

# Allen D. Nease High School

## IB Admissions Policy

The IB Programme encompasses a high-quality international curriculum with emphasis on critical-thinking skills and an appreciation for international cultures in a globalized world. The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program gives students the opportunity to experience a challenging pre-university course of study culminating in rigorous, internationally standardized assessments. The Nease IB Program, a full diploma program, encourages students to become active, compassionate and lifelong learners. For additional information, visit our website at [www.nhs.stjohns.k12.fl.us](http://www.nhs.stjohns.k12.fl.us) (academics – IB) or contact Missy Kennedy at [missy.kennedy@stjohns.k12.fl.us](mailto:missy.kennedy@stjohns.k12.fl.us).

### **High School Acceleration Academies**

The high school acceleration academies fall under the Programs of Choice in St. Johns County. The three high schools have acceleration programs that are potentially open to students zoned for Bartram Trail, Creekside, Ponte Vedra and Toco Creek High Schools. Students zoned for Allen D. Nease, Beachside, Pedro Menendez, or St. Augustine High Schools are not eligible to apply for the International acceleration programs at schools other than their zoned school. In addition to applying to these programs through the Program of Choice application process, students will have to be deemed academically eligible to be accepted into these programs.

The Programs of Choice in St. Johns County are advertised through a middle school “blitz,” which is delivered to each school by the Academy and IB coordinator in the high school’s geocode. Following this, an academy showcase night is held prior to the program of choice open enrollment window to help advise students of their options in all schools.

### **Allen D. Nease Eligibility Criteria for IB Admissions**

Students must meet the criteria for honors level course placement, apply and be accepted to the program. The following are required to be considered eligible:

- A/B students have challenged themselves with advanced middle school courses
- Math EOC scores minimum level 3, prefer 4 or 5
- FAST-ELA scores at the 70th percentile or higher
- Mandatory successful completion of Algebra 1 Honors
- Positive teacher recommendations
- Have social and emotional maturity

A common rubric is used for all acceleration programs within the county. It utilizes academic grades, test scores and teacher recommendations to determine eligibility for the program.

### **About Allen D. Nease IB Diploma Program**

The Allen D. Nease IB Program offers all subject areas to the earn the full diploma. Multiple offerings in the Group 6 area are provided so students have access to electives which best suite their post-secondary needs. Students who drop the IB program and have earned credit in the IB courses they have taken, may earn a certificate in those courses.

## **Steps to Apply to Allen D. Nease Pre-IB and IB Program**

### **❖ Current St. Johns County PUBLIC school students:**

Step 1 - Apply online by academy deadline – see instructions on how to register at:

<http://academies.stjohns.k12.fl.us/registration/>.

Step 2 –IB applicants must:

- (a) Print out four **IB Application Teacher Recommendation forms** (see <https://cte.stjohns.k12.fl.us/programs/>). Distribute to the **four core academic teachers: Math, Science, Social Studies and Language Arts**. Teachers are responsible for returning these forms to Missy Kennedy, the Nease IB Coordinator, by academy deadline, through interoffice mail. Please give teachers at least 1 week to complete and send.
- (b) Submit report cards (7<sup>th</sup> grade final & 8<sup>th</sup> grade January) and standardized test scores to Missy Kennedy at Nease by academy deadline

### **❖ Current St. Johns County PRIVATE or HOMESCHOOL students:**

Step 1-

- (a) If 8<sup>th</sup> grade: pre-register at zoned middle school (call school for appointment) OR  
If 9<sup>th</sup> grade: pre-register at zoned high school (call school for appointment)
- (b) Complete a Program of Choice paper application at the pre-registration appointment.

Step 2-

- (a) Print out four **IB Application Teacher Recommendation forms** (see <https://cte.stjohns.k12.fl.us/programs/>). Distribute to the **four core academic teachers: Math, Science, Social Studies and Language Arts**. Teachers are responsible for returning these forms to Missy Kennedy, the Nease IB Coordinator, by academy deadline through the mail or email. Please give teachers at least 1 week to complete and send.
- (b) Submit report cards (7<sup>th</sup> grade final & 8<sup>th</sup> grade January) and standardized test scores to Missy Kennedy at Nease by academy deadline.

### **❖ Current Out-of-State students:**

Step 1-

- (a) Contact Missy Kennedy via email/phone expressing interest. Submit current and previous year report cards and test scores. Transcripts with current courses would also be sufficient.
- (b) Print out four **IB Application Teacher Recommendation forms** (see <https://cte.stjohns.k12.fl.us/programs/>). Distribute to the **four core academic teachers: Math, Science, Social Studies and Language Arts**. Teachers are responsible for returning these forms to

Missy Kennedy, the Nease IB Coordinator, by through the mail or email. Please give teachers at least 1 week to complete and send.

