



Cambridge International AS & A Level

A guide for universities

Cambridge International AS & A Levels are recognised as a passport to success in education, university and employment.

Key facts

Cambridge International Advanced Subsidiary Levels (AS Levels) and Cambridge International Advanced Levels (A Levels) are subject-based qualifications for students aged 16 to 19 in the final two years of high school. Cambridge International AS Level is typically a one-year programme of study with 180 guided learning hours per subject. Cambridge International A Level typically takes two years, with 360 guided learning hours per subject. Assessment takes place at the end of each programme.

Assessment options

Learners can choose from a range of assessment options to gain Cambridge International AS & A Level qualifications. Cambridge International AS & A Level exam series take place twice a year, in June and November. Results are issued in August and January. In India, a third exam series takes place in March, with results issued in May.

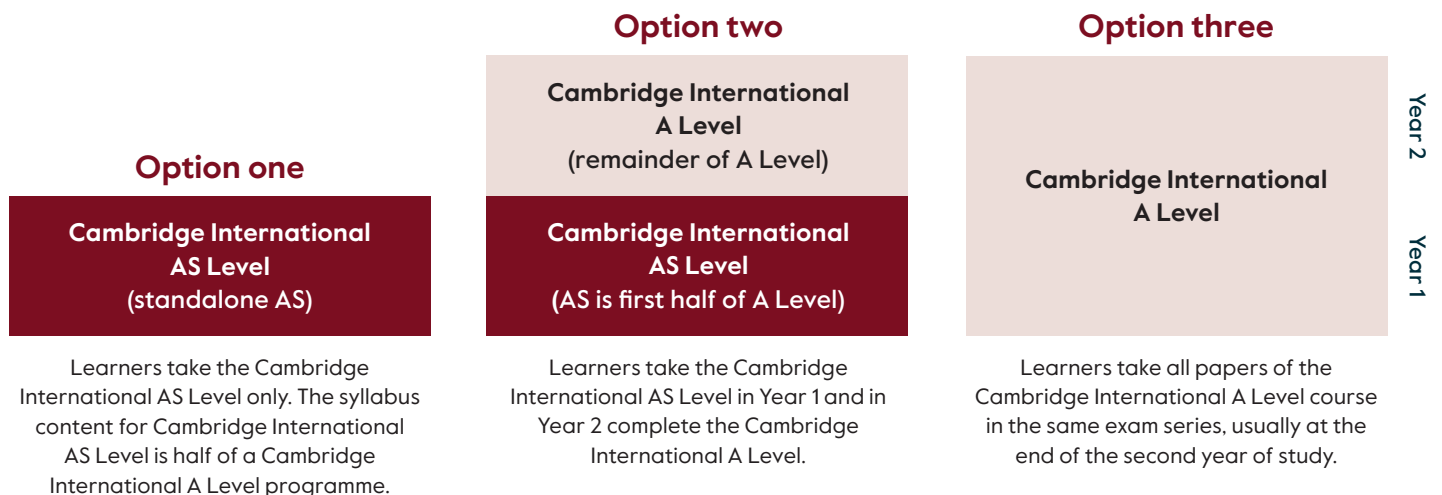
Option two below is not possible in all subjects. For example, the outcomes awarded for Cambridge International AS Level language syllabuses cannot be carried forward to Cambridge International A Level. Many schools use

Cambridge International AS Levels to give learners valuable feedback on their performance, identifying strengths and weaknesses before they complete their full Cambridge International A Level.

Alignment of GCE AS & A Level and Cambridge International AS & A Level

In our Code of Practice we commit to align the standard of Cambridge International AS & A Level with the equivalent qualifications in England. We do this by using statistical evidence and comparability studies.

In 2019, **Ecctis Ltd** (then known as UK NARIC), the national UK agency for the recognition and comparison of international qualifications, carried out **independent benchmarking studies**, which found Cambridge International AS & A Level to be comparable to the standard of the GCE A Level. Read the studies at www.cambridgeinternational.org/research-and-insights



Assessment format

Cambridge International AS & A Levels use a variety of assessment formats, in order to best capture and evaluate students' learning. Apart from formal written exams, assessment can also include coursework, practical exams (for science subjects), a portfolio (e.g. for arts subjects), fieldwork (e.g. in geography) or essays, depending on the syllabus.

