighting) in any Pre-Diploma or IB course will result in **dismissal** from the Pre-Diploma/IB Program and return to the student's zoned school.
- Students must pass all local/county required courses, any required Georgia High School Graduation Tests, and any required End of Course or Milestones Tests.
- Formal admission to the IB Diploma Programme or IB Career-related Programme comes at the end of the sophomore year.

- A pattern of disruptive behavior in class and/or excessive absences from class will result in **dismissal** from the program and return to the student's zoned school.
- Courses and teacher assignments are based on student numbers. Preferences for teachers and/or courses are noted but cannot be guaranteed.

NO retake of Pre-Diploma or IB courses is offered. After school tutoring is available.

Application Process

Applications to the CHS Pre-Diploma Program for magnet students will be due by the first week of December of the student's 8th grade year. Students may self-select to apply to the program or students may be recommended by faculty and/or counselors to consider the program and encouraged to apply because of their academic potential. Students must fully complete the magnet application to be eligible for the CHS Pre-Diploma Program. Once applications are processed, students will be invited for an on-site interview. Students will be notified of their acceptance into the Pre-Diploma Program by writing the first week of March. DP Magnet students will enter the Pre-Diploma Program at Central High School as 9th graders. CP Magnet students may enter Central High school as a 9th-11th grader, depending upon progress towards graduation.

Successful completion of the CHS Pre-Diploma Program will serve as an indicator of success in the IB Diploma Program and participation in the CHS Pre-Diploma Program will facilitate the transition of students from 10th grade to 11th grade. Students who successfully complete the CHS Pre-Diploma program will be admitted into the formal IB Diploma Program beginning in 11th grade. Students who are admitted into the IB Diploma Program from the Pre-Diploma Program will be scheduled for 11th grade IB courses and registered as IB Diploma Program candidates. CP Magnet students will take Pre-Diploma coursework in 9th and 10th grades until they formally transition into the CP program beginning in 11th grade. Students will select at least two DP Courses they will take along with a Career Pathway through Hutchings College & Career Academy. CP Students have the option to take 3 DP courses if they are interested.

Equity of Access

While the IB Program serves as a magnet program for Bibb County, both the IB Diploma Programme and Career-related Programme are open to <u>all</u> Central High School Students. Students interested in taking Pre-Diploma classes or DP/CP coursework who meet all required criteria should schedule a meeting with the IB DP/CP Coordinator and CHS Counselor to discuss placement in the programs/courses. Teachers and/or counselors may also refer students to the IB DP/CP Coordinator for placement in the DP/CP. Students may also be placed in DP courses as standalone "course candidates" instead of taking any programs.

Withdrawal from IB DP/CP Programs

Students accepted into an IB Program must commit to the program for a full year. Students who wish to withdraw from the IB Program after being accepted must submit the IB Withdrawal

Form to the IB DP/CP Coordinator. The IB DP/CP Coordinator must meet with both the parent/guardian and the student. An essay explaining the reasons for withdrawal must be presented. Magnet students who withdraw and are not zoned for Central High School may be sent back to their zoned school.

Policy Review

The admission policy undergoes review every two years as it pertains to changes in district policies as well as school policies. This policy is through the IB Professional Learning Committee. The Committee contains the IB DP/CP Coordinator, teachers from the Diploma Program and Career-related Programme, CHS administration, and an academic coach/administrator. It is the responsibility of the IB DP/CP Coordinator to ensure the success of the admission policy review. The next review period is scheduled for December 2024.

This policy can be downloaded electronically from the CHS IB website at http://chsibmacon.weebly.com/ib-policies.html

Policy Last Reviewed: December 2022