

# IB DP Admissions at a National University in Japan

**Sabina Mahmood\*, MD., PhD**  
Associate Professor & IB Advisor  
Okayama University, IB Admissions,  
Okayama, Japan

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## OKAYAMA UNIVERSITY



Acclaimed National University  
in Japan, dating back to 1870

## Location: Okayama in West Japan

Okayama City, with a population of 714,000, is Japan's 20th largest city.

## History & Overview

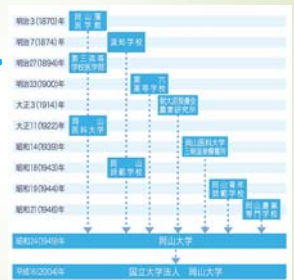
National University with **11 Faculties** · **1 Program** · **8 Graduate Schools**

- 160 years of long history
- Covers almost all specialties
- Lectures by experts in a wide range of fields

• 3 Research Institutes · Affiliated Hospital ·

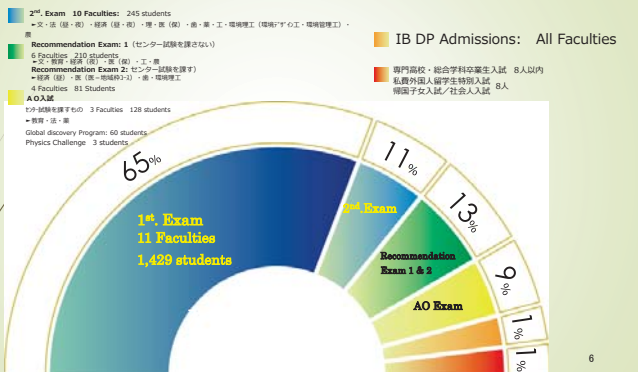
Affiliated School

1 teacher for every 9 students  
Undergraduate students : 10,167  
Post graduate students : 2,988  
Faculty : 1,477  
Staff : 2,446  
Total : 17,067 (Approx.)



<b>Faculty of Letters</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>人文学部</li><li>文学部</li><li>言語学</li><li>国文学部</li><li>言語学</li><li>国文学部</li><li>言語学</li><li>国文学部</li><li>言語学</li><li>国文学部</li></ul>	<b>Faculty of Education</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>学校教育実践院</li><li>小学校教員養成課程</li><li>中学校教員養成課程</li><li>幼稚園教員養成課程</li><li>特別支援教育課程</li><li>看護実践院</li></ul>	<b>Faculty of Law</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>法学部</li><li>国際法コース</li><li>夜間法コース</li></ul>	<b>Faculty of Economics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>経済学部</li><li>国際経済コース</li><li>夜間経済コース</li></ul>
<b>Faculty of Science</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>理学部</li><li>応用化学部</li><li>理学部</li><li>生物学部</li><li>地球科学部</li></ul>	<b>Medical School</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>医学部</li><li>保健学部</li><li>看護学部</li><li>歯学部</li><li>看護学部</li></ul>	<b>Dental School</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>歯学部</li></ul>	<b>Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>薬学部</li><li>薬学部</li></ul>
<b>Faculty of Engineering</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>機械システム工学部</li><li>電気通信工学部</li><li>情報工学部</li><li>化学生命工学部</li></ul>	<b>Faculty of Environmental Science and Technology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>環境創造学部</li><li>環境システム工学部</li><li>環境健康工学部</li><li>環境物質工学部</li></ul>	<b>Faculty of Agriculture</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>総合農業科学部</li><li>園芸化学コース</li><li>食品動物学コース</li><li>食品動物学コース</li><li>園芸工学コース</li></ul>	<b>Graduate School</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>経済学研究科</li><li>国際文化研究科</li><li>法政学研究科</li><li>文学研究科</li><li>教育学研究科</li><li>理工学研究科</li><li>環境科学研究科</li><li>農学研究科</li><li>看護学研究科</li><li>歯学研究科</li><li>医学研究科</li></ul>
<b>Discovery Program For Global Learners</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>海外研修プログラム</li><li>海外研修プログラム</li><li>海外研修プログラム</li></ul>			

