



IMPROVING UNIVERSITY ENTRY FOR IB STUDENTS

HOW ARE IB DIPLOMA STUDENTS CONSIDERED FOR ENTRY TO TERTIARY COURSES IN AUSTRALIA?

Results from the IB Diploma, which are reported on a whole number scale between 24 and 45, are converted into an ATAR-like value to allow IB students to be considered for tertiary places alongside their counterparts who have completed state curricula. This ATAR-like value is known as the **Combined Rank** because it is a national conversion which combines results from across all states. This means that IB students can apply in any Australian state or territory with confidence about how their results compare to their peers who have completed state curricula and received an ATAR.

WHAT'S CHANGING IN 2021?

For 2021, IB graduates who are applying for admission to tertiary courses commencing in 2022, more detailed information about IB results will be available to tertiary admissions centres and this will be used to improve the Combined Rank schedule by providing more conversion points. Scaled total marks from all subjects will be used to differentiate between IB Diploma students on the same IB score. The table on the following page shows how it will work, using the examples of students awarded the IB Diploma with scores of 37 and 38.

HOW WILL MY IB RESULTS BE REPORTED FROM 2021?

You will still receive a whole number score when completing the IB Diploma. However, you will also receive an IB Admissions Score, which will add decimal places to your Diploma score based on your average performance within each band of your subject results. For example, you may receive a Diploma score of 41, and an IB Admissions Score of 41.25. This IB Admissions Score can then be used to look up your Combined Rank on the national schedule.

Current combined rank process: all applicants with the same IB Diploma score achieve the same Combined Rank		
IB Diploma score		Combined Rank
38 (high in each subject band)	⇒	96.70
38 (average in each subject band)	⇒	96.70
38 (below average in each subject band)	⇒	96.70
38 (low in each subject band)	⇒	96.70
37 (high in each subject band)	⇒	95.75
37 (average in each subject band)	⇒	95.75
37 (low in each subject band)	⇒	95.75

New combined rank process (2021): applicants with the same IB Diploma score achieve a more precise Combined Rank based on their subject results		
IB Diploma score		Combined Rank
38 (high in each subject band)	⇒	96.90
38 (average in each subject band)	⇒	96.70
38 (below average in each subject band)	⇒	96.45
38 (low in each subject band)	⇒	96.25
37 (high in each subject band)	⇒	96.00
37 (average in each subject band)	⇒	95.75
37 (low in each subject band)	⇒	95.15

Example values only; the exact Combined Rank conversion values are set based on data for each year.

COULD MY IB ADMISSIONS SCORE BE DIFFERENT FROM MY IB DIPLOMA SCORE?

The IB Admissions Score adds more detail within each level of Diploma scores but does not change the score. The IB Admissions Score will always start with the same number as your IB Diploma score. For example, if you have a Diploma score of 35, your IB Admissions Score could be 35.25. It would not be 36.25 or 34.25.

WHAT HAPPENS IF MY IB RESULTS ARE AMENDED?

Your IB Admissions Score will be recalculated if amended results are received.

WILL THE CHANGE AFFECT MY CHANCES OF GETTING INTO A TERTIARY COURSE?

The new process does not substantially change the Combined Rank for individual students, it simply allows for a more detailed scale to be used. Research suggests that roughly 60% of students would receive the same rank on the new conversion table, 25% will see an increase in their rank and 15% will see a decrease in their rank. Even if your Combined Rank goes up or down under the new process, it is still close to the value you would have received under the old system.

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT MY IB RESULTS AND TERTIARY ADMISSIONS?

The Combined Rank is a national conversion, so you can be confident about how your application for tertiary study will be considered in any Australian state or territory. The Combined Rank is expressed on the same scale as an ATAR, so you can look at the published 'lowest selection rank' for a tertiary course as an indication of the selection standard and relate this easily to your IB results. When completing your final year of schooling, ensure that you provide permission via your school for your IB results to be released to Australian tertiary admissions centres. As long as you identify yourself as an IB student and provide your IB candidate number when applying for courses, your IB scores and subject results will be received electronically and automatically converted for the purposes of selection and meeting prerequisites.

WHAT IF I QUALIFY FOR THE IB CAREER-RELATED PROGRAM (CP) OR DO NOT QUALIFY FOR THE IB DIPLOMA?

The IB Admissions Score is only relevant for students who have qualified for the award of the IB Diploma.