

Studies examining the high school and postsecondary outcomes of DP students

Working to my potential: Experiences of CPS students in the International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (2012) [Research summary](#); [Full report](#)

Researchers: Coca et al, University of Chicago Consortium on Chicago School Research

Comparison groups: Study used a rigorous methodological technique (propensity score matching) to compare similar (matched) IB and non-IB students. This methodology allows us to draw stronger conclusions from the study.

Findings:

- DP students were more likely to enroll in college, more likely to enroll in a more selective college and more likely to stay enrolled, compared to matched non-IB students.
- DP students felt that they were academically well-prepared to succeed in college coursework. They also described analytical writing, math preparation, motivation, work habits, and organization and time management skills as strengths.
- Quote: *“Indeed, the IB program in Chicago appears to have accomplished something very rare in urban education: it took economically and socially disadvantaged students and radically changed their long-term educational prospects by making them world-class learners with an arsenal of academic skills.”*- Coca et al.

International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme: Examining college readiness (2014) [Research summary](#); [Full report](#)

Researchers: Conley et al, Educational Policy Improvement Center (EPIC) [now *Inflexion*], University of Oregon

Comparison groups: DP and non-DP graduates at the University of Oregon’s Honors College

Findings:

- DP graduates were significantly more likely to persist and to complete college than their non-DP counterparts.
- Qualitative data also indicated that DP graduates were better able to adjust to the rigors of university coursework. Students specifically highlighted skills gained through participation in the DP, including critical-thinking, time management and research skills.

The academic impact of enrollment in International Baccalaureate Diploma Programs: A case study of Chicago Public School (2014) [Scholarly journal article](#) published in Columbia University’s Teachers College Record

Researchers: Anna Saavedra, RAND Corporation

Comparison groups: Study used a rigorous methodological technique (propensity score matching) to compare similar (matched) IB and non-IB students. This methodology allows us to draw stronger conclusions from the study.

Findings:

- Enrollment in the DP increases the probability that students will graduate from high school by 20%.
- DP enrollment increases students’ probability of enrolling in college by 38%.
- DP enrollment increases students’ ACT score by one half of a standard deviation (about 1.7 ACT points).

Exploring the benefits of the International Baccalaureate extended essay for university studies at the University of Virginia (2013) [Research summary](#); [Full report](#)

Researchers: Inkelas et al, University of Virginia

Comparison groups: Advanced Placement (AP) students

Findings:

- In comparison to AP students, former DP students were significantly more likely to report that they: felt prepared for university coursework involving research, had executed a research project at UVA, were proud of their research, and intended to conduct future research.

Academic performance of IB students entering the University of California system (2010) [Research summary](#)

Researchers: IB Research

Comparison groups: Comparison group of similar non-IB students (matched on demographic variables and previous academic performance), and the general population of the University of California system

Findings:

- IB students earned higher grade point averages and graduated at higher rates than comparison group students as well as students in the University of California system overall. This trend was observed across all income groups.
- Performance in the IB programme in high school significantly predicts achievement in college.

Diploma Programme students' enrollment and outcomes at US postsecondary institutions (2015) [Research brief](#); [Full report](#)

Researchers: Liz Bergeron, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse

Comparison groups: US students nationally

Findings:

- The study indicated that 78% of DP students enrolled in postsecondary institutions immediately after high school (the US national average is 69%).
- Additionally, 98% continued on to their second year of university study.
- DP students also had high four-year (79%) and six-year university graduation rates (83% for DP students, compared to 56% nationally).

First college courses taken by Florida IB students (2011) [Research summary](#); [Full report](#)

Researchers: Kyra Caspary and Jennifer Bland, SRI International

Findings:

- Study found a positive association between scores on IB exams and grades in first college courses in that subject (at the University of Florida).

International Baccalaureate programmes in Title I schools in the United States: Accessibility, participation and university enrollment (2015) [Research brief](#)

Researchers: IB Research

Comparison groups: US students nationally

Findings:

- Findings indicated that low-income DP students in Title I schools enrolled in college at similar rates to all DP students in US public schools (79% compared to 82% respectively) and at much higher rates than the national average for low-income students (46%).