## Various Entrance Exams – 2019 Entrance Exam



# IB Admissions



2019年度入試

岡山大学

## Okayama University Initiatives towards IB Admissions

1. We started as early as 2012
2. We do not impose any kind of admission tests.
3. We recognize the IB diploma as the only qualification to apply for admission
4. We are developing a strong support system for IB students
5. We are continuously making efforts to promote and incorporate the IB way of education into University education

- Introduction of TOK introductory lessons to liberal arts education
- Arranging "TOK" workshops targeting high school and university educators

Our efforts and initiatives have been appreciated and published recently in the Asahi News Paper "朝日新聞のGLOBE+" on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018

## Transition of IB Admissions at Okayama University

Admission Year	Faculties with April Admissions	Faculties with October Admission
2012	4 Faculties (Science, Health Science, Engineering, Agriculture), MP course	
2013	4 Faculties (Science, Health Science, Engineering, Agriculture), MP course	MP Course
2014	5 Faculties (Science, Health Science, Engineering, Environmental Science and Technology, Agriculture), MP Course	MP Course
2015	All 11 Faculties, MP Course Letters, Educations, Law, Economics, Science, Medicine, Health Science, Dental School, Pharmaceutical Science, Engineering, Environmental Science and Technology, Agriculture and MP Course	MP Course * (Admissions closed in April, 2017)
2017		Discovery Program for Global Learners

## IB Applications and Admissions at Okayama University (2012~2018)

### April Admissions

Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
No. of Applicants	1	1	2	9	13	17	28	71
No. of Successful Applicants	1	1	2	6	11	16	-	37
No. of Applicants Enrolled	1	0	0	2	5	7	-	15

### October Admissions

Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
No. of Applicants	3	6	6	4	4(14)	-	23(14)
No. of Successful Applicants	3	5	6	4	3(9)	-	21(9)
No. of Applicants Enrolled	1	3	3	0	0(6)	-	7(6)

## IB Admissions (April-2019)

### August Recruitment

IB Diploma Graduates until May 2018, IB Diploma Examinees mainly

Application Period	August 2018
Recruiting Faculties	Faculty of Letters, Economics, Science, Medicine, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dental School, Engineering, Environmental Science and Technology
No. of Openings	Faculty of Medicine: 3 ; Other Faculties: Several

### October Recruitment

IB Diploma Graduates , IB Diploma examinees of November, 2018 mainly

Application Period	October 2018
Recruiting Faculties	Faculty of Letters, Education, Law, Economics, Science, , Medicine and Health Sciences, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dental School, Engineering, Environmental Science and Technology, Agriculture and Discovery Program for Global Learners (2020 final IB Admission)
No. of openings	Faculty of Medicine: 2 ; Other Faculties: Several

## IB Admission at Okayama University

- Application documents only
  - Faculty of Letters, Law, Economics, Science, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Engineering, Environmental Science and Technology, Agriculture, MP Course
- Application documents + interview
  - Faculty of education, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Dental School

- Application documents:
  - IB (predicted) grades, personal essay, letter of recommendation
- Supplementary conditions:
  - Language A (Japanese), score of 4 or above.
  - Language B (Japanese), score of 6 or above (Faculty of Education, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Dental School)
  - There are designated subjects for each faculty and department.
- Number of openings:
  - Medical School (Faculty of Medicine)- 5
  - All the other faculties-several

