The IB provided information to universities in late March on how results would be calculated for the May 2020 session. On 6 April 2020 the IB sent a questionnaire to around 3000 universities across the globe. Universities have been in the process of developing their admissions policy and were asked to reply once their policy had been developed.

Survey responses have been received from over 50 countries. Almost 50% of the responses were from the USA, with 10% from both Canada and the UK, but there were also responses from Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore and the Netherlands. This very much mirrors the destinations for IB graduates each year.

Around 50% of the universities that responded stated that their standard admissions process is to make conditional offers, where admission is dependent on meeting certain grades in the IB Diploma. Amongst these universities, over 85% suggested that they would try to be flexible when reviewing students final IB results.

The US universities and colleges who responded to the survey were asked to comment on the award of credit and/or placement. Over 85% stated that their standard policy with regards to credit and placement would hold for the students receiving their results in July 2020.

400 survey responses have been received.

98% Percent of admissions officers indicated that student admission would not be impacted.

88% Percent of admissions officers confirmed that the information provided would be accepted for admissions.

85% The US universities and colleges who responded to the survey were asked to comment on the award of credit and/or placement. Over 85% stated that their standard policy with regards to credit and placement would hold for the students receiving their results in July 2020.
University admissions support for IB May 2020 graduates

The IB has been in regular communications with universities and colleges across the world since the very start of the COVID-19 pandemic in January.

Several universities have shared words of support regarding admissions.

The Russell Group of Universities welcome the clarity provided by exam regulators and awarding bodies across the UK over how they will grade candidates who would have taken exams … and other qualifications such as the International Baccalaureate Diploma. Students can rest assured that results provided through these processes will be treated exactly the same as in any other year by members so learners can still progress to the university and course of their choice, subject to achieving the required grades. Applicants should liaise with individual universities for further guidance on their processes.

*Russell Group (24 leading UK universities)*

Please rest assured that we will be using this summer's results (as awarded) to confirm places in our normal way – if you meet all of the conditions of your offer with us by the deadline stipulated by UCAS (currently 31 August), you will be accepted to the University.

We understand that there may be an opportunity to take examinations this autumn. If you have not met the conditions of your offer this summer, you may choose to sit alternative examinations this autumn. The University of Cambridge will make you an offer for entry in October 2021, if the terms of your original offer are met as a result.

*University of Cambridge, UK*

In principle, we will be accepting all diploma credentials that appear on our diploma equivalencies list regardless of any exam postponements or cancellations. This includes the International Baccalaureate.

*Leiden University, Netherlands*

We trust how IBO decides each student's final result even without the exams and wish all the senior students have equal opportunities to enroll in colleges especially in this unstable situation.

*University of Sophia, Japan*

The University of Toronto is aware that IB examinations have been cancelled in May 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. We will accept the adjusted assessment and grading practices that the IBO has put in place to determine final IB results, and our admission and transfer credit policies therefore remain unchanged for this year.

*University of Toronto, Canada*

The University of California system will continue to award credit for designated IB subjects passed with scores of 5, 6 or 7, as well as extra units for the IB Diploma completed with 30 points or more.

*University of California System, USA*
We are convinced that IB as a world reference institution in the field of education, will offer us reliable results.

*Universidad de Navarra, Spain*

Focus on important things. Do your best. It will work out. Universities need great students.

*University of Southern California, USA*

We understand that many of you are concerned because your high school is closed, exams have been cancelled, or your high school has changed its grading scheme. We are aware of the exceptional circumstances you are facing and want to reassure you that if you have received an offer of admission, this offer will be honoured.

*McGill University, Canada*

We will be working with the IBO to ensure Diploma students are given full and fair consideration for 2020 entry, and where possible we will show flexibility when confirming places in July.

*University of Bath, UK*

We have been closely following developments related to COVID-19, and we are aware of significant changes pertaining to final examinations worldwide. We understand that students may have some concerns about their admission status due to recent examination cancellations. They can rest assured that we will accept the final qualifications submitted to us from the IB. In the meantime, we encourage students to stay engaged and work hard to complete their remaining coursework this year. We know this has been a challenging semester for students all over the world, but we look forward to getting through it together and welcoming them to campus.

*New York University, USA*

We will take reference from the official IB results released by IBO.

*Singapore Management University, Singapore*

We will treat the May 2020 results as per normal.

*University Admissions Centre, NSW, Australia*

We will use the assigned grades to make our confirmation decisions the same as we would in a 'normal' year.

*London School of Economics, UK*

There will be no changes to Barnard College’s IB policies. We are completely understanding of all the changes that secondary schools have made in light of COVID-19. Please rest assured that these constraints will not impact your offer of admission. We take a holistic approach to our admissions evaluation process; therefore, extenuating circumstances are always taken into consideration when we review applications. We sincerely hope that having this information will help to put you, your family, and your community at ease during this challenging time.

*Barnard College, USA*

We know you have worked extremely hard to get to this point, and we value all you have done. We are committed to making decisions on your application in a timely and evidence-based way. Your exam boards, high schools, college counsellor or teacher should be gathering any alternative evidence on your performance as they would do in the normal way, and as per their own internal guidance, to support any consideration of exceptional circumstances. We are following our admissions policy for extenuating circumstances.

*University of St Andrews, UK*