



## European Schools

Office of the Secretary-General

European Baccalaureate Unit

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## **Regulations for the European Baccalaureate**

(Applicable from the year 2016 European Baccalaureate session)

## **Article 1**

The European Baccalaureate shall be awarded by the Secretary-General of the European Schools on behalf of the Board of Governors at the end of the seventh year of secondary studies at the European School or of the seventh year of European secondary level schooling at a school accredited by the Board of Governors, to pupils who have passed the final examinations, details of which are set out below. It shall certify the completion of secondary studies at the European School or of European schooling provided by a school accredited by the Board of Governors, in the manner determined by the Board of Governors.

## **Article 2**

Pupils enrolled in each of the language sections of the European School or of the school accredited by the Board of Governors shall take the same examinations or equivalent examinations before an Examining Board, the composition and functions of which are determined as set out below.

## **Article 3 Examination sessions**

The ordinary examination session shall take place each year on a date decided by the Board of Governors.

In accordance with the arrangements laid down by the Board of Governors, the Examining Board may decide to hold an extraordinary session of the examination if one or more pupils are unable, for reasons of *force majeure*, to be present at the ordinary session.

## **Article 4 Entry for examination**

Pupils who have without interruption completed not less than the final two years of secondary education in the European School or of European schooling provided by a school accredited by the Board of Governors may enter for the European Baccalaureate examinations.

The entry procedure and fees shall be determined by the Board of Governors.

## **Article 5 Subject matter of the examination**

1. The European Baccalaureate shall cover subjects taught in the sixth and seventh years of secondary studies, and in particular:

- the basic language
- the first foreign language
- mathematics
- two of the options chosen by the pupil

The number of written examinations shall be five; the number of oral examinations shall be three.

2. In accordance with arrangements drafted by the Board of Governors, the Examining Board shall take into consideration when determining each candidate's results:

- the marks in the final examinations
- a preliminary mark based on earlier results.

3. The final examinations shall be both written and oral. They shall be marked on a scale of 0 to 10, 10 being the highest mark. The preliminary marks and the marks in the written and oral examinations shall be given a weighting.

4. To pass a pupil must have obtained an average overall mark of 6. The Board of Governors may also determine the minimum mark to be obtained in certain subjects.

## **Article 6 Composition of the Examining Board**

1. The following shall be members of the Examining Board:

- the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen;
- the examiners from the Member States appointed by the Board of Governors;
- the Director of the European School in question or, in the case of a school accredited by the Board of Governors, the competent authority in the Member State concerned;
- the teachers of the European Schools appointed in accordance with arrangements laid down by the Board of Governors.

2. Together they shall constitute the sole Examining Board for the various language sections of the secondary school.

3. These members, who shall not be taken from the staff of the European Schools or of schools accredited by the Board of Governors, shall be chosen for their particular qualifications in one or more subjects in the written and oral examinations. They must satisfy the conditions in their countries of origin governing the appointment of members of an equivalent examining board. They must know at least two of the working languages of the European Schools (DE, EN, FR).

4. The Examining Board shall be chaired by a teacher from higher education, who shall be appointed by the Board of Governors acting on a proposal from the appropriate authorities of the country whose turn it is to provide the Chairmanship.

5. The Inspectors representing each country on the Board of Inspectors (Secondary) shall, in the capacity of Vice-Chairmen, assist the Chairman. One of the Vice-Chairmen shall replace the Chairman where the latter is unable to attend.

## **Article 7**

The Board of Governors shall determine the responsibilities of the members of the Examining Board.

## **Article 8**

The Board of Governors shall determine the detailed arrangements for payment of the expenses and allowances to which they are entitled to the Chairman, the Vice-Chairmen, outside experts and external examiners involved in the conduct of the European Baccalaureate examinations.

In the case of a school accredited by the Board of Governors, these expenses and allowances shall be payable by the school.

## **Article 9**

The questions for the written examination papers, set under the responsibility of the secondary cycle inspectors, shall be submitted to the Chairman of the Examining Board for approval.

The Chairman of the Examining Board shall take all measures necessary to ensure that the examination questions remain confidential.

## **Article 10**

By special decision of the Board of Inspectors (Secondary), a pupil may, by way of exception and for duly ascertained physical reasons, be allowed to take a written examination instead of the oral examination and vice versa.

## **Article 11**

The length of the written and oral examinations referred to in Article 5 shall be determined by the Board of Governors.

## **Article 12**

The written examinations shall be conducted under continuous invigilation arranged by the Directors of the Examination Centres of the European Schools or, in the case of a school accredited by the Board of Governors, the competent authority in the Member State concerned.

## **Article 13**

The Chairman of the Examining Board shall be authorised to resolve any disputes which may arise.

## **Article 14 Communication of the results**

The results shall be communicated in accordance with the arrangements laid down by the Board of Governors.

## **Article 15**

A report shall be made on the conduct of the examinations. It shall state the allotment of marks to each subject and the percentage mark awarded for the examinations as a whole.

The Director of the Examination Centre of each school shall sign the report, which shall be sent to the Office of the Secretary-General of the European Schools. The Secretary-General shall forward a copy of the report to the appropriate national authorities.

## **Article 16**

The members of the Examining Board shall not divulge anything which takes place during the examination proceedings.

## **Article 17 The European Baccalaureate Diploma**

1. The European Baccalaureate Diploma shall be awarded to pupils who have passed the examination.
2. The Diploma shall be signed by the Secretary-General of the European Schools on behalf of the Board of Governors. It shall bear the seal of the European Schools.
3. The Secretary-General of the European Schools, acting on behalf of the Board of Governors, may subsequently issue certified copies of the Diploma.

## **Article 18 Equivalence with national secondary school certificates**

Holders of the European Baccalaureate shall:

- a) Enjoy in their respective countries all the benefits attaching to the possession of the diploma or certificate awarded at the end of secondary school in those countries.
- b) Have the same rights as nationals with equivalent qualifications to seek admission to any university in the territory of the Contracting Parties.

## **Article 19 Trade mark law protection**

The name 'European Baccalaureate' shall belong solely to the European Schools, which, since their setting up, have had a monopoly over its use in all the official languages of the European Union.

## **Article 20 General provisions**

The detailed rules for implementation of these Regulations shall be laid down in the Arrangements for implementing the Regulations for the European Baccalaureate.

The Board of Governors shall adopt the measures necessary to implement and, where required, to supplement this document.