### Faculty/ Department/Major designated subjects (1)

Faculty/Department/Major		Openings	Designated subjects
Faculty of Sciences	Mathematics Department	Several	Mathematics (HL, over 4 points)
	Physics Department		Mathematics or Physics (HL, over 4 points)
	Chemistry Department		Mathematics or Physics or Chemistry (HL, over 4 points)
	Biology Department		Mathematics or Physics or Chemistry or Biology (HL, over 4 points)
	Geoscience Department		Physics, Chemistry (HL, over 4 points)
Medical School	Health Sciences	Several	Physics or Chemistry or Biology (HL or SL, no designated score)
	Department of Nursing		
	Department of Radiological Technology Department of Medical Technology		
Faculty of Engineering	Department of Mechanical and Systems Engineering	Several	Mathematics (HL, over 4 points) or Physics (HL or SL, over 4 points)
	Department of Electrical and Communication Engineering		
	Department of Information Technology		Mathematics (HL, over 4 points)
	Department of Applied Chemistry and Biotechnology		Chemistry (HL, over 4 points) or Mathematics (HL or SL over 4 points)

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### Faculty/ Department/Major designated subjects (2)

Faculty/Department/Major		Openings	Designated subjects
Faculty of Environmental Science and Technology	Department of Environmental and Mathematical Sciences	Several	Mathematics (HL, over 4 points)
	Department of Environmental and Civil Engineering		Mathematics and 1 subject (Physics, Chemistry) -one subject HL over 4 points; other subject SL over 5 points or HL
	Department of Environmental Management Engineering		Mathematics and 1 subject (Physics, Chemistry, Biology) -one subject HL over 4 points; other subject SL over 4 points or HL
	Department of Environmental Chemistry and Materials		Mathematics (SL over 4 points or HL) Physics or Chemistry (HL over 4 points)
Faculty of Agriculture	Department of General Agriculture	Several	Two subjects (HL or SL): Physics, Chemistry, Biology
Matching Program Course		Several	1 subject from groups 1-5 (HL, over 4 points)

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### Faculty/ Department/Major designated subjects (3)

Faculty/Department/Major		Openings	Designated subjects
Faculty of Letters	Department of Humanities	Several	Japanese A (HL, over 4 points)
Faculty of Education	Teacher Preparation Department	Several	1 subject, HL over 4 points
	Special Education and Nursing Department	Several	1 subject from groups 1-5 (HL, over 4 points)
Faculty of Law	Law Department	Several	English (HL, over 4 points) 1 subject from group 3, HL or SL over 4 points
Faculty of Economics	Department of Economics	Several	1 subject from group 3 (HL, over 4 points) or Mathematics (HL, over 4 points)
Medical School	Medical School	5	2 subjects (Biology, Physics, Chemistry) + Mathematics - one subject HL over 4 points; other 2 subjects SL over 5 points or HL over 3 points
Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences	Department of Pharmacy	Several	1 subject (Physics, Biology) + Mathematics + Chemistry - one subject HL over 4 points; other 2 subjects SL over 5 points or HL over 3 points
	Department of Pharmaceutical Technology		

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### IB Admission Student Limitations (2019 fiscal year)

From 2019, Medical School will take 5 students and 8 other faculties will take 23 students

学部・学科・課程・専攻等	4月入学		募集人員
	8月募集	10月募集	
文学部	人文学科	2人	—
教育学部	学校教育教員養成課程 (総合教育コースを除く)	2人	—
法学部	法学科 (前期コース)	2人	—
経済学部	経済学科 (前期コース)	2人	—
理学部	数学科	若干人	若干人
	物理学科	若干人	若干人
	化学科	若干人	若干人
工学部	地球科学科	若干人	若干人
	化学科	2人	—
医学部	看護学科	1人	—
	保健学科 (放射線技術科学専攻)	1人	—
歯学部	歯学科	1人	—
	歯学科	2人	—
薬学部	薬学科	若干人	—
	薬学科	2人	—
工学部	情報科学科	若干人	若干人
	機械システム系学科	若干人	若干人
	電気通信系学科	若干人	若干人
	情報系学科	若干人	若干人
工学部	化学系系学科	若干人	若干人
	環境教育学科	若干人	若干人
環境理工学部	環境デザイン学科	若干人	若干人
	環境管理工学科	若干人	若干人
農学部	環境物質工学科	若干人	若干人
	総合農林科学科	2人	—
2年制コース	2年制コース	—	若干人

