Student Assessment, Grading and Grade Promotion Policy

Aligned with the Standards of the International Baccalaureate (IB), the American Model, and Cognia

1. Institutional Academic Framework

Cedars International School of Angola (CISA) operates in accordance with:

- The pedagogical principles of the International Baccalaureate (IB)
- A standards-based assessment model of the American education system
- The continuous improvement framework of Cognia
- Compliance with the legal requirements of the Angolan national system for equivalency purposes.

The academic year is structured into three (3) trimesters.

2. Assessment Philosophy

Assessment at CISA is based on:

- Continuous formative assessment
- Trimester summative assessment
- Measurement of competency mastery
- Monitoring of academic progress
- Data-driven pedagogical intervention

This model is aligned with:

- IB assessment practices
- Cognia performance standards
- The cumulative GPA-based structure of the American model
- The Angolan ministry of education principal assessment condition of core subjects.

3. Structure of the Assessment Process

3.1 Continuous Assessment

During each trimester, students are evaluated through:

A. Classroom Works (contribute to the final trimester assessment result)

- Individual and group assignments
- Tests and quizzes
- Projects and research work
- Oral presentations
- Practical or laboratory work (when applicable)

B. Midtrimester assessment (contribute to the final trimester assessment result)

3.2 Trimester Examination

At the end of each trimester:
• A formal written examination is administered.
• The examination assesses cumulative mastery of the content taught.

The trimester results is the sum of those three components.

4. Calculation of the Final Annual Grade

The final annual grade is the average of the three trimesters results for each subject, calculated as follows:

Final Subject Average = (1st Trimester + 2nd Trimester + 3rd Trimester) ÷ 3

Each trimester carries equal weight (33.33%).

5. Grading Scale and Conversion to the Angolan System (0–20)

Internally, CISA uses percentage-based grades (0–100%).
The grading system at CISA is differentiated according to the educational programme and level of study.
The school operates across four academic frameworks:

- PYP (Grades 1–5) aligned with the american curiculum
- MYP (Grades 6–10) aligned with the american curiculum
- IB DP (Grades 11–12)
- OR continue the American High School Track (Grades 9–12)

Each programme follows its specific grading methodology and assessment criteria, consistent with International Baccalaureate standards and American high school academic requirements.

5.1 PYP (Grades 1-5)

For national equivalency purposes, the following conversion is applied:

SYMBOL	% Overall Annual Average	ANGOLAN SYSTEM Equivalent (0-20)	LEVEL
A+	90-100	18-20	Excellent
A	85-89	17-17.8	V. Good
B+	80-84	16-16.8	Good
B	75-79	15-15.8	Above average
C+	70-74	14-14.8	Average
C	65-69	13-13.8	Below average
D+	60-64	12-12.8	Satisfactory
D	50-59	10-11.8	Developing
F	Below 50	Below 10	Needs support

5.2 MYP (Grades 6-10)

For national equivalency purposes, the following conversion is applied:

SYMBOL	% Overall Annual Average	ANGOLAN SYSTEM Equivalent (0-20)	LEVEL
A+	90-100	18-20	Excellent
A	85-89	17-17.8	V. Good
B+	80-84	16-16.8	Good
B	75-79	15-15.8	Above average
C+	70-74	14-14.8	Average
C	65-69	13-13.8	Below average
D+	60-64	12-12.8	Pass
D	50-59	10-11.8	Minimum Pass
F	Below 50	Below 10	Not Passed

5.3 DP (Grades 11-12) with special student contract pathway.

Applying the special grading scale of the IBO.

5.4 American High School, Basic Pathway (Grades 9-12)

For national equivalency purposes, the following conversion is applied:

SYMBOL	% Overall Annual Average	ANGOLAN SYSTEM Equivalent (0-20)	GPA
A+	90-100	18-20	4.0
A	85-89	17-17.8	3.7
B+	80-84	16-16.8	3.3
B	75-79	15-15.8	3.0
C+	70-74	14-14.8	2.7
C	65-69	13-13.8	2.3
D+	60-64	12-12.8	2.0
D	50-59	10-11.8	1.0
F	Below 50	Below 10	0.0

6. Grade Promotion Criteria

A student is promoted to the next grade level when achieved all of the following:

6.1 Trimesters Results

To have ONLY one F result in ONLY one Trimester

6.2 Core Subjects

The student obtains at least:

- 50% (equivalent to 10 points in the Angolan scale), in the following core subjects:
- Mathematics
- English

6.3 Overall Average

The student must obtain:

- An overall annual average equal to or higher than D, 50% (equivalent to 10/20).

*Those conditions are written within the students transcripts.

7. Conditional Promotion Regime

If a student obtains in the Core Subjects:
• Between 45% and 49% (equivalent to 9-9.8 points),
The student may be conditionally promoted subject to:

1. Attending the summer school courses to join re-assessment when the support team decide.
2. Mandatory enrollment in an academic support program in the following academic year.
3. The case will be reviewed by the Academic Board for a decision regarding retention or additional intervention

8. Non-Promotion Criteria

A student shall be retained at the same grade level if:

- The overall annual average is below 50%; and/or
- The student obtains a grade lower than 45% in the Core Subjects.
- The student have an F result in the 1st **OR** 2nd trimesters, **and** an F in the 3rd.

All retention decisions are subject to Academic Board review and must comply with institutional policy, transparency standards, and principles of academic rigor.

9. Academic Supervision and Validation

Promotion decisions are validated by:
• School Leadership
• Academic Coordination
• Section Heads
• Educational Support Team (when applicable)

Ensuring:

• Transparency
• Academic rigor
• Institutional compliance

10. Academic Support System

CISA implements:

• Academic reinforcement programs

- Subject-targeted support
- Summer courses
- Monitoring of conditionally promoted students
- Regular meetings with parents or legal guardians

This system ensures that conditional promotion is accompanied by structured corrective measures.

11. Compliance with International and National Standards

CISA's assessment system:

- Respects international pedagogical principles
- Ensures compatibility with the Angolan system
- Guarantees transparency in grade conversion
- Allows formal equivalency for academic and administrative purposes.