



**Indiana State Board of Education**  
**Request for Freeway School Accreditation**  
**Board Date: August 1, 2012**

School: International School of Indiana C677  
Education Director: David Garner  
Address: 4330 North Michigan Road  
Kathryn and Sidney Taurel Building  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46208  
Grade Span: 9-12  
Public/Private: Private  
Current Enrollment: 142 [9-12]

Targeted Population: Parents seeking a private education that is designed to prepare students to succeed in an increasingly competitive global economy.

*The following executive summary has been compiled by the Office of School Accreditation for use by the Indiana State Board of Education. It includes information presented by the school during the accreditation process, potential legal standard issues, and any other information collected during the process that may impact accreditation.*

Identity: Established by a group of Indianapolis business and education leaders and pioneering parents at the recommendation of a 1990 Task force on International Issues formed by the Indiana Humanities Council and funded by the Lilly Endowment, the school founders imagined a full continuum of International education , preschool through high school, to prepare students to succeed in an increasingly competitive global economy.

To this end ISI is an authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO) since July 2002 for the Diploma Program – grades 11 and 12. During the 2008-2009 school year, we successfully completed a mandatory self-study/review of the IB Diploma Program that was approved in the fall of 2009.

This accreditation coupled with the language immersion component of the curriculum (expanded to now include Mandarin Chinese as well of the initial language offerings of Spanish and French) has moved considerably toward the goal of the founders of the school.

Curriculum: International Baccalaureate authorized programs align with Indiana’s academic standards in all curriculum areas.

Students in the 9th grade enter the third year of the IB Middle Years Program (MYP). ISI is authorized by the International Baccalaureate Organization to offer the full continuum of the MYP (6-10). The MYP consists of eight subject groups integrated through five areas of



interaction that provide a framework for learning within and across the subjects. Students are required to study their mother tongue, a second language, humanities, sciences, mathematics, arts, physical education and technology. In the final year of the program, students also engage in a personal project, which allows them to demonstrate the understandings and skills they have developed throughout the program.

All students enrolled at ISI during their final two years of high school are required to take the full IB Diploma Program. This requires students to study six courses at higher level (a minimum of 240 hours of instruction over two years) or standard level (a minimum of 150 hours of instruction over two years). Students at ISI are required to have three higher level (HL) courses and three standard level (SL) courses. The full Diploma Program has three additional core requirements that all ISI students complete: The extended essay, theory of knowledge (ToK) and creativity, action, service (CAS).

The Extended Essay requirement is an independent research project that engages a student in an in-depth study of a question relating to one of the subjects they are studying. It culminates in a 4,000-word essay that is sent to examiners for assessment.

The Theory of Knowledge (ToK) course requires a minimum of 100 hours of instructional time over the two-year period of the Diploma Program. This course explores the nature of knowledge by critically examining different ways of knowing (reason, perception, emotion and language) and the different kinds of knowledge (natural sciences, human sciences, mathematics, the arts, history and ethics). Students are required to give a presentation for assessment as well as write a 1,200 -1,600 word essay on one of ten questions formulated each year by the IB.

CAS stands for Creativity, Action and Service. This is at the heart of the IB Diploma Program and is engages student through experiential learning outside of the classroom. Students are expected to participate for 50 hours minimum in the three areas. The activities are to be purposeful and provide real learning outcomes.

Testing History: The International School of Indiana recently graduated its 9th cohort. From our first graduating class in May 2004 to our most recent in May 2009, all of ISI's graduates have been accepted to four-year colleges/universities or their equivalent abroad. ISI students take the ISTEP+ and ECA exams. Those students who do not pass it the first time are given extensive tutoring by ISI instructors. These students are generally non-native speakers who have to acquire further language skills before they can pass the exams. ISI has a 100% ISTEP+ pass rate and a 100% graduation rate.

ISI's SAT I mean scores for the period 2008-2009 was: Critical Reading 600; Math 593; Writing 618. For the May 2011 cohort the mean scores were: Critical Reading 629; Math 610; Writing 625. The recent graduating class of May 2012 had means scores: Critical Reading 617; Math 621; Writing 608.



Staffing: The International School has a highly qualified and diverse teaching staff, many with advanced degrees. Native speakers who have been educated in their countries of origin teach all courses not taught in English. These varied backgrounds are essential to our school's success in fulfilling its mission. The high school staff must embody a global perspective in the classroom, and they must meet rigorous international teaching standards. Because teachers come from a variety of different countries, and because their very diversity is essential to the school, the school assesses each teacher's qualifications in light of the subjects that he or she will teach and the unique perspective each adds to the whole.

Waiver Requests: By its nature, the International School of Indiana has a unique curriculum heavily based on the expectation that students will be immersed in languages. The school requests several waivers related to instructional time, textbook adoption, language used in course instruction, and curricular requirements that apply to students in grades beyond the scope of their accredited grades. See the petition for specific requests.

Issues: None

Recommendations: Full Five-Year Freeway Accreditation