- In 2024/25, over **600 000** students from **130** countries took Cambridge International AS Levels and over **270 000** students from **129** countries took Cambridge International A Levels.
- Over **4000** schools offer Cambridge International AS & A Level exams globally.
- **92** countries recognise our AS & A Levels.
- We offer a choice of **61** subjects and schools can offer them in almost any combination.
- We review Cambridge International AS & A Level syllabuses regularly. We also work with top university partners around the world to make sure the syllabuses are fit for purpose.

“We know that the Cambridge curriculum is very rigorous and prepares students well for our academic environment.”

Doug Christiansen, Vice Provost for University Enrollment Affairs, and Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid, Vanderbilt University, USA

How Cambridge International AS & A Levels are accepted for university admission

In the UK, three A Levels are generally required for university admission. UK universities are autonomous and set their own admission requirements. For certain subjects, a specific subject combination or minimum grade may be required.

Universities outside the UK may have lower requirements, for example only two A Levels. Or, they may accept a combination of A Levels with AS Levels, or a specific number of Cambridge IGCSE™ subjects with a specific minimum grade. Our recognition database provides information about how our qualifications are accepted around the world.

- The minimum requirement in **Germany** is three A Levels with a minimum Grade C, while **Romania** requires two A Levels.
- The minimum requirement in **Hong Kong SAR China** is three A Levels with a minimum Grade E. Some universities accept two AS Levels in different subjects in lieu of one A Level. Therefore, one A Level plus four AS Levels would meet entry requirements.

“My Cambridge International A Level courses gave me a fundamental introduction to complex topics which proved very helpful when I started to study these topics at degree level.”

Taken from **Alumni page**, **Dukula De Alwis Jayasinghe**, Royal Institute International School, Colombo, Sri Lanka

- **US** universities set their own requirements for admission, and may prefer three A Levels for an international student or a combination of AS and A Levels. Students should check with universities for specific requirements.
- **Canadian** universities often set requirements based on specific programmes. They may require three A Levels or a combination of AS and A Levels. Specific subjects may also be required, depending on the programme.

If you want to find out more about admissions requirements in other countries, please contact our Recognition team at recognitions@cambridgeinternational.org

The value of Cambridge International AS & A Level

Benchmarking studies

In 2019, Ecctis Ltd (then known as UK NARIC), the national agency in the UK for the recognition and comparison of international qualifications and skills, carried out an independent benchmarking study of Cambridge IGCSE and Cambridge International AS & A Level. The study found these qualifications to be comparable to the standard of UK GCSE and UK AS & A Level. For more information about the findings, read the **benchmarking studies**: www.cambridgeinternational.org/cambridge-qualifications-are-same-standard-as-uk-equivalents

Research with US universities

We have been carrying out a long-term research study in the US to assess how well students who took Cambridge qualifications at high school do at college. The study shows that Cambridge programmes get students 'college-ready' and that students with Cambridge qualifications are more likely to graduate than students with other qualifications. Read more about **the research**:

blog.cambridgeinternational.org/cambridge-qualifications-good-preparation-for-university

Data from Florida State University shows that Cambridge students excel in their college careers. View **research findings** on subsequent course performance and college career outcomes for Cambridge students enrolled at Florida State University:

www.cambridgeinternational.org/Images/620159-cambridge-international-students-excel-in-college-subsequent-courses.pdf

Sample certificate and statement of results

Cambridge International AS & A Level certificates are evidence of official results from Cambridge. Official Cambridge documents also have other hidden security features.

Cambridge International AS & A Level certificate

The image shows a sample Cambridge International AS & A Level certificate with several callout boxes pointing to specific features:

- Upper and lower case reporting of grades achieved.** A Level reported as capital followed by lower case A(a)
- AS Level reported by two lower case letters a(a)**
- Watermark**
- Signature of VC of University of Cambridge**
- Number of syllabuses taken**
- Candidate Number / Certificate Number**
- Hologram**
- Serial number**

CAMBRIDGE International Education

General Certificate of Education

This certifies that in the June 2024 examination series
A SAMPLE
of A **SAMPLE CENTRE**
was awarded the following grade(s) in the syllabus(es) shown:

Syllabus	Grade
Accounting	Advanced Level A*(a*)
German Language With Merit in Speaking	Advanced Level A(a)
Biology	B(b)
Chemistry	E(e)
Commerce	a(a)
Economics	c(c)
English Language	D(d)

