

CISA CERTIFICATES PATHWAYS POLICY

1. Purpose

Cedars International School of Angola (CISA) offers multiple internationally recognized academic pathways to meet the diverse aspirations, abilities, and university goals of its students. These pathways provide flexibility while maintaining high academic standards and preparing students for admission to universities worldwide.

Students entering Grades 11 and 12 may choose one of the following academic pathways, subject to the applicable admission and progression requirements.

School Identity

Cedars International School of Angola (CISA) is an international school licensed and recognized by the Ministry of Education of Angola.

CISA offers an International American educational model is aligned with internationally recognized U.S. academic standards, including:

- Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for English Language Arts
- Common Core State Standards (CCSS) for Mathematics
- Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS)
- National Council for the Social Studies (NCSS) C3 Framework for Social Studies, & National Social Studies Standards (NSSS).

The school integrates these standards with the philosophy and approaches of the International Baccalaureate (IB).

CISA is:

- Authorized for the IB Primary Years Programme (PYP)
- A candidate school for the IB Diploma Programme (DP)
- Pursuing the development of the IB Middle Years Programme (MYP)
- Pursuing the development of the IB Career-related Programme (CP)

Students may graduate through either:

- The CISA American High School Diploma Pathway
- The International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme Pathway (subject to programme authorization and student eligibility), applying DP by partnership contract with ESTWOOD GLOBAL.

Pathway 1

American High School Diploma + SAT/AP Pathway

This pathway follows the American curriculum and is recommended for students seeking admission to universities that recognize the American High School Diploma.

Requirements

Students must:

- Successfully complete all CISA American High School Diploma graduation credit requirements.
- Successfully complete all required coursework for graduation.
- Participate in the mandatory SAT preparation program.
- Sit for the SAT examination during Grade 12.
- Students may optionally participate in Advanced Placement (AP) preparation courses and examinations offered through the College Board.

All SAT and AP preparation courses and examinations are organized and administered by CISA on its campus as an official College Board Test Center.

Awarded Qualifications

Upon successful completion, students receive:

- CISA American High School Diploma
- Official SAT Score Report
- Official AP Results (if AP examinations were taken)

Pathway 2

International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (Full IB DP)

This pathway is intended for students wishing to complete the full International Baccalaureate Diploma Program and pursue universities that recognize the IB Diploma worldwide.

Admission Requirements

Students must:

- Successfully pass the CISA IB Diploma Programme Placement Assessment.
- Meet the academic requirements established by the school for IB Diploma admission.

Programme Requirements

Students must successfully complete:

- Six IB Diploma Programme subjects (Higher Level and Standard Level as required)
- Theory of Knowledge (TOK)
- Extended Essay (EE)
- Creativity, Activity and Service (CAS)

Students must also satisfy all assessment requirements established by the International Baccalaureate Organization (IB).

Awarded Qualification

Upon successful completion, students receive:

- International Baccalaureate Diploma awarded by the International Baccalaureate (IB)

Expectations

The Full IB Diploma Programme is academically rigorous and is intended for students who demonstrate:

- Strong academic performance
- Excellent study habits
- High levels of commitment
- Personal responsibility
- Readiness for intensive university preparation

Pathway 3

American High School Diploma + SAT + IB Individual Courses

This pathway allows students to combine the American High School Diploma with selected International Baccalaureate subjects without enrolling in the full IB Diploma Programme.

Requirements

Students must:

- Successfully complete all CISA American High School Diploma graduation requirements.
- Select between one and four IB Diploma Programme subjects (Higher Level and/or Standard Level).

- Successfully complete the selected IB subjects.
- Participate in the mandatory SAT preparation programme.
- Sit for the SAT examination during Grade 12.

Students may also choose to sit AP examinations where applicable.

Awarded Qualifications

Upon successful completion, students receive:

- CISA American High School Diploma
- Official IB Course Results for each completed subject (grades 1-7)
- Official SAT Score Report
- Official AP Results (if AP examinations were taken)

Pathway 4

American High School Diploma + University Foundation Year Certificate

This pathway is designed for students who wish to complete the American High School Diploma while simultaneously undertaking a university foundation programme in their intended field of study.

Requirements

Students must:

- Successfully complete all CISA American High School Diploma graduation requirements.
- Successfully complete the University Foundation Year programme in their chosen academic field.
- Meet all assessment requirements established for the Foundation Programme.

The Foundation Programme is delivered, managed, and assessed by CISA and its approved university partners on the CISA campus.

Awarded Qualifications

Upon successful completion, students receive:

- CISA American High School Diploma
- University Foundation Year Certificate

General Provisions

- Students may only enrol in one academic pathway at a time unless otherwise approved by the School Administration.
- Admission to the Full IB Diploma Programme is subject to successful completion of the CISA Placement Assessment and academic review.
- The SAT examination is mandatory for all Grade 12 students following an American High School Diploma pathway.
- AP examinations are optional unless specifically required by a partner university or programme.
- Students enrolled as IB Course Candidates are not considered IB Diploma candidates and are eligible only for official IB Course Results in the subjects completed.
- Graduation requirements for the CISA American High School Diploma remain mandatory for all pathways that include the American Diploma.

Policy Objectives

This policy aims to:

- Provide flexible academic pathways that accommodate different student interests, strengths, and university destinations.
- Maintain internationally recognized academic standards.
- Support students pursuing American, International Baccalaureate, or university foundation qualifications.
- Maximize university admission opportunities through internationally recognized credentials.
- Ensure every student graduates with qualifications aligned to their academic goals and future aspirations.