



## IDEA College Preparatory Donna International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Admissions Policy

### Introduction

The journey to and through college begins at a young age. From Pre-K & Kinder, to middle school, to high school – we're dedicated to making sure that all children succeed every step of the way. When you choose IDEA Public Schools, you're choosing a school district that believes all children can and will succeed if given the opportunity.

#### IDEA Donna Mission Statement

IDEA College Preparatory Donna is rewriting the story of underprivileged communities by creating a positive learning environment that equips students with the academic, social and leadership skills and international mindedness that are required to succeed in college and our global society.

#### IB Mission Statement

The International Baccalaureate Organization aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. To this end the IBO works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programs of international education and rigorous assessment. These programs encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.

#### 100% COLLEGE BOUND

Since our first graduating Class in 2007, 100% of our graduating seniors have been accepted to college and universities nationwide.

#### PERSONALIZED LEARNING

Through small learning groups and daily access to technology, every student learns at the level and speed just right for them.

#### HIGHLY-QUALIFIED TEACHERS

Our teachers bring subject-matter expertise and an unwavering commitment to set each student on a path to success.

#### CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

Beyond academics, our enrichment programs develop independent, responsible citizens who give back to their communities.



## **Process for Enrolling in the FULL IB Diploma Programme**

IDEA College Preparatory is committed to being an IB for All school, where all students are encouraged to engage in IB coursework. Our goal is to provide all eligible students with the opportunity to enroll in the full IB Diploma Programme, enabling them to earn both an IB Diploma and a Texas high school diploma.

At IDEA College Preparatory, we believe that every student can thrive in the IB environment, regardless of their academic needs. We provide comprehensive support through our dedicated teachers and implement inclusion arrangements in accordance with individual IEP requirements. This ensures that all students have equitable access to the IB curriculum.

To participate in the full IB Diploma Programme, students must maintain good academic standing, beginning in 8th grade, as high school credits can be earned starting at this level. Successful completion of required courses in the 9th and 10th grades is essential for students to remain on track to challenge the full IB Diploma coursework in their 11th and 12th grades.

In the early spring of each academic year, the IB coordinator and IB teachers will provide information sessions for 10th-grade students regarding the IB Programme. This will include an overview of the requirements to pursue the full diploma, the benefits of the program, and an assessment of initial interest through an online survey. Additionally, a paper survey will be distributed to each candidate, allowing them to discuss the information with their parents prior to a parent informational meeting led by the IB coordinator, conducted in the preferred language of the parents.

Following the informational sessions, the college counseling team and the IB coordinator will conduct audits of each student's high school graduation degree plan to ensure appropriate course placements that enable them to challenge the full IB Diploma. Students and parents will then formalize their course selections and commitment to the diploma pursuit through a signed agreement, which will be retained by the IB coordinator for future reference.

## Hi, Future IDEA Parents! HERE'S A QUICK GUIDE TO APPLYING TO IDEA DONNA COLLEGE PREPARATORY

### HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO BE A STUDENT AT IDEA DONNA?

- Like traditional public schools, any child can attend IDEA without paying tuition. Being an IDEA Donna student is free for your child and family!

### DOES MY CHILD HAVE TO TAKE ENTRANCE EXAMS?

- Prospective students are not required to take an entrance exam to be considered for admissions. Anyone can apply and all students are eligible to join our IDEA Team and Family!

### IS MY CHILD OLD ENOUGH TO ATTEND IDEA?

- In Texas, your child must be at least 5 years of age for Kinder on or by September 1st.

### WHAT IS THE CUT-OFF DATE TO SUBMIT MY CHILD'S APPLICATION?

- To be a part of our student lottery on February 15th, you must submit your child's application by midnight CST the evening before. We strongly encourage parents apply before this time to have the best chance to attend IDEA. Find more details about the lottery [HERE](#).