SYLLABUSES REPORTED: SEVEN

Signature of VC of University of Cambridge

Vice-Chancellor
University of Cambridge

Candidate Number: XXXXX/XXXX
Certificate Number: XXXXXXX

CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL PRESS & ASSESSMENT

Sample certificate and statement of results continued

Cambridge International AS & A Level statement of results (with Percentage Uniform Marks – PUMs)

Statement of Results

GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION ADVANCED SUBSIDIARY LEVEL AND ADVANCED LEVEL

Candidate Name A SAMPLE	Date of Birth XX/XX/XXXX	Centre / Cand. No. XXXXX/XXXX
Centre Name A SAMPLE CENTRE	Series June 2024	To be quoted on all correspondence

GCE AS & A Level

Syllabus	Syllabus Title	Qualification	Result	Percentage Uniform Mark
9093	English Language	Advanced Subsidiary	a(a)	81%
9609	Business	Advanced Level	B(b)	73%
9702	Physics	Advanced Subsidiary	e(e)	42%

Explanatory Notes

This is a General Certificate of Education (GCE) Statement of Results for Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS Level) and Advanced Level (A Level). Cambridge University Press & Assessment (Cambridge) reserves the right to amend the information on this statement. Results will be confirmed by the issue of a certificate.

GCE AS Level results are reported on a 5-point scale of grades: a(a), b(b), c(c), d(d) or e(e), grade a(a) being the highest and grade e(e) the lowest. UNGRADED indicates a standard below that required for grade e(e). The content and difficulty of a GCE AS Level examination is equivalent to the first half of a corresponding GCE A Level.

GCE A Level results are reported on a 6-point scale of grades: A*(a*), A(a), B(b), C(c), D(d) or E(e), grade A*(a*) being the highest and grade E(e) the lowest. UNGRADED indicates a standard below that required for grade E(e). Under some circumstances where a candidate has entered for a GCE A Level but does not achieve a grade E(e) or above, a GCE AS Level grade a(a) to e(e) may be awarded in the syllabus.

The text Advanced Subsidiary or Advanced Level prefixing the result indicates the level at which the result was awarded for the syllabus.

NO RESULT indicates that a result cannot be issued because of absence for the whole or part of the examination in the syllabus or because of a decision not to issue a result for some other reason.

PENDING indicates that a result cannot be issued at present but will follow in due course.

The assessment of a language syllabus Speaking component is shown as 'With Distinction in Speaking', 'With Merit in Speaking' or 'With Pass in Speaking'. Candidates who are ungraded in the Speaking component will have no record of their speaking performance printed on their statement of results or certificate.

The Percentage Uniform Mark for GCE AS Level and GCE A Level is provided in addition to the grade for a syllabus. The Percentage Uniform Mark is not the total mark achieved for the syllabus. It is a common scale for all syllabuses to show whether the candidate's performance is close to the top, bottom or middle of the grade. A Percentage Uniform Mark is not provided where the candidate's result is Ungraded, No Result or Pending.

Only grades a(a) to e(e) achieved in GCE AS Level and grades A*(a*) to E(e) in GCE A Level syllabuses will be reported on the certificate.



CAMBRIDGE
International Education

Candidate details including Candidate Number

Syllabus number

Percentage Uniform Mark (PUM)

Upper and lower case reporting of grades achieved. A Level reported as capital followed by lower case B(b)

Percentage Uniform Marks are awarded in most countries and shown on the candidate's statement of results. The two main locations where PUMs are not awarded are Pakistan and the Middle East & North Africa region.

Recognise Cambridge International AS & A Levels

Our online database includes higher education institutions worldwide that have provided us with their formal acceptance policies for Cambridge qualifications. Schools, Cambridge learners and their parents use the database to research options before following up with universities directly.

Visit www.cambridgeinternational.org/recognition-search for more information.

To add your institutional policy or discuss accepting Cambridge qualifications, please contact our Recognition team at recognitions@cambridgeinternational.org

Please note that policies are subject to change. Also, some universities or colleges may not yet be listed on our database, but still may recognise Cambridge qualifications or grant credit. Check with organisations directly for the most up-to-date information.

“Applications by Cambridge students allow us to see the depth of their knowledge in their A Level subjects and help us to assess them for specific undergraduate programmes.”

Erdem Ceydilek, International Student Office Coordinator, Middle East Technical University, Türkiye

Results verification

Our secure online student results verification website, Direct, allows universities, higher education institutions and ministries of education to verify applicants' Cambridge results online.

We can give university admissions office staff access to the website so they can view and verify students' results online. This is a free service.

