

Cambridge AICE Diploma program FAQs for US universities

Students are applying to universities in the United States with the Cambridge AICE Diploma. This factsheet will provide you with the information you need to know about this program.

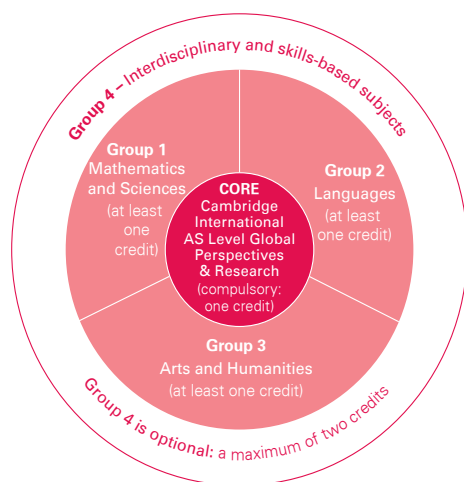
1. What is the Cambridge AICE Diploma program?

The Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) program is a rigorous academic curriculum consisting of Cambridge International AS & A Levels, which can lead to a Diploma. The program consists of standardized examinations graded in Cambridge, UK. Cambridge AICE is designed to prepare students well for study at university. Cambridge AICE courses and examinations are typically offered during grades 11 & 12 in schools approved by Cambridge.

2. Where is the Cambridge AICE Diploma offered?

The Cambridge AICE Diploma was first awarded in 1997 and has since become popular in the US. It includes the 'gold standard' Cambridge International AS & A Level qualifications, and offers students the opportunity to tailor their studies to their individual interests, abilities and future plans within an international curriculum framework. The Cambridge AICE Diploma is growing in popularity worldwide.

3. What is required to earn a Cambridge AICE Diploma?



Total of seven credits required for Diploma

Cambridge International AS Level = 1 credit

Cambridge International A Level = 2 credits

At least one credit from each of Groups 1, 2 and 3 is required.

4. How is the Cambridge AICE Diploma awarded?

The Cambridge AICE Diploma is awarded at three levels: Pass, Merit and Distinction. Students receive a Cambridge AICE Diploma certificate in addition to their Cambridge International AS & A Level examination certificates of results. More information can be found on the back of the certificate of results.

5. When are Cambridge AICE examinations taken and certificates of results issued?

There are two examination series (June and November) each year and most subjects are available in both series. Provisional results (grades or scores) are issued in August and January respectively. An official certificate of results for each student is sent to the student's school in March for the November series examinations and in October for the June series examinations. Provisional results are available to students, and on CIE Direct for universities, from the day of results release. For more information on CIE Direct please see Q11.

6. What information is included on a student's final certificate of results?

Students' provisional results and certificates of results list the subject, level, grade earned and the name of the high school where the examination was administered. For security reasons, on certificates of results, the Cambridge International A Level grade is given in upper case and is repeated in lower case, e.g. grade B would appear as B(b). For Cambridge International AS Level, the grade on the certificate is given in lower case and is repeated in lower case, e.g. b(b).



For each subject at Cambridge International A Level passing grades are A*, A, B, C, D and E. At Cambridge International AS Level, passing grades are A, B, C, D and E. A* is not available at Cambridge International AS Level. For both qualifications, U (ungraded) is not considered passing and will not be reported on certificates of results.

Cambridge AICE Diploma certificates will include a grade of Pass, Merit or Distinction.

7. How do Cambridge AICE examination grades compare with US-based standards?

In order to convert to the US standards, the Florida Department of Education commissioned a study which indicated that a Cambridge grade of E correlated most closely to an AP grade of 3.

Source: King, F.J., Rohani F., Hemenway D., & Waltonen, K. (2001). *A Comparison of the Advanced International Certificate of Education and the International Baccalaureate Programs in Florida. Educational Services Program Report.* Available from http://www.cala.fsu.edu/files/certificate_baccalaureate.pdf

8. What do Cambridge examination grades mean?

The chart below displays approximate grade conversions between AS and A Levels in the United States.

AS Level	A Level	United States
N/A	A*	A+
A	A	A
B	B	B+
C	C	B
D	D	C+
E	E	C
U	U	F

Source: Fulbright Commission, 'Admissions Criteria', <http://www.fulbright.org.uk/study-in-the-usa/undergraduate-study/applying/admissions-criteria>, accessed 09/03/2016.

9. What is the difference between Cambridge AICE and Cambridge International AS & A Levels?

There is no difference between the Cambridge AICE examinations and the Cambridge International AS & A Level examinations. Some US schools call Cambridge International AS & A Level courses and examinations "AICE courses" and "AICE exams" because they can lead to an AICE Diploma.

10. Where is information available about specific course content, required skills and assessment methodology?

Course content, objectives and assessment tasks are described in the subject syllabus booklets available at www.cie.org.uk/alevel-subjects.

There you will also find sample examinations with grading rubrics (mark schemes).

11. What is CIE Direct and how can I apply?

Cambridge can provide universities with access to our secure website, CIE Direct, so they can view and verify students' results online. This is a free service offered by Cambridge. CIE Direct allows users to search for results individually using the 'on screen search' function or by uploading a template of data via the 'multiple candidate search' function. The template can be populated offline and uploaded at your convenience.

Please visit www.cie.org.uk/ciedirect-userguide for further information about how to access Cambridge results and an application form. Universities can also email Cambridge at info@cie.org.uk to ask for access to CIE Direct for result verification purposes.

12. Where can I find out which institutions recognize and accept Cambridge examinations?

Our recognition database is an online directory of worldwide organizations which have provided us with formal written acceptance of Cambridge qualifications. Although not an exhaustive list, it is regularly updated with new recognition statements allowing Cambridge students to see where their Cambridge qualifications are accepted. The database receives more than **50 000** unique visitors each year and can be visited at www.cie.org.uk/recognitionsearch.

Learn more! For more information on the **Cambridge AICE Diploma** visit www.cie.org.uk/aice, email info@cie.org.uk or contact the US regional office at 917-522-2142

