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# Requirements for Predicted Grades in the May and November 2021 examination sessions



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## IB mission statement

The International Baccalaureate 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 organization works with schools, governments and international organizations to develop challenging programmes of international education and rigorous assessment.

These programmes encourage students across the world to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners who understand that other people, with their differences, can also be right.



## Requirements for Predicted Grades in the May and November 2021 examination sessions

### Background

Based on experiences gained from the May and November 2020 sessions, the IB continues to recognize that teacher predicted grades (PG) are a key piece of evidence to help determine a final outcome where a candidate is unable to complete the written examinations for a subject.

As the PG will form part of the way in which the IB determines the final grade in situations where examinations cannot be taken, it is important that PGs for M21 and N21 are as accurate as possible. It is not helpful to candidates if they are set unrealistic expectations from inaccurate PGs. Additionally, some schools have come under increased pressure from parents/guardians to provide generous PGs that no longer represent the teacher's best professional judgement.

As a result, the IB is strengthening the way in which it asks schools to provide PGs.

### Introduction

A PG is the teacher's estimation of the grade a candidate is expected to achieve in a subject. A PG should be based on:

- all the evidence of the candidate's work
- the teacher's knowledge of IB standards

PGs are required for all subjects, including TOK and the EE but excluding the CP reflective project. It is important that each prediction is made as accurately as possible, based on the grade descriptors that are available in DP Grade descriptors (December 2017).

Please note, teachers should base their PGs on expected overall performance for a subject. Therefore, even if a student will be on the non-exam route, the PG should reflect their overall understanding of and likely performance in the subject as a whole, not just on coursework task(s).

### Changes for May and November 2021

For 2021 the IB is making two key changes to its approach for teacher PGs.

- The IB is moving to make PGs more realistic by basing them on what has historically been achieved in schools.
- The IB will provide schools with an allocated distribution of PGs available for each subject/level for their candidates.

This new approach is intended to help schools provide consistent PGs.

A new function has been developed on IBIS for the submission of PGs in May/November 2021.

Teachers will still have the option to Enter and Amend grades. However, the programme coordinator will be required to Complete the grade entry before the deadline.

To access the new option, log into IBIS and select **Predicted grade** (teachers) or log into IBIS and select **Subject -> IAPG -> Mark entry -> Predicted grade entry** (programme coordinators).

The screen will display all subjects where PGs are required (for teachers, it will only show those subjects that the specific teacher is responsible/set up for), along with the **Number of candidates** registered, and an **Action** column.

Once the **Enter** button is clicked (under the **Action** column), the new screen will appear as follows:

Predicted grade	Distribution available	Candidates predicted
7	0	0
6	1	0
5	2	0
4	5	0
3	6	0
2	3	0
1	0	0
F	0	0

  

Candidates	Actions	Candidates predicted
0002 - Candidate Name 2	Add candidate > 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 F Remove candidates	Grade - 7
0002 - Candidate Name 2		Grade - 6
0028 - Candidate Name 28		Grade - 5
0031 - Candidate Name 31		Grade - 4
0033 - Candidate Name 33		Grade - 3
0041 - Candidate Name 41		Grade - 2
0044 - Candidate Name 44		Grade - 1
0045 - Candidate Name 45		Grade - F
0051 - Candidate Name 51		
0059 - Candidate Name 59		
0065 - Candidate Name 65		
0067 - Candidate Name 67		
0068 - Candidate Name 68		
0074 - Candidate Name 74		
0077 - Candidate Name 77		
0091 - Candidate Name 91		
0092 - Candidate Name 92		

The following headings will show:

- Predicted Grade – the subject grade, between grade 1 and 7 (or F), or A-E (or F) for TOK and EE.
- Distribution available – the number of candidates that *can be* allocated a particular grade.
- Candidates predicted – the number of candidates that *have been* allocated a particular grade.

### How to allocate PGs

- Select the relevant candidate(s) on the left-hand side of the screen (use the control key to select multiple candidates)

Predicted grade	Distribution available	Candidates predicted
7	0	0
6	1	0
5	2	0
4	5	0
3	6	0
2	3	0
1	0	0
F	0	0

  

Candidates	Actions	Candidates predicted
0002 - Candidate Name 2	Add candidate > 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 F Remove candidates	Grade - 7
0002 - Candidate Name 2		Grade - 6
0028 - Candidate Name 28		Grade - 5
0031 - Candidate Name 31		Grade - 4
0033 - Candidate Name 33		Grade - 3
0041 - Candidate Name 41		Grade - 2
0044 - Candidate Name 44		Grade - 1
0045 - Candidate Name 45		Grade - F
0051 - Candidate Name 51		
0059 - Candidate Name 59		
0065 - Candidate Name 65		
0067 - Candidate Name 67		
0068 - Candidate Name 68		
0074 - Candidate Name 74		
0077 - Candidate Name 77		
0091 - Candidate Name 91		
0092 - Candidate Name 92		

- Select the required PG from the **Actions** column.

