



School Profile 2023-24

School Overview

Founded in 2001, the British International School of Chicago, South Loop is an independent, coed, Nursery through Grade 12 college preparatory day school. Located in downtown Chicago, our student body represents 42+ nationalities. Our students are challenged and supported through an individualized learning experience that results in impressive academic results and the development of life skills - from problem-solving and resilience to creativity, well-being, and global citizenship.

As part of the Nord Anglia Education international family of schools, we combine both a personalized and a truly international approach to education, to ignite our students' curiosity, fuel their ambitions, and instill a lifelong love for learning. BISC provides its students with enriched curricula through collaborations with The Juilliard School, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and UNICEF. Worldwide learning opportunities are offered through our Global Campus platform and international travel experiences, including a service trip to Tanzania.

Mission

Our school is dedicated to shaping a generation of successful, creative, and resilient global citizens. Our inclusive community and personalized international curriculum combine the best of both worlds, giving our students, aged 3 through 18, a truly global outlook rooted in Chicago's rich heritage.

Grading System

BISC-SL does not rank students. The IB grading scale differs from those used in traditional US High Schools. As a matter of policy, BISC-SL does not calculate or provide GPAs. We offer this suggested grade conversion if a GPA is needed for eligibility or scholarship consideration.

IDBP	USA	GPA 4.0 Scale
7	A+	4.3
6	A	4.0
5	A-	3.7
4	B	3.0
3	C+	2.3
2	D+	1.3
1	F	0

Secondary Profile

Total BISC Enrollment - 677
High School Enrollment - 221
Students in Class of 2024 - 43
Secondary Teachers - 45
Secondary Student/Teacher Ratio - 10:1

IB Exam Results

	2023	2022	2021	2020
Students	26	46	34	37
Average Points	31.5	34.3	37	33
World Average	30.2	32	33	29.9
Passed	26	41	34	37

CEEB Code: 140666

Contacts:

Principal

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Head of Secondary

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Accreditations:

British International School of Chicago, South Loop is accredited by:

International Baccalaureate Organization

Pearson Edexcel Center



Curriculum

International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE)

BISC-SL students in Grades 9 and 10 (Years 10 and 11) pursue the IGCSE. The IGCSE is an internationally recognized qualification. This British exam-based qualification tests knowledge in individual subjects similar to AP and SAT Subject tests. Universally respected by universities and employers, these qualifications cover a broad range of core subjects and are one of the most academically challenging qualifications currently offered worldwide. Furthermore, the IGCSE builds the skills necessary to study the International Baccalaureate in Grades 11 and 12. University of Cambridge advises that the IGCSE subjects are roughly equivalent to the honors high school curriculum in the U.S.

Course Options:

Compulsory Courses: Math, English, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, U.S. History, Physical Education, and Entrepreneurship for Social Impact

Social Studies: Geography, History, Psychology

Performing Arts: Dance, Drama, Music

World Language: French, German, Mandarin, Spanish

Elective 1: Art & Design, Computer Science, Spanish (2nd language)

Elective 2: Art & Design, Film, Engineering and Design, Sports Science

International Baccalaureate (IB)

The IB Diploma Programme provides BISC-SL students in Grades 11 & 12 (Years 12 & 13) a balanced and rigorous education that promotes international mindedness. The IB Diploma Programme prepares students for effective participation in a rapidly evolving and increasingly global society as they acquire breadth and depth of knowledge and understanding, studying courses from six subject groups.

Course Options:

IB Core Requirements: Extended Essay; Theory of Knowledge; Creativity, Action & Service

Group 1: Literature: English, English Language and Literature

Group 2: Language Acquisition: French, German, Mandarin, Spanish

Group 3: Individuals & Societies: Business Management, Geography, History, Psychology

Group 4: Sciences: Biology, Chemistry, Physics

Group 5: Mathematics: Analysis and Approaches, Applications and Interpretation

Group 6: The Arts: Biology, Physics, Computer Science, Design Technology, Film, Music, Spanish, Sports, Exercise & Health Science, Visual Arts

Course Routes:

Based on their Grade 9 and 10 performance, students in Grades 11 and 12 follow one of three IB course routes.

IB Diploma Students study six IB subjects, three at Higher Level (HL) honors and three at Standard Level (SL) honors. To receive an IB Diploma, students must receive a minimum of 24 out of 45 points; the worldwide average is 30.2 points and the percentage of students receiving the diploma is 86%.

IB Certificates Students study six IB subjects. Up to six subjects can be at Standard Level honors, with a maximum of three at Higher Level honors. Any of the six subjects not at SL or HL are at the College Prep level.

College Prep Students study six subjects, all at the College Prep level.

US Colleges Attended 2011-2023

Amherst College	Rutgers University
Babson College	San Diego State University
Baylor University	Sarah Lawrence College
Biola University	Savannah College of Art & Design
Boston College	School of the Art Institute of Chicago
Brown University	Scripps College
California Institute of Technology	Skidmore College
Case Western Reserve University	St. John's University
Chapman University	St. Mary's College
Clemson University	Stanford University
Colgate University	Syracuse University
College for Creative Studies	Tulane University
Colorado School of Mines	United States Naval Academy
Columbia College Chicago	University of Alabama
Columbia University	University of Arizona
Cornell College	University of California - Berkeley
Denison College	University of California - Los Angeles
DePaul University	University of California - San Diego
DePauw University	University of Chicago
Drake University	University of Colorado - Boulder
Drexel University	University of Connecticut
Duke University	University of Denver
Eckerd College	University of Florida
Elon University	University of Illinois at Chicago
Emory University	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Fordham University	University of Iowa
George Washington University	University of Miami
Georgia Tech	University of Michigan - Ann Arbor
Harvard University	University of Minnesota
Haverford College	University of New Mexico
Howard University	University of North Carolina
Illinois Institute of Technology	University of Notre Dame
Indiana University - Bloomington	University of Oklahoma
Ithaca College	University of Oregon
Knox College	University of Pennsylvania
Lewis and Clark College	University of Southern California
Loyola Marymount	University of Virginia
Loyola University Chicago	University of Washington
Macalester College	University of Wisconsin - Madison
Marquette University	Vanderbilt University
Miami University (Ohio)	Warren Wilson College
Michigan State University	Washington University in St. Louis
New York University	Wesleyan University
Northeastern University	William and Mary University
Northern Illinois University	Williams College
Northwestern University	
Oberlin College	
Occidental College	
Ohio State University	
Parsons School of Design	
Pratt Institute	
Princeton University	
Providence College	
Purdue University - West Lafayette	
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	
Rice University	
Ringling College of Art & Design	
Rochester Institute of Technology	
Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology	

International Universities Attended 2011-2023

American University of Paris	John Cabot University	University College London
Durham University	Leiden University, The Hague	University of Aberdeen
Ecole Hoteliere de Lausanne	Liverpool University	University of Amsterdam
Erasmus University Rotterdam	Loughborough University	University of Edinburgh
Franklin University Switzerland	Lund University	University of Exeter
Geneva Business School - Switzerland	McGill University	University of Glasgow
Goldsmiths University of London	Met Film School - London	University of Manchester
Heriot Watt University	Queen Mary University of London	University of Oxford
IE University - Spain	Royal Holloway, University of London	University of St. Andrews
	Sapienza University of Rome - Italy	University of Sydney
	Tilburg University	University of Warwick