

UK Universities and IB certificates

Contrary to popular belief, there are many options open to IB certificate students looking to pursue university studies in the UK. Whilst the likelihood is that applications to Russell Group and other top end academic universities may not be possible, there are a wide range of excellent possibilities at various reputable institutions. IB certificate students at Salem can choose their subjects (usually 4 or 5) and will also participate in the IB core components of TOK and CAS to ensure they are fully integrated into the boarding community. Some may also choose to write an Extended Essay.

Option 1

One potential route open to students who do not complete the full IB Diploma points is to apply to universities in the UK whose entry requirements are determined by a specific number of 'UCAS tariff points' (UTP), rather than IB points. Tariff points can be calculated using a conversion table which allows IB certificates, as well as the IB core components (TOK, Extended Essay and CAS), to be converted into UTP. Provided the applicant has the requisite minimum number of UTP, a successful application may still be possible via UCAS (the organisation through which university applications are made in the UK).

Examples of courses which offer such full honours degree programmes:



Psychology: 96-120 tariff points



Law: 120 tariff points
Business and Law: 112 tariff points
Criminology and Law: 104 tariff points



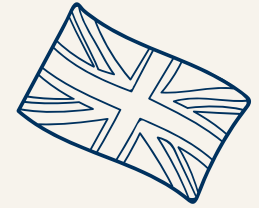
Business: 104-112 tariff points



Fashion Photography: 96-120 tariff points



Film & Media Studies: 96-112 tariff points



Option 2

A second university entry route may also be possible for IB certificate students via a 'foundation' course. This is a preparatory year of study which, once completed, may then be followed by acceptance on to a standard full degree programme in year 1. This equates to a student acquiring the same degree as a standard IBDP student also starting in year 1, the difference being that the IB certificate student achieves the degree with one extra year of study. Entry requirements for foundation courses are typically much lower than for the standard full degree and may be either determined by an IB points score or UCAS tariff points (UTP), depending on the institution.

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