“Students with Cambridge qualifications perform very well and are conscious of what they want to focus on, from both an educational and professional perspective.”

Hülya Incekara, Director of International Affairs Office, Izmir University of Economics (IUE), Türkiye

Visit www.cambridgeinternational.org/programmes-and-qualifications/recognition-and-acceptance/guidance-for-universities/results-services-for-universities for more information about how to access Cambridge results, together with frequently asked questions.

To apply for access to the website, complete the online form on the 'Verification of students' results' webpage: www.cambridgeinternational.org/exam-administration/results/verification-of-students-results

“My Cambridge International AS Level studies had already covered much of the content included in my first year courses, making the transition from school to university much easier.”

Taken from **Alumni page**, **Coba Kellerman**, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Cambridge alumni

We aim to prepare students to be ready for the world, and we are always thrilled to hear what Cambridge learners go on to do next. We would be delighted to feature Cambridge alumni from your institution in future case studies. To find out more, please contact us at recognitions@cambridgeinternational.org

University showcase

Universities can be considered to feature in publications and events for Cambridge learners.

If you are interested in showcasing your university with Cambridge schools and their learners, please contact us at recognitions@cambridgeinternational.org to explore further.

Resources

Recognition database



Our recognition database is an online directory of worldwide institutions that have given formal written acceptance of Cambridge qualifications, as part of their admissions and entry requirements. It is regularly updated

with new recognition statements allowing Cambridge students to see where their Cambridge qualifications are accepted. The database is the first place for students, parents and schools to check whether a particular institution would consider an application from a student holding Cambridge qualifications. Students then visit the university's own website for more details.

Cambridge International AS & A Level policies are listed on our database. Add or check yours by following the link from:

www.cambridgeinternational.org/recognitionsearch

An informative recognition policy on our database can really set your university apart.

Cambridge International Direct



Direct is our online student results verification system, which allows universities, higher education institutions and ministries of education to verify applicants' Cambridge results online.

To apply for access (free of charge) visit:

www.cambridgeinternational.org/exam-administration/results/verification-of-students-results

International Admissions Officer Toolkit



For more information about Cambridge International Education, our qualifications, and resources for universities and recognising organisations, please refer to our International Admissions Officer Toolkit:

www.cambridgeinternational.org/Images/707355-international-admissions-officer-s-toolkit.pdf

Recognition and credit policy search

Search Cambridge International's global database of recognition policies

Our online database includes higher education institutions worldwide which have provided us with their formal acceptance policies for Cambridge qualifications.

Please note that policies are subject to change. Also, some universities or colleges may not yet be listed here, but still may recognise Cambridge qualifications or grant credit. Check with organisations directly for the most up-to-date information.

Higher education institutions: To be added to this search, an official employee or designated representative may [register your recognition policy details](#).

How to search

To search by organisation only, enter the organisation name and select search.

To search by other criteria, select the categories (organisation name, location, organisation type, qualifications) separately or in any combination. All categories are optional but selecting a combination will increase the number of your search results.

Organisation name

Enter name(s) (up to 20)

Location

Organisation type

- Select all
- Universities and colleges
- Governments and ministries
- Professional organisations
- Companies

Qualifications

Cambridge IGCSE and O Level	+
Cambridge International AS & A Level and Cambridge AICE	+
Cambridge Professional Development Qualifications (Cambridge PDQs)	+
Cambridge Global Perspectives	+
Cambridge Pre-U	+
Withdrawn qualifications	+

CIE Direct



Logged in as: Recognitions, CIE Recognitions

Log out

[Home](#) [Candidate Results](#) [My Messages](#) [My Details](#)

You have no new secure messages

Welcome to CIE Direct

You can use CIE Direct to view and verify prospective student results quickly and easily. To access a student's results you need to know their:

- ▶ Cambridge Centre number
- ▶ Cambridge candidate number
- ▶ date of birth.

You also need to know the relevant exam series.

You must tell the student you will use this data to access their results from Cambridge Assessment International Education.

From CIE Direct you can:

- ▶ search for up to 20 sets of candidate results on screen
- ▶ search for up to 1200 sets of candidate results using the multiple candidate search facility
- ▶ view results on screen or download a file of results.

Feedback on CIE Direct

Please email any feedback to 13309110ns@cambridgeinternational.org

Cambridge International Education is the name of our awarding body and a part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, but you may know us as Cambridge. See our [Legal Notice](#) for more information.



Learn more! For more information, visit www.cambridgeinternational.org/recognition



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