

ADMISSION POLICY

There is currently major changing taking place in the admission arrangements, therefore this policy is regularly updated. The information shared here is valid for the admission for the pre-DP in the academic year 2027-2028.

According to the Finnish legislation, all non-ETA/non-EU citizens, must pay tuition fees for they studies in upper secondary education. In Turun normaalikoulu, the tuition fee is 12 800 €/year.

1. ADMISSION TO THE PRE-DP YEAR

- a) The application to the IB-section takes place through the Finnish joint application system. The application deadline is in March. The admission of new IB students is based on the basic education final report. The theoretical subjects' weighed grade average, where the grades in math, Finnish and English are weighed by two will be taken account in the final report.
- b) Applicants with an equivalent certificate completed abroad with good academic skills in English apply to Turun normaalikoulu via discretionary admission. These students should also apply through Finnish joint application system.

The admission of these students is based on the basic education final report (50%), if applicable, and the entrance exam (50%). The theoretical subjects' weighed grade average, where the grades in math and English are weighed by two, will be taken account in the final report.

The entrance exam contains 3 parts, two parts in English and one part in Math. The requirements of the exams are described below:

English A

Candidate must understand the text given, base their answer to the task on the text and use academic English

- essay based on a source text (words and/or image/s)

- content and language of essay are assessed

Math

The pre-DP mathematics entrance exam is based on the content of the Finnish comprehensive school mathematics curriculum, and it requires solid skills in basic arithmetic operations, fractions, decimals, and percentage calculations, as well as an understanding of fundamental algebraic concepts such as expressions and equations. In addition, the exam expects knowledge of key topics in geometry, including angles, areas, volumes, and measurement units, as well as an understanding of the coordinate plane and simple functions. The exam also assesses logical reasoning and problem-solving skills.

The tasks in the exam are mainly calculation and reasoning problems, where students are expected to show their working and justify their answers. The use of a calculator is not allowed.

The assessment focuses not only on correct final answers but also on the clarity, logic, and mathematical validity of the solution process. Understanding and correct use of methods, mastery of basic mathematical concepts, and a clear and coherent presentation of solutions are key evaluation criteria.

The upper secondary school presentation events are held every year in January. The time of these events can be found in Finnish joint application guide and on the school's website <https://sites.utu.fi/tnk/en/ib-world-school/>

It is also possible to visit our school, please contact the guidance counsellor charlotta.u.sundgren@utu.fi, tel. +358 50 3596682.

Admission results are published in the mid-June. The admission information is sent to the applicants personally.

2. CONTINUING THE STUDIES IN THE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

A) GUIDANCE FOR STUDENTS OF THEIR SUBJECT CHOICES IN THE DP

Pre-DP students make their subject choices in the April-May for their DP studies. The subject choices are made digitally on the digital platform Wilma. These subject choices are visible to the subject teachers, homeroom teacher, guidance counsellor and principal.

In the guidance counselling lessons, the students are informed about their possibilities as well as the requirements for continuing their studies in the DP1. In addition, the subjects not taught during the pre-DP, are introduced to the students, so that these students have the idea of the contents of these subjects. Students have always the possibility to book a personal time and discuss their choices with the guidance counsellor, e.g. if they want to know more about the university requirements.

After the students have done their choices, both homeroom teacher and the subject teachers check that students fulfil the criteria in each of their choices.

B) CONDITIONS MOVING FROM PRE-DP TO THE DP1

During the pre-DP year, the students complete 25-30 courses (50-70 credits) depending on their language choices. All mandatory courses are assessed on a scale of 10 (excellent) to 4 (fail).

Student must fulfill the following criteria to be able to continue their studies in DP1:

- Students have to choose total of six subjects for the DP: 3 higher level (HL) subjects (max. 4) and 3 standard level (SL) subjects from DP subject groups 1 – 5. The sixth subject is chosen from groups 2 – 4.
- To choose a higher level (HL) subject the student has to have at least a minimum average grade of 7.0 in that subject, but we recommend that the student has achieved minimum average grade of 8.0.
- To choose a standard level (SL) subject, the student has to have at least a minimum average grade of 7.0 in that subject.
- Students must have completed all pre-DP year courses with a grade 6 or above by the end of the school year.

In addition, there are the following subject specific criteria for subjects not studied in the pre-DP and mathematics:

- To choose Business Management, students must have at least grade 7.0 in social studies course
- To choose Economics students must have at least grade 7.0 in social studies course, for Economics HL, grade 8.0 or higher is recommended.
- Two different mathematical subjects are offered in the DP: Mathematics, Applications and Interpretation (MAI) SL and Mathematics, Analysis and Approaches (MAA) SL and HL
- If the student chooses the short version of math (4 courses) in the pre-DP, they must take SL Mathematics Applications and Interpretation (MAI) course during the DP.
- If the student chooses the long version of math (5 courses) in the pre-DP, they can take either Mathematics, Applications and Interpretation (MAI) at SL or Mathematics, Analysis and Approaches (MAA) course at SL or HL in DP
- For MAA SL and HL an average grade of 7.0 or more is required but for MAA HL an average grade of 8.0 or higher is recommended.
- For MAI SL an average grade minimum of 6.0 is required
- These criteria are also published on the school's webpage <https://sites.utu.fi/tnk/en/ib-world-school/>.

C) ADMISSION DIRECTLY TO THE DP1

It is possible for a candidate to apply directly to the DP1, without preceding pre-DP year. In this case, the student should send an email to dp-admission@utu.fi. Every application is considered individually. Students will be tested in all subjects that they will study in DP1, except if they are transferring from other DP school.

3. TRANSFER TO THE DP2 FROM OTHER DP SCHOOL

School accepts transfer candidates from other DP school for the year DP2 if the student's subject choices and prior studies (DP1) fit to the ones offered in Turun normaalikoulu.

4. COURSE CANDIDATES

Students of Turun normaalikoulu (other than DP students) can study DP subjects offered by the school if the subjects fit to their timetable. Student takes part to the final exams in the end of the two-year studies and receives a certificate from the IBO after completion the courses and coursework and the final exams.

5. REVIEWING THIS POLICY

This policy is reviewed in the beginning of every school year in September. This document has been reviewed in August 2022, January 2025 and in May 2026.