Predicted grade entry  
Subject: PHYSICS SL ENGLISH Total candidates: 17

Predicted grade	Distribution available	Candidates predicted
7	0	0
6	1	0
5	2	0
4	5	0
3	6	0
2	3	0
1	0	0
F	0	0

**Candidates**

- 0002 - Candidate Name 2
- 0028 - Candidate Name 28
- 0029 - Candidate Name 29
- 0033 - Candidate Name 33
- 0041 - Candidate Name 41
- 0044 - Candidate Name 44
- 0045 - Candidate Name 45
- 0051 - Candidate Name 51
- 0059 - Candidate Name 59
- 0062 - Candidate Name 62
- 0067 - Candidate Name 67
- 0068 - Candidate Name 68
- 0074 - Candidate Name 74
- 0077 - Candidate Name 77
- 0091 - Candidate Name 91
- 0092 - Candidate Name 92

**Actions**

+ Add candidate

7  
6  
5  
4  
3  
2  
1  
F

+ Remove candidate

**Candidates predicted**

- Grade - 7
- Grade - 6
- Grade - 5
- Grade - 4
- Grade - 3
- Grade - 2
- Grade - 1
- Grade - F

Update grades

- Press **Add candidate**. The candidate(s) will move from the left-hand side and appear under the allocated PG on the right-hand side.

Predicted grade entry  
Subject: PHYSICS SL ENGLISH Total candidates: 17

Predicted grade	Distribution available	Candidates predicted
7	0	0
6	1	0
5	2	0
4	5	5
3	6	0
2	3	0
1	0	0
F	0	0

**Candidates**

- 0002 - Candidate Name 2
- 0038 - Candidate Name 38
- 0041 - Candidate Name 41
- 0044 - Candidate Name 44
- 0051 - Candidate Name 51
- 0059 - Candidate Name 59
- 0067 - Candidate Name 67
- 0068 - Candidate Name 68
- 0074 - Candidate Name 74
- 0091 - Candidate Name 91
- 0092 - Candidate Name 92

**Actions**

+ Add candidate

7  
6  
5  
4  
3  
2  
1  
F

+ Remove candidate

**Candidates predicted**

- Grade - 7
- Grade - 6
- Grade - 5
- Grade - 4
- 0002 - Candidate Name 12
- 0021 - Candidate Name 31
- 0046 - Candidate Name 45
- 0065 - Candidate Name 65
- 0077 - Candidate Name 77
- Grade - 3
- Grade - 2
- Grade - 1
- Grade - F

Update grades

- As candidates are allocated, the table at the top of the page will reflect the changes in real-time.
- Once all PGs are allocated, click **Update grades** in order to submit to the programme coordinator.

Predicted grade entry  
Subject: PHYSICS SL ENGLISH Total candidates: 17

Predicted grade	Distribution available	Candidates predicted
7	0	0
6	1	1
5	2	2
4	5	5
3	6	6
2	3	3
1	0	0
F	0	0

**Candidates**

**Actions**

+ Add candidate

7  
6  
5  
4  
3  
2  
1  
F

+ Remove candidate

**Candidates predicted**

- Grade - 7
- Grade - 6
- Grade - 5
- Grade - 4
- 0002 - Candidate Name 2
- 0041 - Candidate Name 41
- 0051 - Candidate Name 51
- Grade - 3
- 0028 - Candidate Name 28
- 0044 - Candidate Name 44
- 0067 - Candidate Name 67
- 0068 - Candidate Name 68
- 0074 - Candidate Name 74
- 0092 - Candidate Name 92
- Grade - 2
- 0031 - Candidate Name 31

Update grades    Complete grade entry

If an error has been made, or a change is required prior to submission, select the candidate(s) on the right-hand side of the screen (under **Candidates predicted**), and then press **Remove candidate** to move back to the left-hand side (**Candidates**) in order to re-allocate a grade.