### WHAT HAPPENS ONCE MY CHILD GETS ACCEPTED?

- You will receive a notification and you will be able to log in online to easily accept your child's seat. Then we will invite you to joining our IDEA family onboarding process, where you will get to know your child's principal and teachers, meet fellow families, tour our school facilities, ask questions, and become part of our community through a variety of in person events.

### WHAT HAPPENS IF MY CHILD DOES NOT GET ACCEPTED DURING THE LOTTERY?

- If a student is not granted a seat at the lottery, they will be placed on a waitlist for the following school year until a seat potentially opens up for them. They can also have the option to attend a different IDEA campus then transfer to your preferred IDEA campus if a seat opens up there.



## Lottery FAQs

### **Q: Why does IDEA have a Lottery?**

A: Any student regardless of where s/he lives, academic standing, or income has an equal opportunity to be accepted into an IDEA school. Lotteries are held to randomly select students to fill spots for the following school year.

### **P: ¿Por qué tiene IDEA una lotería?**

R: *Cualquier estudiante sin importar donde viva, nivel académico, o ingresos tiene igual de oportunidad a ser admitido a una escuela de IDEA. Las loterías se hacen para elegir estudiantes al azar para llenar los lugares del año escolar.*

### **Q: When is the Lottery? How is it conducted?**

A: For the 2024-2025 school year, all IDEA schools with spots available will host the lottery on **February 15, 2025 at 11:59 p.m.** During the lottery, names will be selected at random, by grade, with spots offered in the order of names selected. When the capacity for each grade level is reached, the remaining applications will be assigned a position on our waiting list in a randomized order. Only applications completed before the deadline will participate in the Lottery. Applications submitted after the Lottery are granted seats or added to the wait list in order of the date and time of their application.

### **P: ¿Cuándo es la lotería? ¿Cómo se lleva a cabo?**

R: *Para el año escolar del 2024-2025, todas las escuelas de IDEA con lugares disponibles tendrán una lotería el a las 11:59 p.m., 15 de febrero. Durante la lotería, nombres serán seleccionados al azar, por grado, con lugares ofrecidos en el orden que salgan los nombres. Cuando la capacidad de cada nivel de grado se logra, las aplicaciones que quedan son asignadas a una posición en nuestra lista de espera al azar. Solo aplicaciones completas antes de la fecha límite participaran en la lotería. Aplicaciones entregadas después de la fecha límite de la lotería serán agregadas a la lista de espera en orden de fecha y hora de llegada de la aplicación.*

### **Q: How are Lottery results verified as random?**

A: IDEA utilizes STREAM, an automated enrollment software system that is fair, transparent, and complies with data privacy regulations.

### **P: ¿Cómo se verifican los resultados como aleatorios?**

R: *IDEA utiliza "STREAM", un programa de inscripción automática que es justo, transparente, y cumple con las regulaciones de privacidad de la información.*

### **Q: When is the deadline to participate in the Lottery?**

A: The deadline to submit an application for the 2024-2025 school year is 11:59 p.m. **February 14.**



**P: ¿Cuál es la fecha límite para participar en la lotería?**

R: La fecha límite para entregar una aplicación para el año escolar 2024-2025 es a las 11:59 p.m. del 14 de febrero.

**Q: Is anyone given preference in the Lottery?**

A: Yes. Texas and Louisiana charter school law requires us to give preference to the following individuals: existing students, siblings of currently enrolled students, and children of employees.

**P: ¿A alguien se le da prioridad en la lotería?**

R: Sí. La Ley de escuelas chárter de Texas y Louisiana requiere que le demos preferencia a los siguientes individuos: estudiantes existentes, hermanos de un estudiante actualmente inscrito, y a los niños(as) de los empleados.

**Q: I applied to more than one school. How are my school preferences considered in the Lottery?**

A: Should you be offered a seat, offers are awarded in the order of your school preference. If you are not selected for your first preference school, placement priority will move to your second preference school. If you are not selected for your second preference school, placement priority will move to your third preference school.