**Step 2:**

- (a) Call school for registration appointment with Nease Guidance secretary, communicating interest in the IB program so registration appointment is made with IB Coordinator, once residency is established. Complete online registration paperwork.
- (b) Complete a Program of Choice paper application at registration appointment with IB Coordinator.

## **Policy and Procedures for Programs of Choice in St. Johns County**

### **Student must be a resident of St. Johns County**

1. Acceptance into a Program of Choice automatically provides an out-of-zone waiver for students to attend a school other than their zoned school. No separate actions need to be taken to receive an out-of-zone waiver.
2. Completed applications must be submitted by the **established due dates**.
3. Each school will determine the number of student seats available in each Program of Choice and may deny entry solely based on seats available. A lottery system is available to ensure students have equal access to a Program of Choice if seat capacity is met. Students may be placed on a waiting list. Out-of-zone students can be taken off the waiting list and be placed into a Program of Choice up until July 1. In-zone students can be taken off the waiting list and be placed into a Program of Choice up until the first day of the next school year.
4. Rising 11th and 12th grade students currently in the school district are **ineligible** to apply for and obtain an out-of-zone waiver to a new Program of Choice. 11th and 12th grade students moving into the district may be eligible if they have been in a similar program in their previous school district and there is room in the program to which they wish to apply.
5. Each Program of Choice sets expectations for academic progress, attendance and behavior. Should an out-of-zone transfer student not meet such expectations the following actions will ensue:
  - The principal of the out-of-zone Program of Choice school may initiate action to rescind a student's out-of-zone waiver for failing grades, excessive school absences or tardiness and/or recurrent discipline problems.
  - Prior to rescinding a student's out-of-zone waiver, the principal or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian in writing citing the reason for potential revocation the out-of-zone waiver.
  - The parent/guardian shall be permitted a reasonable time and opportunity to address or correct the situation.
  - If not corrected in a reasonable amount of time, the principal or designee will make a recommendation to the Superintendent for revocation of the student's out-of-zone waiver. In most instances the revocation will be effective at the end of the semester after grades have been awarded.
6. Mid-Year transfers to a new Program of Choice are not allowed.
7. In the event a student opts to drop out of, or ceases to be enrolled in, a Program of Choice for which an out-of-zone waiver has been approved, the student will be required to return to his/her home zoned school at the start of the new semester once credit has been awarded.
8. Students may apply for multiple programs of study; however, students may only attend academies and or programs of choice at **one** school.
9. Students who are denied entry to a Program of Choice may request a review of the decision with the Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction by June 1. The Associate Superintendent will

convene the review committee to consider the issue and make a recommendation to the Superintendent. The decision of the Superintendent is final.

10. Students may not apply for a Program of Choice at an out-of-zone school if the program exists at the student's zoned high school. (*Programs that are replicated in the district: International Baccalaureate (IB) Program at Allen D. Nease and Pedro Menendez OR Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Program at St. Augustine and Beachside High Schools; VyStar Academy of Business and Finance at Bartram Trail and Pedro Menendez; ROTC programs at Bartram Trail, Nease and St. Augustine, Academies of IT at Bartram Trail and Ponte Vedra.*) This policy went into effect December 2015.
11. The parents/guardians of students attending an out-of-zone school are required to provide transportation for the student to and from the out-of-zone school. There is an exception for students attending St. Johns Technical High School.

### **New Students entering the St. Johns County School District**

Any student entering 9th or 10th grade not previously enrolled in a St. Johns County public school within the prior school year is eligible to apply for any Program of Choice in the St. Johns County School District up until the student's first day of entry. Applying does not guarantee acceptance into the Program of Choice. Students entering the St. Johns County School District enrolled in the 11th or 12th grade who were previously enrolled in an equivalent Program of Choice at his/her previous school may apply for the equivalent Program of Choice, regardless of school zone, up until the first day of entry.

### **New Controlled Open Enrollment Law**

Under Controlled Open Enrollment, which is outlined in Florida Statute 1002.31, a parent may enroll and transport his or her child to any public school in the state *that has not reached capacity in the district, subject to maximum class size.*

Due to rapid growth in St. Johns County, there are only five schools the district has determined meet its definition of capacity. No St. Johns County high school currently has available capacity for students to transfer to under COE.

Additionally, in accordance with COE statute, the District will maintain existing academic eligibility criteria for public school choice programs, including Career Academies and other focused programs of choice such as IB, AICE and JROTC.