Tip – when the distribution indicates a number of candidates for a certain grade, this should be seen as an upper limit, not a target. It is possible to add these candidates to a lower grade. For example, if there are four PGs available at grade 6 and four available at grade 7, all eight candidates could be allocated to grade 6.

- Progress can be saved using the **Update grades** button on the bottom right. However, once all candidates have been allocated a grade, the **Update grades** button will submit the allocation to the programme coordinator.
- When all candidates are allocated a grade, the programme coordinator (and only the coordinator) can **Complete** (submit) or **Amend** (if any changes are required prior to submission to the IB).

**Predicted grade entry**

Information  
The deadline for entering grades is: 20 April 2021 23:59:00 GMT

Filter subjects  Hide search

Group: 4

Predicted grade subjects

Page 1 of 1 Rows Per Page: 10 Total Records: 8 < Back | Next >

Group	Session	Subject	Number of candidates	Action
4	MAY 2021	BIOLOGY EE IN ENGLISH	12	• Enter
4	MAY 2021	BIOLOGY HL IN ENGLISH	72	• Enter
4	MAY 2021	CHEMISTRY EE IN ENGLISH	7	• Enter
4	MAY 2021	CHEMISTRY HL IN ENGLISH	34	• Enter
4	MAY 2021	PHYSICS EE IN ENGLISH	2	• Enter
4	MAY 2021	PHYSICS HL IN ENGLISH	1	• Enter
4	MAY 2021	PHYSICS SL IN ENGLISH	17	• Amend • Complete
4	MAY 2021	SPORTS EXERCISE IN ENGLISH	22	• Enter

NOTE: There is no longer a verification stage.

## Problem solving

If more candidates are allocated to a grade than the distribution allows, an error message will display. It will then be necessary to correct the allocation, or to follow the “special cases” process as detailed below.

## Special cases

### Carry forward of grades no longer permitted

It is no longer possible to select carry forward PG when registering retake candidates. Instead a new PG must be allocated on the screen - this could be the grade that would have been carried forward, but if PGs tended to be higher than the grades candidates achieved, a school may need to reflect and allocate a more realistic prediction.

### Registering a new candidate after submitting PGs, or withdrawing a candidate after submitting PGs

In this case, the addition (or withdrawal) of a candidate will mean allocations will have changed, and PGs must be resubmitted.

The IB will then reopen the PG submission screen, which will contain the data submitted by the school but may require an adjustment before it can be submitted again.

### Challenging the allocation of PGs

There are two situations where this could occur.

The first situation is if the school believes it is appropriate for a limited number of exceptional candidates in their school to receive higher PGs than is the norm for the school. In this situation, schools are required to:

- a. Email [predictedgrades@ibo.org](mailto:predictedgrades@ibo.org) using the title “Allocation of PGs – exceptional candidate”.
- b. The IB will review the case and the programme coordinator will be contacted with details around what supporting evidence is required.
- c. The IB will confirm if the request has been accepted or rejected. If accepted, the distribution will be amended, in order for the PG to be entered for these candidates.

Note that due to the generous nature of the historical allocation, if schools occasionally have an exceptional candidate this is likely to be reflected in the allocation and so no additional action is required.

The second situation is if the school believes that one or more historical years was exceptional and should not be included in the calculation of the PG distribution. In this situation:

- a. Before a start is made to allocate grades, the programme coordinator should email [predictedgrades@ibo.org](mailto:predictedgrades@ibo.org) using the title “Allocation of PGs – historical data” and including brief details regarding the issue.
- b. The programme coordinator will be contacted with details around what supporting evidence is required.
- c. The IB will review the case and if successful will recalculate the allocation and update IBIS.
- d. The PGs can then be entered using the standard process for this year.

### Essential contacts

Requirement	Contact	Method
<b>Emergency contact</b>	IB Answers	UK: +44 29 2054 7740 Singapore: +65 6579 5055 US: +1 301 202 3025
<b>General inquiries</b>	IB Answers	<a href="mailto:support@ibo.org">support@ibo.org</a>
<b>Predicted grades</b>	Predicted grades team	<a href="mailto:predictedgrades@ibo.org">predictedgrades@ibo.org</a>
<b>Adverse circumstances</b>	Adverse circumstances team	Via appropriate <b>Contact us</b> link on IBIS
<b>Access and inclusion</b>	Access and inclusion team	Via appropriate <b>Contact us</b> link on IBIS
<b>Academic misconduct</b>	Academic misconduct team	Via appropriate <b>Contact us</b> link on IBIS