**P: Solicité a más de una escuela. ¿Cómo se consideran mis preferencias escolares en la lotería?**

R: Si se le ofrece un asiento, las ofertas se otorgan en el orden de preferencia de su escuela. Si no es seleccionado para su primera escuela de preferencia, la prioridad de ubicación se trasladará a su segunda escuela de preferencia. Si no es seleccionado para su segunda escuela de preferencia, la prioridad de ubicación se trasladará a su tercera escuela de preferencia.

## Notification

**Q: How am I notified of Lottery results?**

A: On the day of Lottery, families will receive a notification of their status via the preferred method of communication indicated on their application (email and/or text). All families will also be able to see their offer status in STREAM Saturday, February 15 after the lottery has finished running.

**P: ¿Cómo me doy cuenta si mi hijo(a) fue aceptado en la lotería?**

R: En el día de la lotería, familias recibirán una notificación de su estatus por medio de su comunicación preferido (correo electrónico/o mensaje de texto). Familias aceptadas también recibirán una llamada de seguimiento de su plantel. Todas las familias podrán ver el estatus de su oferta en "STREAM" después de las 5pm, sábado 16 de febrero.

**Q: I have a question about my notification. Who can I contact before taking action on my notification?**

A: After the date of Lottery, parents can direct any questions to their campus representative or send an email to [apply@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:apply@ideapublicschools.org).



**P: ¿A quién puedo contactar durante y después de la lotería?**

R: Después de la fecha de la lotería, los padres pueden dirigir sus preguntas a su representante del plantel o mande un correo electrónico a [apply@ideapublicschools.org](mailto:apply@ideapublicschools.org).

## Responding to Your Offer

**Q: Do I have to be present at the Lottery for my child to be accepted?**

A: No. You and your child do not need to be present at the lottery to be accepted. The Lottery is conducted online via STREAM, our enrollment software system.

**P: ¿Debo estar presente en la lotería para que mi niño(a) sea aceptado?**

R: No. Usted y su hijo(a) no necesita estar presente en la lotería para ser aceptado. La lotería es conducida en línea por medio de "STREAM", nuestro programa de inscripción.

**Q: How do I accept my offer?**

A: In your notification email/text, you will be linked to your STREAM account to accept or decline your offer. When you accept your offer, all other applications will be removed from the system; for example, if you applied to IDEA Eastside and IDEA Carver in San Antonio and you receive and accept an offer at IDEA Eastside, your IDEA Carver application will be removed from the system. After you accept your offer, your new school will contact you with next steps in the enrollment process, including information regarding registration and Welcome to IDEA, our campus orientation event.

**Q: How do I decline my offer?**

A: If you choose not to accept your offer, you must decline the offer in STREAM. Declining removes your application to that school from our system and awards the open seat to the next student on the selection list. However, declining one offer, does not remove or cancel applications you may have submitted to other IDEA schools.

**P: ¿Cómo rechazo mi oferta?**

R: Si elige no aceptar su oferta, debe rechazarla en STREAM. Rechazar elimina sus aplicaciones de nuestro sistema y otorga el asiento abierto al siguiente alumno de la lista de selección.

**Q: I have decided not to attend IDEA at this time. How do I withdraw my offer?**

A: If after applying you have decided IDEA is not for you and you'd like to not be considered in the lottery, please withdraw your application in STREAM.



**P: He decidido no asistir a IDEA en este momento. ¿Cómo retiro mi oferta?**

*R: Si después de presentar la solicitud ha decidido que IDEA no es para usted y le gustaría no ser considerado en la lotería, retire su solicitud en STREAM.*

**Q: If my child is accepted, will he/she have to participate in the Lottery each year?**

A: No, students who are accepted through the Lottery will be enrolled in the school and be able to remain there in future years up until graduation. Parents must let the school know that they plan to return each year during a re- registration process that happens outside of Lottery.