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No. of IB students enrolled 2012. April~2018. April : 33 (M : 13 ; F : 20)

IB schools in Japan = 17  
Aichi ; Shizuoka ; Gunma ; Nagano; Hiroshima ; Fukuoka

Based on Faculty  
Medicine = 2  
Nursing = 2  
Education n = 2  
Engineering = 1  
Dental Schools = 1  
Environmental Science = 1  
Letters (Literature) = 1  
MP Course = 4  
Discovery Program = 3

IB schools abroad = 16  
Singapore ; Germany ; Netherlands ; Italy ; Dubai

Based on Faculty  
Medicine = 4  
Nursing = 3  
MP Course = 6  
Discovery Program = 3

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### Impressive aspects of IB students

1. Bright, cheerful, optimistic.
2. Fluent in English
3. Good communication and presentation skills
4. Good team players
5. Empathetic
6. Loves taking challenges

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## Initial Difficulties faced by IB students

- ▶ Lecture based classes with no discussions
- ▶ Concentrating in big classrooms with many students
- ▶ Writing reports in Japanese
- ▶ Understanding technical terms in Japanese
- ▶ Not allowed to use an electronic dictionary
- ▶ Lack of communication and discussion with teacher
- ▶ Club activities are too stressful

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## IB Student reasons for choosing Okayama University

1. Does not require the National Center Test
2. Recognizes the IB diploma without imposing any other tests
3. Can apply to most faculties with documents only
4. Offers Spring and Fall admissions
5. Can apply to all faculties with an IB score of 24\*
6. National University with low tuition fees; global image
7. Overall cost of living in Okayama is cheap
8. Near to my/parents hometown
9. Strongly recommended by IB student Advisors/ Parents
10. Many opportunities to study abroad

\*Except the 6-year Medical School Course which requires an IB Diploma Score of 39

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## How do we interact with our IB students?

One-on-one interviews

SNS: IB LINE Message group

Medical English Group/ PBL group

Nursing English Group



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## Survey on IB Admission

### Survey Method:

20 College Counselors from International Schools and First Article schools in Japan, were asked to fill out a survey anonymously, with the following questions.

- a) What are your expectations of Japanese National Universities?
- b) What are some disappointing aspects of Admission policies at Japanese National Universities?
- c) What are your suggestions for improving the existing Admission policies?
- d) What are the reasons behind IB students choosing Foreign Universities over Japanese Universities?
- e) What are the reasons behind IB students choosing Private Universities over National Universities in Japan?

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## Results of Survey

1. Lack of understanding of the IB education system.
2. Unrealistic expectations of IB students
3. Unfamiliarity with overseas admission policies with regard to age at admission, language requirements, IB credit transfers.
4. Not recognizing the IB Diploma and imposing admission tests.
5. Japanese Private Universities providing offers similar to overseas Universities are given priority over Japanese National Universities, irrespective of the high costs involved.

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## Conclusion from Survey Results

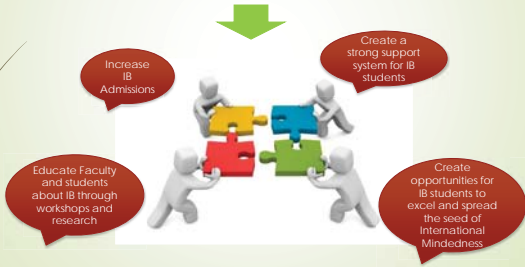
1. Multiple approaches are necessary by Japanese Universities to accommodate IB students.
2. Balancing the needs of IB students with the expectations of University teachers is very important.
3. Further surveys and interviews depicting a realistic picture are necessary in order to create an IB friendly Japanese University

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# IB education is the path to International Mindedness

## Okayama University Initiatives to nurture International Mindedness



Thank you for your attention!