**P: Si mi hijo(a) es aceptado, ¿él/ella tiene que participar en la lotería cada año?**

*R: No, los estudiantes que son aceptados por medio de la lotería serán inscritos en la escuela y podrán mantenerse ahí en años futuros hasta la graduación. Padres deben hacerle saber a la escuela que planean regresar cada año durante un proceso de registración que pasa fuera de la lotería.*

## **Waitlist**

**Q: If my child is not chosen during the Lottery and is placed on the waitlist, what are the chances that they will be accepted later?**

A: If a student is not admitted immediately during the Lottery, they are automatically placed on the waitlist. Throughout the spring and summer months, spots may become available. Enrollment is offered to the next student on the waitlist as soon as we have notice of a withdrawal. If a parent declines an offer, we move to the next student on the waitlist until the position is filled.

**P: Si mi hijo(a) no es escogido durante la lotería y es colocado en la lista de espera, ¿cuáles son las posibilidades de que lo acepten después?**

*R: Si un estudiante no es admitido inmediatamente durante la lotería, son automáticamente colocados en la lista de espera. A lo largo de la primavera y verano, tal vez haya lugares disponibles. La inscripción es ofrecida al siguiente estudiante en la lista de espera tan rápido como tengamos una notificación de retiro. Si un padre rechazó una oferta, nos movemos al siguiente estudiante en la lista de espera hasta que el lugar es llenado.*

**Q: If my child does not get selected at the Lottery or throughout the year, do I have to apply again? A:**

Yes. If your child has not been admitted into an IDEA school by August 31, 2025, you must submit a new application. Applications for the 2026-2027 school year will be accepted beginning September 1, 2025.

**P: Si mi hijo(a) no es seleccionado en la lotería o a lo largo del año, ¿tengo que aplicar otra vez?**

*R: Sí. Si su hijo(a) no ha sido admitido a un plantel de IDEA antes del 31 de agosto del 2025, usted deberá entregar una nueva aplicación. Aplicaciones para el año escolar 2026-2027 serán aceptadas después del 1º de septiembre del 2025.*



## Transfers and Siblings

**Q: If my child is accepted at the Lottery, can I transfer to another IDEA school?**

A: You must complete an application in STREAM indicating your new school preference for the following school year. Please contact your current campus if you are interested in completing a transfer.

**P: Si mi hijo(a) es aceptado en la lotería, ¿lo puedo transferir a otro plantel de IDEA?**

R: Deberá estar en un plantel de IDEA por un año escolar antes de transferirse a otro plantel A MENOS que haya un cambio de dirección desde la fecha de aplicación. Transferencias son contingentes a que haya un lugar disponible.

**Q: After my child has attended an IDEA school for one year, how can I transfer to another IDEA school?** A: You must complete an application in STREAM indicating your new school preference for the following school year. Please contact your current campus if you are interested in completing a transfer.

**P: Después de que mi hijo(a) haya asistido a un plantel de IDEA por un año, ¿cómo puedo transferirme a otro plantel de IDEA?**

R: Usted debe completar una aplicación en "STREAM" indicando su nueva preferencia para el año escolar siguiente. Por favor contacte a su plantel actual si está interesado en completar una transferencia.

**Q: If my child is enrolled, will his/her younger siblings also be able to attend that school?**

A: If a younger sibling is interested in attending an IDEA Public School, they must submit an application to be entered into the Lottery at the appropriate time like all other applicants. Siblings will receive preference in the Lottery process.

**P: Si mi hijo(a) es inscrito, ¿podrán sus hermanos(as) más jóvenes asistir a esa escuela?**

R: Si un hermano(a) está interesado en asistir a un plantel de IDEA Public School, deberán entregar una aplicación para ser incluido en la lotería en el tiempo apropiado como todos los demás aspirantes. Hermanos(as) recibirán preferencia en el proceso de lotería.5

## Communication of Policy

The IB policies are communicated with teaching faculty at the beginning of the academic year during professional development and included in data binders each year. Additionally, IB policies are communicated to all scholars during IB Culture Week the first two weeks of the academic year. All IB policies are available to teaching faculty, IB candidates and families at all times on the IDEA Donna IB website under "IB Policies" section.

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